

**MINUTES OF MEETING
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
June 5, 2023**

To view the meeting's recording, please click the following link:

https://hamden.zoom.us/rec/play/tCVFFEJaf8oX7ky9nKZIS5bJIXV_FauFWnq02DlvFsITN4huvnaR6vNDcmuNxgodlET1pPgfIfWnocF.rPmhQHNaPpd9SHz-?canPlayFromShare=true&from=share_recording_detail&continueMode=true&componentName=rec-play&originRequestUrl=https%3A%2F%2Fhamden.zoom.us%2Frec%2Fshare%2F0vTSTG1fxRE0B56KkZUDBAT2xMUneqlpV9PPdxqQUVrKUiMnx9AfYIVnKe35gPMY.rhvXvEtmLs1dUjo6

(Time Code 03:35:30)

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A meeting of the Finance Committee was held on Monday, June 5, 2023. This was a hybrid meeting held both in person and electronically via ZOOM. The meeting was called to order at 9:57 PM by Chair, Jeron Alston.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jeron Alston, Chair; Sarah Galagher Vice-Chair; Lesley DeNardis; Justin Farmer; Cory O'Brien

MEMBERS ABSENT: Betty Wetmore, Bob Anthony

Public Input: There was 1 speaker

The following items were addressed:

- 1. Refund of property and motor vehicle Taxes collected prior to July 1, 2022- (1) totaling \$16,524.73**
This item was recessed until June 26, 2023
- 2. Refund of Property taxes collected between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 – (9) totaling \$20,410.93**
This item was recessed until June 26, 2023
- 3. Refund of motor vehicle taxes collected between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 – (35) totaling \$7,380.47**
This item was recessed until June 26, 2023
- 4. Order approving the purchase of unleaded gas, diesel fuel and #2 fuel oil and authorizing the Town to enter into agreements Fiscal Year 2023-2024**
–Moved by Mr. Farmer and seconded by Mr. Alston. DISCUSSION: Finance Director Curtis Eatman explained this is an opportunity for the Town to save money by locking in these prices. The total savings is approximately \$225,000.

A vote was taken. The item passed unanimously.

5. **Order authorizing intradepartmental transfer 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget – Police Dept – \$200,000 (Overtime)**

-- Moved by Mr. O'Brien and seconded by Ms. Gallagher. DISCUSSION: Police Chief Tim Wydra explained this transfer request saying it should get them through the rest of the Fiscal Year.

A vote was taken. The item passed with 1 abstention (Farmer)

6. **Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2022-2023 Fiscal Year Budget – Town/BOE Pension**

This item was recessed until June 26, 2023

7. **Order granting a previously waived exemption**

This item was recessed until June 26, 2023

8. **Order authorizing interdepartmental transfer 2022-2020 Fiscal Year Budget -Finance Dept. -\$45,000 (Prof./Tech.)**

–Moved by Mr. Alston and seconded by Mr. O'Brien DISCUSSION: Assistant Town Attorney Brendan Sharkey explained this is based on a contract the Town signed in 2017, a payment for not proceeding with a project with Celtic Energy. The contract requires us to make a payment to them if we pull out. Mr. O'Brien remembers significant debate about this penalty and work was asked to be done to prevent getting his penalty. What has changed? Mr. Sharkey explained the Celtic took us through an RFP process and Noresco was selected to take us into an energy efficiency initiative and do an energy audit. We decided not to proceed with the audit for a number of financial reasons, mainly, because we did not have the upfront capital to pay for improvements and get reimbursements afterward. It would have had a significant financial impact on the Town that was different than it was in 2017. In addition, this would have triggered another level of obligation if we proceeded with the audit. Mr. O'Brien said, so essentially, the finances around the project which made sense in 2017, no longer make sense in the current financial climate. Mr. Sharkey agreed.

A vote was taken. The item passed with 1 abstention (Farmer)

There being no further business, the meeting was recessed at 10:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Renta, Clerk
Rose Lion, Assistant
for Jeron Alston, Chair