

BILLERICA FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES
September 03, 2020

A Meeting of the Billerica Finance Committee was held on Thursday September 03, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom Video Conferencing Communication App.

Present: David Gagliardi, Chairman; Douglas Meagher, Vice Chairman; Mary McBride, Secretary; Donald Damon, Member; Rino Moriconi, Member; Cheri Gargalianos, Member; Philip Newfell, Member; John Mulloy, Member; John Kleschinsky, Member; Kelley Sardina, 1st Associate; Sharon Healey, 2nd Associate; Town Accountant Paul Watson, Ex-Officio Member; and Joyce MacMillan, Recording Clerk

Absent: Doug Fogerty, Member

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman David Gagliardi called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

N/A

FALL 2020 TOWN MEETING WARRANT ARTICLES:

Presenters: John Curran, Town Manager, and Abdul Alkhatib, Director of Public Works

Article 14 Wastewater Treatment Plant Secondary Clarifiers

Mr. Alkhatib wants to transfer and appropriate a sum of \$350,000 from the Plant Expansion Fund to repair and coat the four secondary clarifiers. The balance in the Fund is \$1,889,591 as of June 30, 2020. He stated there was a lot of corrosion which needs to be sand blasted, treated, and primed and painted.

Chairman Gagliardi opened the floor to the committee for questions or concerns. How long will the coating last? It could last as long up to 25 years. How will the process be completed? In stages, they will take one clarifier down at a time. When will this all take place? Nothing has been not been scheduled yet.

Doug Meagher seconded by Don Damon made a motion to recommend Article 14 in the amount of \$350,000.

A roll call vote was taken

It was voted 10-0:

John Kleschinsky – Aye
Cheri Gargalianos - Aye
Rino Moriconi – Aye
Doug Meagher – Aye
Don Damon – Aye
Sharon Healey - Aye
John Mulloy – Aye

Mary McBride – Aye
Patrick Logue – Aye
Dave Gagliardi – Aye

Article 15 Water Hydrants & Valve Replacements

Mr. Alkhatib wants to transfer and appropriate a sum of \$100,000 from the Water Conservation Fund for the replacement of hydrants and valves in the Water distribution system. The balance in the Fund is \$290,450 as of June 30, 2020.

Over the last 5 years the Town has replaced 556 hydrants. This article will fund approximately 50 new hydrants and valves. The cost could be \$1,800 to \$2,100 depending on the bid per hydrant and valves.

Chairman Gagliardi opened the floor to the committee for questions or concerns. What is the life expectancy of a hydrant? We have had some last as long as 50 years. How many were replaced last year? Who takes care of the private hydrants? The owners should be taking care of them and the Fire Dept inspects them.

Doug Meagher seconded by Don Damon made a motion to accept Article 15 in the amount of \$100,000.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted 11-0:

John Kleschinsky – Aye
Cheri Gargalianos - Aye
Rino Moriconi – Aye
Doug Meagher – Aye
Don Damon – Aye
Sharon Healey - Aye
John Mulloy – Aye
Mary McBride – Aye
Patrick Logue – Aye
Phil Newfell - Aye
Dave Gagliardi – Aye

Article 24 To Fund the Design of Sewer Force Main Rehabilitation and /or Replacements

Being withdrawn

Article 9 Transfer and Appropriate from Debt Stabilization Fund to General Fund Tax Exempt Debt Service Budget

Mr. Curran recommends making the annual transfer from the Debt Stabilization Fund to fund the General Fund Tax Exempt Debt Service Budget in order to fulfill the Board of Selectmen’s Debt Stabilization Policy. This year the transfer will be in the amount of \$1,160,000.

Chairman Gagliardi opened the floor to the committee for questions or concerns. After Mr. Curran's detailed explanation, there were no questions at this time.

Doug Meagher seconded by Patrick Logue made a motion to recommend Article 9 in the amount of \$1,160,000.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted 11-0:

John Kleschinsky – Aye
Cheri Gargalianos - Aye
Rino Moriconi – Aye
Doug Meagher – Aye
Don Damon – Aye
John Mulloy – Aye
Kelley Sardina - Aye
Mary McBride – Aye
Patrick Logue – Aye
Phil Newfell - Aye
Dave Gagliardi – Aye

MISCELLANEOUS CORRESPONDENCE – not subject to discussion

Mr. Curran – Pandemic Update – By the 6/30 end of FY20, the Town has caught up to last year's collections, and we are in good shape.

The next Finance Committee Meeting is September 10, 2020

ADJOURNMENT:

Doug Meagher seconded by Don Damon made a motion to adjourn.

A roll call vote was taken
It was voted 11-0:

John Kleschinsky – Aye
Cheri Gargalianos - Aye
Rino Moriconi – Aye
Doug Meagher – Aye
Don Damon – Aye
John Mulloy – Aye
Kelley Sardina - Aye
Mary McBride – Aye
Patrick Logue – Aye
Phil Newfell - Aye
Dave Gagliardi – Aye

Chairman David Gagliardi adjourned the meeting at 7:10 pm.

Joyce MacMillan, Recording Clerk