

**TOWN OF SOUTHWICK
FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes
May 2, 2023
Hybrid**

MEMBERS: Joseph Deedy, Chairman
Aleda DeMaria, Vice Chair
Paul Connolly
Karen Demaio
Robert Horacek
David Methe
Dr. Richard Zalowski

ASSOCIATE MEMBER: Sheri Knowlton

OTHER: Laura Fletcher, Town Accountant
Melissa Bridges, Assistant Town Accountant
Elizabeth Smolen, Secretary

The meeting was being recorded.

The Finance Committee was called to order at 5:32 p.m.

Attendance Roll Call: **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton: Yes.**

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 5/0/2) to approve the minutes of April 25, 2023. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Abstain, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Abstain, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt): Non Voter.**

New Business: There was no new business.

Old Business: There was no old business.

Reserve Fund Transfer: There were no Reserve Fund Transfers.

Agenda:

Discussion and Recommendation of Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Discussion and approval of the Pros and Cons for the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Reaffirm the Recommendation of Article 1 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt): Non Voter.**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Reaffirm the Recommendation of Article 2 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt): Non Voter.**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Reaffirm the Recommendation of Article 3 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt): Non Voter.**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Reaffirm the Recommendation of Article 4 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt): Non Voter.**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Articles 1 through 4 of the Special Town Meeting Warrant. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt): Non Voter.**

Note: David Methe left the meeting at 5:59 p.m. Sheri Knowlton, Associate Member will now be voting.

Discussion and approval of the Pros and Cons of the Financial Articles for the Revised Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting.

Discussion and Recommendation of the Financial Articles for the Revised Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting.

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 7: Borrowing Authorization – Road Reconstruction. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by R. Horacek (Vote: 7/0/0) to Recommend Article 7: Borrowing Authorization – Road Reconstruction. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 8: Borrowing Authorization – Dump Truck and Plow. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Recommend Article 8: Borrowing Authorization – Dump Truck and Plow. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 9: Annual Budget. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Recommend Article 9: Annual Budget. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 10: Departmental Revolving Fund Annual Spending Limit Authorization. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Recommend Article 10: Departmental Revolving Fund Annual Spending Limit Authorization. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 11: Regional School District Budget. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Recommend Article 11: Regional School District Budget. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 12: Regional School District – Debt Authorization. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Recommend Article 12: Regional School District – Debt Authorization. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 18: Community Preservation Annual Budget. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 19: Community Preservation Committee – Administrative and Operating Expenses. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 20: Alum Treatment Debt Service. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 21: Restoration of Bronze Memorial Plaques. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 22: Whalley Spray Park. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 23: The Moore House Repair. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 24: Hazardous Tree Removal at Old Cemetery. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 25: Repair of Slate Roof and Cupola at Police Department. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 26: Flooring Replacement – Southwick Housing Authority – Depot Street. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 36: Establishment of Municipal Lighting Plant- Fiber. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Recommend Article 36: Establishment of Municipal Lighting Plant- Fiber. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to approve as discussed the Pros and Cons for Article 37: Borrowing Authorization – Fiber Optic Broadband. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to Recommend Article 37: Borrowing Authorization – Fiber Optic Broadband. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) for Chairman Joseph Deedy and Town Accountant, Laura Fletcher to finalize the discussed Pros and Cons for the Revised Warrant for the Annual Town Meeting. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by K. Demaio (Vote: 7/0/0) to close the meeting. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Yes, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Absent, S. Knowlton: Yes**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Elizabeth Smolen, Finance Committee Secretary

J. Deedy, Chairman