

**TOWN OF SOUTHWICK
FINANCE COMMITTEE
Minutes
June 27, 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 5:36 p.m.

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

Point of Information: There will be no Finance Committee Meeting in July. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 29, 2023.

Public Comments: There were no public comments.

A MOTION was made R. Zalowski, seconded by P. Connolly (Vote: 5/0/1) to approve the amended minutes of May 16, 2023. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Abstain, K. Demaio: Absent, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt.): Non Voter**

Reserve Fund Transfer: The committee discussed the Reserve Fund Transfers listed in the below Reserve Fund Transfers requests.

A request was made by the Town Clerk/Collector/Treasurer for \$1,000.00 to supplement the balance owed for Election Police Details.

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by P. Connolly (Vote: 6/0/0) to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer for \$1,000.00 for Election Police Details. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Absent, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt.): Non Voter.**

A request was made for \$12,000.00 for Legal Expenses for Board/Committee Support, Litigation, MA DEP Appeals, Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting Preparation, MA AG Office Parity Study requirement.

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by P. Connolly (Vote: 6/0/0) to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer for \$1,000.00 for Legal Expenses for Board/Committee Support, Litigation, MA DEP Appeals, Special Town Meeting and Annual Town Meeting Preparation, MA AG Office Parity Study requirement. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Absent, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt.): Non Voter.**

Agenda:

The Finance Committee reviewed FY2023 End of Year Transfer Requests totaling \$266,004.97, including those made by Police Chief Landis to replace a dive suit and fund the transition to Sauer 9mm firearms, by David Sutton for Fire Department HVAC repairs; Fire Association Building Demolition; Treasurer/Collector/Clerk Reorganization Space Plan.

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by P. Connolly (Vote: 6/0/0) to approve FY2023 End of Year Transfer Requests. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Absent, 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 P. Connolly (Vote: 6/0/0) to authorize the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to approve the FY2023 End of Year Transfer Requests through the Municipal Modernization Act. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Absent, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt.): Non Voter.**

New Business:

-Discussion of Economic Development Commission vote to transfer the commission's FY2023 year-end balance of \$1,325.00 to the Agricultural Commission for efforts for Farm Day. The Finance Committee determined this precedent should not be set.

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by P. Connolly (Vote: 6/0/0) to deny the transfer of the Economic Development Commission FY2023 Year-end Balance of \$1,325.00 to the Agricultural Commission. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Absent, 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 P. Connolly (Vote: 6/0/0) to authorize the Chairman and Vice-Chairman to sign Reserve Fund Transfers in the amount of \$10,000.00 and under through the end of the fiscal year. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Absent, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt.): Non Voter.**

Old Business: There was no old business.

A MOTION was made by R. Zalowski, seconded by P. Connolly (Vote: 6/0/0) to close the meeting. **J. Deedy: Yes, A. DeMaria: Yes, K. Demaio: Absent, P. Connolly: Yes, R. Horacek: Yes, R. Zalowski: Yes, D. Methe: Yes, S. Knowlton (Alt.): Non Voter.**

The meeting was adjourned at 6:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by, Elizabeth Smolen, Finance Committee Secretary

J. Deedy, Chairman

