

# FINANCE COMMITTEE

## Minutes

April 27, 2020

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Robert Horacek, Chairman  
Linda Bathel, Vice-Chairman  
Sheila Chamberlin  
Art Pinell  
Terry Mish  
Karen Demaio  
Kerry Doherty

**ASSOCIATE MEMBER:** John Viel - Absent

**OTHER:** Laura Fletcher, Town Accountant  
Melinda Wingate, Assistant Town Accountant  
Doug Moglin – Vice-Chairman, Select Board  
Joe Deedy – Select Board  
Burt Hansen – Agricultural Commission  
Dennis Clark – Conservation Commission Co-ordinator

## Remote Participation

Meeting Notices: Pursuant to the Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L. c.30A, 18, and the Governor's March 15, 2020 Order imposing strict limitations on the number of people that may gather in one place, this meeting of the Finance Committee will be conducted via remote participation to the greatest extent possible. Specific information and the general guidelines for remote participation by members of the public and/or parties with a right and/or requirement to attend this meeting can be found on the office of the AG Web page at <https://www.mass.gov/guides/resources-during-covid-19#-open-meeting-law->.

No in-person attendance of members of the public will be permitted. The Town will persevere to install conference call capabilities for other parties to listen in and participate accordingly. If not possible we will post on the town's website an audio recording as soon as possible after the meeting.

**The meeting was being recorded.**

The Finance Committee was called to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Public Comments:** There was none.

The next Finance Committee meeting will be held May 4, 2020.

**A MOTION** was made by L. Bathel, seconded by S. Chamberlin (Vote: Yes: 5 Abstain: 2) to approve the minutes of April 13, 2020.

**ROLL CALL VOTE:** R. Horacek: Yes, L. Bathel: Yes, S. Chamberlin: Yes, Kerry Doherty: Yes and K. Demaio: Yes

**New Business:**

**A MOTION** was made by T. Mish, seconded by L. Bathel (Vote: Unanimous) to *approve the Select Board to make emergency procurement waivers per Southwick Town Code Ch. 8-2 for COVID-19 response actions.*

**ROLL CALL VOTE: R. Horacek: Yes, L. Bathel: Yes, S. Chamberlin: Yes, T. Mish: Yes, A. Pinell: Yes, Kerry Doherty: Yes and K. Demaio: Yes**

**New Business: 6:00 Agricultural Commission Burt Hansen FY 21 Budget:**

B. Hansen discussed with the Finance Committee proposing a budget for the Agricultural Commission. They are requesting approximately \$10,400.00 for expenses. B. Hansen gave a briefing on the role of the Agricultural Commission and what they provide to the Community. K. Doherty inquired about looking into establishing a Revolving Fund that would be approved at Town Meeting. The Finance Committee will consider the request while finalizing the FY 21 budget with the Select Board.

R. Horacek, Chairman informed the members that the State is estimating a 14% reduction to cities and towns. There are still many unknown with the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Finance Committee will be diligent with the FY 21 Budget requests during these uncertain times

**Dates to remember:**

- Town Elections June 9, 2020
- STM/ATM June 16, 2020

**A MOTION** was made by A. Pinell, seconded by K. Doherty (Vote: Unanimous) to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,



Robin Solek



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Robert Horacek, Chairman