MINUTES
TOWN OF HARWICH
FINANCE COMMITTEE
SMALL MEETING ROOM, TOWN HALL
732 MAIN STREET, HARWICH, MA
THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2025 - 6:00PM

MEMBERS PARTICIPATING: Peter Hughes, Chair, Bob MacCready, Vice Chair, Dana DeCosta, Scott Norum, Dan Tworek and Mark Ameres

PARTICIPATING REMOTELY: Michele Gallucci

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Hughes called the meeting of the Harwich Finance Committee to order on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 6:00PM and read the Open Meeting Law Notice. He also noted that Meghan Green and Mark Kelleher are in the audience and Finance Committee member Michele Gallucci was participating remotely. The Chair declared a quorum.

II. NEW BUSINESS:

A. End of year Budget transfer requests

Mr. Hughes noted that the Budget transfer requests total $832,921.98 and are within budget categories. Committee members had copies of the requests. Mr. Hughes noted that the requests must be voted on by July 15th.

Mr. DeCosta moved to approve the transfer requests as outlined by Meghan Green for $832,921.98. Seconded by Mr. MacCready.

Vote: 7:0 in favor by roll call vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Hughes signed copies of the requests. He also noted that Ms. Green would be leaving at the end of the month and working for Chatham.

Committee members discussed the current situation regarding the Finance Department, vacancies and how they are filled.

B. Attracting Public Safety Personnel Concept/Recommendation

Mr. Hughes noted that the discussion of attracting public safety personnel often comes down to housing. He noted a concept that could help or be incentive for attracting personnel.

Committee members discussed the concept. Also noted were other programs available to Police and Fire Departments. Also discussed were examples of creative options for attracting personnel to Harwich.

Mr. MacCready expressed his discomfort in having the discussion based on the Finance Committee's Charge.

Mr. DeCosta noted how making recommendations fits into the Committee's Charge.

Mr. Hughes suggested that the Committee vote to send the correspondence for informational purposes to the Select Board.

Committee members discussed possible revisions to the concept.

Mr. DeCosta moved to instruct the Chair to word smith the correspondence to incorporate suggestions he has received by next Wednesday and send a draft to be approved and sent to the Select Board. Seconded by Mr. Norum.

Vote: 6:1 in favor by roll call vote with Mr MacCready voting against. Motion carried.

C. FinCom Liaisons

Mr. Hughes distributed the current list of liaisons. He commented to Mr. Kelleher that the Moderator has not filled the two open positions on the Finance Committee.

Mr. Kelleher replied that he had read that the Moderator would be conducting interviews to fill those positions.

After reviewing the list and the liaison's involvement with the committees, Mr. Hughes listed the Committees, Boards and Commissions as well as which Finance Committee members would be their liaison.

Mr. Hughes explained the need to vote two members of the Finance Committee to the Capital Outlay Committee (COC) for a term to expire 06/30/26.

Mr. Ameres moved to nominate Michele Gallucci and Scott Norum to the Capital Outlay Committee as liaisons with a term ending on 06/30/26. Seconded by Mr. DeCosta.

Vote: 7:0 in favor by roll call vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Ameres exited the meeting at 6:47.

Mr. Hughes will finalize the liaison list for the next meeting.

III. OLD BUSINESS:

Ms. Gallucci asked for an update on the town email addresses.

Mr. Kelleher responded that he will email Sarah Eaton, IT Director, and request an update.

Committee members discussed the challenges of the Town's website.

IV. OTHER:
Finance Committee Reorganization

Mr. Hughes noted that the Committee needs a Chair, Vice Chair and a Clerk.

Mr. DeCosta moved to appoint Bob MacCready as the Chair of the Finance Committee. Seconded by Mr. Norum.

Vote: 6:0 in favor by roll call vote. Motion carried.

Mr. DeCosta moved to appoint Scott Norum as the Vice Chair of the Finance Committee. Seconded by Mr. Tworek.

Vote: 6:0 in favor by roll call vote. Motion carried.

Mr. DeCosta volunteered to be Clerk until new members are appointed.

A motion was made and seconded to appoint Dana DeCosta to Clerk of the Finance Committee.

Vote: 6:0 in favor by roll call vote. Motion carried.

Mr. Hughes explained the process of creating the agenda through to posting to Mr. MacCready. He also gave the key to the Town Hall to Mr. MacCready.

V. ADJOURN:

Mr. MacCready moved to adjourn. Seconded by Mr. Norum.

Vote: 6:0 in favor by roll call vote. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01:56PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judi Moldstad
Board Secretary