

Town of Newbury - Finance Committee Meeting
Tuesday, 5 March 2024, 7:00 PM
Town Offices, 2nd Floor Meeting Room
Meeting Minutes – Approved April 2, 2024

Members present: **Erica Jacobsen (chair), Joe Ali, Eugene Case, Richard Keys, Patrick Heffernan, Vanessa Rossi, and Tracy Blais (Town Administrator)**

Not in attendance: **Frank Visconti**

Erica Jacobsen called the meeting to order at 7:06pm, and a quorum was established by roll call vote.

The Finance Committee unanimously moved to adopt the minutes from the February 6 meeting (6-0), pending a change noting Blais' attendance at that meeting.

Public Comment initiated by the Chair; while no public comments were made, the Committee discussed numerous emails from Newbury residents received by the Chair and shared with the Committee members. Approximately one dozen letters were received on the topic of supporting Newbury community services, including schools, recreation, library, council on aging and public safety. Several asked the Select Board and Finance Committee to support overrides.

The committee and Tracy discussed and clarified that there are no overrides under consideration at this time for operating budget, education, or one-time capital expenditures.

The Chair recognized Martha Taylor, Newbury Planning Director/MVPC Commissioner, and Kristen Grubbs, Assistant Planner, for a presentation on the MBTA Communities Multi-Family Zoning article to be presented at the Annual Town Meeting on April 30.

Following a discussion with the Committee, Taylor presented a second zoning article related to Wireless Communications.

Town Administrator's report included discussions on:

- Current finances;
- Fiscal 2025 budget; and,
- Annual Town Meeting draft warrants

The next meeting of the Finance Committee is set for March 12th as a joint meeting with the Select Board for Warrant Review.

Following a Select Board meeting on March 26th, the Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, April 2nd.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:40pm.