

Annual Town Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2021 - 3rd Session

Call to Order: at 7:30pm pm VIA ZOOM Meeting ID 816 0909 2082, Password 252599

NO Tellers

Attendance Count: 41 + Moderator Total: 41

Pledge of Alliance at 7:31PM

Making the Motion this Evening: Sue Paloma, Precinct 1

Roll Call at 7:32pm



Town Meeting Member name	Pct	Present /Absent	Town Meeting Member name	Pct	Present /Absent	Town Meeting Member name	Pct	Present /Absent
Arone, A.	1	A	Fowler, J.	8	P	Paolini, M.	7	A
Bartolo, J.	6	P	Goodwin, P.	5	P	Riley, C.	2	P
Berube, K.	9	P	Jones, C.	1	P	Ring, D.	10	P
Brown, W.	6	P	Kelly, D.	9	P	Rodenhiser, J.	1	P
Camuso Sr, R.	2	P	Lavoie, R.	7	P	Rossetti Jr, P.	2	P
Chipouras, J.	7	P	Leuci, W.	4	P	Scrivano, M.	6	A
Cicolini, J.	8	P	Long, R.	9	P	Smith, R.	3	P
Connors Jr, A.	3	P	Lopresti, A.	8	A	Spencer, B.	5	P
Costello, M.	10	P	Manoogian Sr, P.	10	P	Stewart, W.	3	P
Cottam, J.	9	A	McCarthy, S.	7	P	Thompson, R.	3	P
Cross III, W.	8	A	Migliore, M.	5	P	Traverse, T.	8	A
Currie, K.	6	P	Mitchell, J.	5	P	Vecchione IV, J.	2	P
Davis, G.	4	P	Moore, W.	2	P	Wallace, R.	5	P
Delios, P.	10	P	Nickolas, G.	3	P	Whitcomb, A.	4	P
Divirgilio, S.	10	A	Palleschi, R.	7	P	Whitcomb, M.	4	P
Doherty, S.	4	P	Paloma, A.	1	P	Worthley, J.	9	P
Dunn, S.	1	P	Panico, A.	6	P	Total Present=		42
Town Meeting:			5/24/2021			Absent count=		8
			Date: May 24, 2021 ATM 3rd Session					

Town Moderator gives instructions to Town Meeting Members at 7:36pm

Motion to accept the Minutes of last meeting 7:36pm

Seconded at 7:36pm

Unanimous voice vote Yes to accept Minutes of last meeting.

Motion to continue the meeting via ZOOM

Seconded at 7:37pm

Unanimous voice vote Yes at 7:37pm to continue via ZOOM.

Committee or Commission Reports

Finance Committee Chairman Ken Depatto speaks at 7:37pm on the 4 Financial Articles recommendations. 2.5% increase on the water rates from last year. Please support our recommendations.

No other committees to report

Vote to take article 3 off the table moved by Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10.

Motion to move Articles 3,6,13,19 out of order at 7:39pm

Seconded at 7:39pm

Unanimous voice vote Yes to take Articles 3, 6, 13, 19 out of order and to take Article 3 off the table.

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Sue Paloma, Precinct 1 moves Article 3 for consideration:

Seconded at 7:40pm

As Written

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 2 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year, and determine whether the money shall be provided by transfer from available funds; or to see what other action the Town wishes to take in the matter. (Town Manager)

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 wants to thank Treasurer Hatch on the clarifications and spoke with the Town Manager, taking his answers as face value that these funds have not been spent with out the vote of Town Meeting. Making a motion to accept as per the Finance Committee.

No discussion

Article 3 as Voted: Voted to recommend the Town make supplementary appropriations in the amount of \$1,041,000.00 to be used in conjunction with the money appropriated under Article 2 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year. The source of funding is \$506,000.00 from interdepartmental transfers and \$535,000.00 from free cash.

Unanimous voice vote Yes at 7:44pm

Town Manager Scott Crabtree states need to take Article 13 before Article 6.

Motion to take 13 out of order.

Seconded at 7:45pm

Unanimous voice vote Yes at 7:45pm to take Article 13 out of order.

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Sue Paloma, Precinct 1 moves Article 13 for consideration:

Seconded at 7:46pm

As Written

Article 13: To see if the Town will vote to increase water rates with all receipts to be held within the Water Enterprise Fund to be used exclusively for water expenses, water maintenance, water debt and interest and water improvement programs, or take any other action relating thereto. (Town Manager)

Bill Brown Precinct 6 asks about all the monies collected if they are strictly for water funding because in Article 11 is for unpaid bills.

Town Moderator yields to the Treasurer Hatch or Town Manager at 7:48pm

Treasurer Wendy Hatch states it is bills for the water fund for the last fiscal year.

Peter Manoogian Precinct 10 asks if the consultants are here this evening. The indirect cost has been reduced?

Matt Abraham from the Abraham Group answers Yes.

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 asks what causes that to go down near \$50,000 and what percentage is the cost.

Matt Abraham speaks about the percentage is being 8% of the budget. Why it went down looking at costs and the methodologies that were in place, examined it and made a few changes to make it go down.

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 asks if 8% the average of indirect costs in other communities.

Matt Abraham doesn't have this information in front of him.

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 thinks the indirect cost should be capped at 5% for the water and the sewer.

Ken Depatto. Chairman of the Finance Committee speaks at 7:53pm because of the pandemic and the dry summer there was a greater use of the water.

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 speaks at 7:53pm what is the effect of the water and retained earnings. What is the impacted going forward in 2022?

Matt Abraham asks him to be more specific

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager states about the retained earnings for this year and how does it play out for the following year.

Matt Abraham answers if the rate increase is voted then it would be over \$600,000 of retained earnings.

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager asks for the following year.

Matt Abraham answers at 7:57pm, FY 2021 looking strong but to balance the budget need over \$600,000, for FY 22 over \$1,200,000. The percentage is just over 16%

Bob Long, Precinct 9 speaks at 7:57pm if this doesn't have to be done today we should table it for the next meeting since he just received it today.

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 wants Matt Abraham to me at the next meeting.

Bob Long, Precinct 9 state he is not making the motion to table this Article.

Darren Ring. Precinct 10 wants a Roll Call vote for this article.

Article 13 as voted: Voted to recommend the Town vote a 2.5% increase in the water rates for Fiscal year 2022 with all receipts to be held in the Water Enterprise Fund to be used exclusively for water expenses, water maintenance, water debt and interest and water improvement programs.

Article 13								
	Pct	Vote		Pct	Vote		Pct	Vote
Arone, A.	1	A	Fowler, J.	8	Y	Paolini, M.	7	A
Bartolo, J.	6	N	Goodwin, P.	5	Y	Riley, C.	2	Y
Berube, K.	9	Y	Jones, C.	1	Y	Ring, D.	10	N
Brown, W.	6	N	Kelly, D.	9	Y	Rodenhiser, J.	1	Y
Camuso Sr, R.	2	Y	Lavoie, R.	7	Y	Rossetti Jr, P.	2	A
Chipouras, J.	7	N	Leuci, W.	4	Y	Scrivano, M.	6	A
Cicolini, J.	8	Y	Long, R.	9	N	Smith, R.	3	Y
Connors Jr, A.	3	Y	Lopresti, A.	8	A	Spencer, B.	5	Y
Costello, M.	10	A	Manoogian Sr, P.	10	N	Stewart, W.	3	N
Cottam, J.	9	A	McCarthy, S.	7	Y	Thompson, R.	3	Y
Cross III, W.	8	A	Migliore, M.	5	Y	Traverse, T.	8	A
Currie, K.	6	N	Mitchell, J.	5	Y	Vecchione IV, J.	2	Y
Davis, G.	4	Y	Moore, W.	2	N	Wallace, R.	5	N
Delios, P.	10	Y	Nickolas, G.	3	Y	Whitcomb, A.	4	Y
Divirgilio, S.	10	A	Palleschi, R.	7	Y	Whitcomb, M.	4	Y
Doherty, S.	4		Paloma, A.	1	N	Worthley, J.	9	Y
Dunn, S.	1	Y	Panico, A.	6	Y			

Date: 5/24/2021

44340



Yea=	28
Nay=	11
Abst=	10

Article 13 passes by majority Roll Call vote at 8:07pm

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Sue Paloma, Precinct 1 moves Article 6 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:07pm

As Written

Article 6: To see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Water Enterprise Fund for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2022. (Town Manager)

No Discussion

Article 6 as Voted: Voted to recommend that the following sums be appropriated to operate the Water Enterprise Fund.

\$ 377,211.00	Salaries
\$6,675,218.00	Expenses
\$ 80,000.00	Capital Outlay
\$ 607,575.00	Indirect Cost
\$ 40,000.00	Transfer Out to OPEB
\$7,780,774.00	Total FY22 Water Enterprise Fund Appropriation

\$7,168,995.00 fund from Water Enterprise Fund Revenue, \$611,779.00 to come from Retained Earnings. \$607,575.00 is to be appropriated in the General Fund funded by Water Enterprise Fund Revenue for Indirect Costs.

Article 6								
	Pct	Vote		Pct	Vote		Pct	Vote
Arone, A.	1	A	Fowler, J.	8	Y	Paolini, M.	7	A
Bartolo, J.	6	Y	Goodwin, P.	5	Y	Riley, C.	2	Y
Berube, K.	9	Y	Jones, C.	1	Y	Ring, D.	10	A
Brown, W.	6	Y	Kelly, D.	9	Y	Rodenhiser, J.	1	Y
Camuso Sr, R.	2	Y	Lavoie, R.	7	Y	Rossetti Jr, P.	2	A
Chipouras, J.	7	Y	Leuci, W.	4	Y	Scrivano, M.	6	A
Cicolini, J.	8	Y	Long, R.	9	N	Smith, R.	3	Y
Connors Jr, A.	3	Y	Lopresti, A.	8	A	Spencer, B.	5	Y
Costello, M.	10	A	Manoogian Sr, P.	10	Y	Stewart, W.	3	N
Cottam, J.	9	A	McCarthy, S.	7	Y	Thompson, R.	3	Y
Cross III, W.	8	A	Migliore, M.	5	Y	Traverse, T.	8	A
Currie, K.	6	Y	Mitchell, J.	5	Y	Vecchione IV, J.	2	Y
Davis, G.	4	Y	Moore, W.	2	N	Wallace, R.	5	Y
Delios, P.	10	Y	Nickolas, G.	3	Y	Whitcomb, A.	4	Y
Divirgilio, S.	10	A	Palleschi, R.	7	Y	Whitcomb, M.	4	Y
Doherty, S.	4		Paloma, A.	1	Y	Worthley, J.	9	Y
Dunn, S.	1	Y	Panico, A.	6	Y			



Yea=	35
Nay=	3
Abst=	11

Date: 5/24/2021

44340

Article 6 passes by majority Roll Call vote at 8:12pm

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Sue Paloma, Precinct 1 moves Article 7 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:13pm

As Written

Article 7: To see what sums of money the Town will vote to raise and appropriate for the Sewer Enterprise Fund for the ensuing Fiscal Year 2022. (Town Manager)

No Discussion

Article 7 as Voted: Voted to recommend that the following sums be appropriated to operate the Sewer Enterprise Fund.

\$ 366,845.00	Salaries
\$5,394,519.00	Expenses
\$ 62,000.00	Capital Outlay
\$ 599,095.00	Indirect Cost/Transfer Out
\$ 27,180.00	Transfer Out to OPEB
\$6,449,639.00	Total FY22 Sewer Enterprise Fund Appropriation

\$5,707,455.00 funded from Sewer Enterprise Fund Revenue and \$742,184.00 to come from Retained Earnings. \$599,095.00 is to be appropriated in the General Fund funded by Sewer Enterprise Fund Revenue for Indirect Costs.

Article 7 passes with majority voice vote Yes at 8:14pm; 2 Nay votes by Bob Long, Precinct 9 and Bill Moore, Precinct 2.

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Sue Paloma, Precinct 1 moves Article 19 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:16pm

As Written

Article 19: To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from the PEG Access Enterprise Fund for the purpose of funding the operating budget of the PEG Access studio/facility in Saugus for the Fiscal Year 2022. Said funds to be distributed under the authority and direction of the Board of Selectmen as they see fit pursuant to the current Cable Television Renewal License Agreement and the current agreement between the Town and its designee a PEG access corporation. (Saugus Community Television, Inc.)

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 states last year it was voted to set aside \$25,000. What happened with that audit?

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager speaks at 8:16pm went out to solicited firms and only 1 firm applied and it was awarded to them. It was just signed last week,

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 asks about a final report at 8:17pm.

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager believes Yes but doesn't know off hand.

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 asks about the town relationship with Comcast?

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager states our relationship with Comcast is different than other communities and the agreement is with the Board of Selectmen. The monies are set in a different account with the Treasurer.

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 asks at 8:19pm does the town need to get them to pay fully?

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager at 8:20pm says the money allocated here has been enough. The long term is if the operating budget will maintain the levels.

Brent Spencer, Precinct 5 has the Board of Selectmen approved this?

Mike Serino, Board of Selectmen states Yes at 8:21pm.

Jeanie Bartolo, Precinct 2 speaks about the grand total and what is the "Other"

Mike Serino, Board of Selectmen doesn't have that information in front of him.

Debra Panetta, Board of Selectmen speaks at 8:22pm agreeing with Mike Serino and went over each line item.

Chris Riley, Precinct 2 on page 2 is listed line item by line item.

Article 19 as Voted: Voted to recommend the Town appropriate the sum of \$371,680.00 for the purpose of funding the operating budget of the PEG Access studio/facility in Saugus for the Fiscal Year 2022. The source of funding is the PEG Access Enterprise Fund revenue under the current Cable Television Renewal Agreement held in the PEG Access Enterprise Fund.

Unanimous voice vote Yes at 8:24pm for Article 19.

Call to the Town Moderator for next meeting.

Peter Delios, Precinct 10 asks about an in-person meeting for the next session?

Town Moderator will let him know.

Motion to Adjourn at 8:26pm

Seconded at 8:26pm

Unanimous vote Yes to adjourn at 8:26pm to the call of the Town Moderator.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Joyce Schena, CMMC
Saugus Town Clerk