

# Annual Town Meeting Minutes

## May 10, 2021 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

Call to Order: at 7:30pm pm VIA ZOOM, Meeting ID 845 1963 0320, Password 785957

NO Tellers

Pledge of Alliance at 731pm

Making the Motion this Evening: Brett Spencer, Precinct 5

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	A
Camuso Sr, R.	2	P	Lavoie, R.	7	A	Rossetti Jr, P.	2	P
Chipouras, J.	7	P	Leuci, W.	4	P	Scrivano, M.	6	P
Cicolini, J.	8	P	Long, R.	9	P	Smith, R.	3	A
Connors Jr, A.	3	P	Lopresti, A.	8	P	Spencer, B.	5	P
Costello, M.	10	P	Manoogian Sr, P.	10	P	Stewart, W.	3	P
Cottam, J.	9	A	McCarthy, S.	7	A	Thompson, R.	3	P
Cross III, W.	8	A	Migliore, M.	5	P	Traverse, T.	8	A
Currie, K.	6	P	Mitchell, J.	5	A	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	A	Worthley, J.	9	P
Dunn, S.	1	P	Panico, A.	6	P	<b>Total Present=</b>	<b>38</b>	
<b>Town Meeting:</b>			<b>5/10/2021 ATM</b>			<b>Absent count=</b>	<b>12</b>	
		<b>Date:</b>	<b>May 10, 2021 ATM 2nd Session</b>					

Attendance Count: 37 + Town Moderator = 38 Total

Town Moderator gives instructions to Town Meeting at 7:39pm

Vote to continue the meeting via ZOOM

Unanimous Voice Vote Yes to continue via ZOOM at 7:39pm

Committee or Commission Reports:

Ken Depatto, Finance Committee Chairman speaks at 7:40pm on the 8 Financial Articles recommendations. Please support our recommendations.

Motion to take Articles 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 14, 18 and 24 out of order at 7:40pm

Seconded at 7:40pm

## **Unanimous Voice Vote Yes to take articles out of order at 7:40pm**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Brett Spencer Precinct 5 moves Article 3 for consideration:

Seconded at 7:42pm

### **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)

**Recommendation:** 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.

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 speaks at 7:43pm concerning this article.

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager speaks at 7:43pm about article and the 535 which is the snow and ice deficit.

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 speaks at 7:43pm on other money expenses that already occurred or just discovered this week? He is concerned that this money is already committed. Is Town Meeting being taken advantage of and why wasn't Town Meeting Members asked earlier?

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager answers at 7:45 refers to Wendy Hatch, Town Treasurer.

Wendy Hatch, Town Treasurer speaks at 7:45pm regarding certain expenses that occurs over the year that requires transfer of funds to other budgets. The budget is voted as a single number not departmental.

Bob Long, Precinct 9 speaks at 7:47pm asking couldn't Town Meeting Members get a copy of the Acts that the Treasurer was speaking about inter-departmental budgets. Are the salary enhancements over time in a pandemic?

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager speaks at 7:48pm answering Mr. Longs questions.

Wendy Hatch, Treasurer speaks at 7:49pm on reason funds transferred to some salary accounts were retro salary in the budget. The calculations on retro-active salaries on collective bargaining units.

Bob Long, Precinct 9 speaks at 7:50pm about getting a copy of the Acts to appropriate the money.

Wendy Hatch, Treasurer says she can get a copy to send to Town Meeting Members.

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 speaks at 7:50pm explains the Acts to Bob Long. The Town of Saugus went thru this in 2006 and always done it this way. He has a problem waiting this long and will not support this article because of the process.

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 at 7:53pm deters to the Finance Committee Chairman on this article.

Ken Depatto, Chairmen of the Finance Committee answers at 7:53pm because of the pandemic they didn't have the 6-month review.

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 agrees this shouldn't be a common practice.

Kenneth Depatto, Chairman of the Finance Committee agrees it hasn't been a problem in the past.

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 speaks at 7:55pm asking more questions.

Bob Long, Precinct 9 again asking for a copy of the ACTS and doesn't have a problem with what he is looking at.

Peter Delios, Precinct 10 speaks 7:56pm asking for a copy of the breakdown which he then finds.

Pam Goodwin, Precinct 5 asks to clarify on details of this article. More of a break down on what was already received.

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 speaks at 7:59pm asks more questions on certain line items? Asks to refer this article to next town meeting for clarification. Why couldn't this be worked into next fiscal year's budget.

Motion to table this article at the next meeting at 8:00pm

Wendy Hatch, Treasurer can answer the insurances questions.

Town Moderator asks for a Second on the Motion to table this article until next meeting.

Seconded at 8:01pm

Unanimous voice vote undecidable – move to a Roll Call Vote:

Roll Call vote at 8:02pm

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



Yea=	30
Nay=	6
Abst=	13

Date: 5/10/2021

5/10/2021 ATM

30 Yes, 4 Nay and 13 Absent.

**Motion to Table Article 3 passes by majority vote at 8:06pm.**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Brett Spencer Precinct 5 moves Article 4 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:07pm

**As Written**

**Article 4:** To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 6 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year, as amended at the December 7, 2020 Special Town Meeting, 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)

Town Moderator explains; this a place holder article and not necessary at this time.

No Discussion

**Article 4 as Voted:** Voted to recommend Indefinite Postponement.

**Unanimous Voice Vote Yes to Indefinite Postponement at 8:07pm**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Brett Spencer Precinct 5 moves Article 5 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:08pm

**As Written**

**Article 5:** To see if the Town will vote to make supplementary appropriations to be used in conjunction with money appropriated under Article 7 of the 2020 Annual Town Meeting during the current fiscal year, as amended at the December 7, 2020 Special Town Meeting, 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)

Town Moderator explains; this a place holder article and not necessary at this time.

No Discussion

**Article 5 as Voted:** Voted to recommend Indefinite Postponement.

**Unanimous Voice Vote Yes at 8:08pm**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Brett Spencer Precinct 5 moves Article 10 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:09pm

**As Written**

**Article 10:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of maintaining positive cash flow (fund balance) in the Compost Facility Revolving Fund. (Town Manager)

Chris Riley, Precinct 2 speaks at 8:09pm the article doesn't ask for a specific amount and asks the Town Manager if \$30,000.00 is enough money.

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager speaks at 8:10pm informing was told this is the amount needed (estimation) for this fiscal year,

Darren Ring, Precinct 10 is in favor of this article.

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager thanks him.

**Article 10 as Voted:** Voted to recommend the Town appropriate the sum of \$30,000.00 for the purpose of maintaining positive cash flow (fund balance) in the Compost Facility Revolving Fund. The source of funding is the July 1, 2020 certified free cash

**Unanimous Voice Vote Yes at 8:11pm**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Brett Spencer Precinct 5 moves Article 11 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:12pm

**As Written**

**Article 11:** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds a sum of money for the purpose of funding unpaid bills of a prior fiscal year. (Town Manager)

Peter Manoogian, Precinct 10 speaks at 8:12pm asking about what these previous bills are?

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager says its self-explanatory; legal bill from School Committee unpaid; Fire and Police details overtime.

Wendy Hatch, Treasurer answers they are Police details were DPW and Fire unpaid bills.

**Article 11 as Voted:** Voted to recommend the Town appropriate the sum of \$30,491.68 for the payment of unpaid bills of the prior fiscal year. The source of funding is \$25,585.68 from Fiscal Year 2020 Carryover in the General Fund and \$4,906.00 from the July 1, 2020 Water Enterprise Fund Certified Retained Earnings.

**Unanimous Voice Vote Yes at 8:13pm**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Brett Spencer Precinct 5 moves Article 14 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:15pm

**As Written**

**Article 14:** To see if the Town will vote to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow a certain amount at 0% interest from the MWRA Local Pipeline Assistance Program for the purpose of designing and constructing improvements to water pipelines or to take any other action relative thereto. (Town Manager)

No Discussion

**Article 14 as Voted:** Voted to recommend authorizing the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen, to borrow \$2,906,400.00 at 0% interest from the MWRA Local Pipeline Assistance Program for the purpose of designing and constructing improvements to water pipelines or to take any other action relative thereto

**Unanimous Voice vote yes at 8:15pm**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Brett Spencer Precinct 5 moves Article 18 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:16pm

**As Written**

**Article 18:** To see if the Town will vote to appropriate a sum of money from available funds in the Transportation Infrastructure Fund for the purpose of conducting line painting on various streets in town. This appropriation is in accordance with Act St. 2016, ch 187 s8(c)(i) and MGL c44 s53. (Town Manager)

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 speaks 8:16pm asking the Town Manager about what streets.

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager speaks at 8:17pm this is fund created by the State for line painting.

Bob Palleschi, Precinct 7 understands what it is for but what does it cover? Will it be all the town, some of the town or various streets?

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager answers Mr. Palleschi.

Martin Costello, Precinct 10 asks about the situation last year with the paint.

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager speaks at 8:19pm this is line painting not cross walks.

Joe Vecchione IV, Precinct 2 goes over the last Town Meeting Member is the application just line painting or other types of projects associated with line painting?

Scott Crabtree, Town Manager speaks at 8:20pm the language in the description is what it can be used for only.

**Article 18 as Voted:** Voted to recommend the Town appropriate the sum of \$26,700.10 for purpose of conducting line painting on various streets in town. The source of funding is the Transportation Infrastructure Fund in accordance with Act St. 2016, ch 187 s8c(i) and MGL c44 s53.

**Unanimous Voice Vote Yes at 8:21pm**

As a courtesy to the Finance Committee, Brett Spencer Precinct 5 moves Article 24 for consideration:

Seconded at 8:23pm

**As Written**

**Article 24:** To see if the Town of Saugus will vote to adopt as a local option, the following clauses from Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 5. These clauses address property tax exemptions offered to veterans and eligible survivors:

- Twenty-second G. In any city or town that accepts this clause, real estate that is the domicile of a person but is owned by a trustee, conservator or other fiduciary for the person's benefit if the real estate would be eligible for exemption under clause Twenty-second, Twenty-second A, Twenty-second B, Twenty-second C, Twenty-second D, Twenty-second E or Twenty-second F if the person were the owner of the real estate.
- Twenty-second H. Real estate to the full amount of the taxable valuation of real property of the surviving parents or guardians of soldiers or sailors, members of the National Guard and veterans who; (i) during active duty service, suffered an injury or illness documented by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs or a branch of the armed forces that was a proximate cause of their death or (ii) are missing in action with a presumptive finding of death as a result of active duty service as members of the armed forces of the United States; provided, however, that the real estate shall be occupied by the surviving parents or guardians as the surviving parents' or guardians' domicile; and provided further, that the surviving parents or guardians shall have been domiciled in the Commonwealth for the 5 consecutive years immediately before the date of filing for an exemption pursuant to this clause or the soldier or sailor, member of the National Guard or veteran was domiciled in the Commonwealth for not less than 6 months before entering service.
- Surviving parents or guardians eligible for an exemption pursuant to this clause shall be eligible regardless of when the soldier, sailor, member of the National Guard or veteran died or became missing in action with a presumptive finding of death; provided, however, that the exemption shall only apply to tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2021. Such exemption shall be available until such time as the surviving parents or guardians are deceased. No real estate shall be so exempt which has been conveyed to the surviving parents or guardians to evade taxation. This clause shall take effect upon its acceptance by any city or town. (Jay Pinette, Saugus Veterans Agent)

No Discussion

**Article 24 as Voted:** Voted to recommend the Town adopt as a local option, clause 22G and 22H from Massachusetts General Law Chapter 59, Section 5.

**Unanimous Voice Vote Yes at 8:24pm**

Town Moderator hoping to come back next week to vote on more articles.

Motion to the call of the Town Moderator at 8:25pm

Seconded at 8:25pm

Unanimous Voice Vote Yes at 8:25pm to adjourn to the call of the Moderator.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ellen Joyce Schena, CMMC  
Saugus Town Clerk