

**Needham Finance Committee
Minutes of Meeting of May 1, 2023**

The meeting of the Finance Committee was called to order by Chair John Connelly at approximately 6:45 pm in the Great Plain Room at Needham Town Hall.

Present from the Finance Committee:

John Connelly, Chair; Louise, Vice Chair

Members: Karen Calton, Barry Coffman, Carol Fachetti, Carli Hairston, James Healy, Joshua Levy, Richard Reilly

Citizen Requests to Address the Finance Committee

No requests.

Issues relating to Annual Town Meeting Warrant

Mr. Connelly stated that while there is an anticipated amendment to Article 18 - ADU's, he does not feel that the Finance Committee necessarily need to take a position on any amendment since the Committee is not the proponent. He stated that the Finance Committee's underlying rationale for its recommendation has not changed with the amendment. Ms. Miller stated that if there was new information that could make the Committee change its vote, the Committee should vote an amendment, but she does not see that in this case. Mr. Coffman agreed that the Committee should not take a position. The Finance Committee has not seen a presentation on the proposed amendment, and has not been made aware of the issues. Mr. Healy noted that the Planning Board supported the amendment by a vote of 3-2. He feels that there should be more citizen participation in situations where there does not seem to be much consensus. Ms. Miller stated that she had been lobbied heavily on this issue by Town Meeting Members and other groups, but she needs to represent her precinct's interests in the Town Meeting vote.

Mr. Levy stated that the Finance Committee should take a position on the proposed Amendment to Article 28 – Non-Criminal Dispositions because there is a potential financial implication. The amendment will straighten out a conflict in the current by-laws which include a different fee for zoning infractions. Mr. Davison stated that the purpose of the amendment is to fix a clerical error. Mr. Connelly stated that if the Finance Committee is requested to speak on the position, Mr. Levy should speak to it. Mr. Levy agreed.

MOVED: By Mr. Healy that the Finance Committee recommend adoption of the amendment to Article 28. There was no further discussion. The motion was approved by a vote of 9-0.

Recess/Adjournment to attend Town Meeting

MOVED: By Mr. Healy that the Finance Committee meeting be recessed to be reconvened as needed during the 2023 Annual Town Meeting and May 2023 Special Town Meeting and to adjourn when both have been dissolved. Ms. Miller seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 9-0 at approximately 7:05 p.m.

The Committee did not reconvene.

Documents: 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant; Amendment to Article 28.

Respectfully submitted,

Louise Mizgerd
Staff Analyst

Approved June 21, 2023