

## Stoneham Finance and Advisory Board (FAB)

<b>Date:</b>	April 3, 2025
<b>Time:</b>	700p
<b>Location:</b>	Stoneham Town Hall Hearing Room
<b>Present:</b>	Mike Memmelo - Chair  Rod Allen, Joe Combs, Adam Jacobs, Joe Joffe, Wendy Smith, Jim Wilson, Jeff Moyer (joined mid-meeting)
<b>Absent:</b>	Jen Gray, Lucy Marchese, 1 position vacant
<b>Guests:</b>	Dennis Sheehan – Town Administrator

	<p><b><u>AGENDA</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Meeting Minutes – <b>Vote Required</b></li> <li>2. May 5, 2025 Town Meeting Warrant Articles – <b>VOTE Required</b></li> <li>3. Updates             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Capital</li> <li>b. School Building Committee</li> <li>c. Subcommittees</li> </ol> <p style="margin-left: 40px;">Other business – Non-deliberative</p> </li> <li>4. Adjournment - Vote required</li> </ol>
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<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting Minutes for March 30 - VOTE Required</b>	Mr. Wilson introduced a motion to approve the minutes; Ms. Smith seconded; All in favor less Mr. Memmolo/Mr. Jacobs who abstained 5-0
<b>2.</b>	<b>Meeting Minutes for March 27 – VOTE Required</b>	Mr. Joffe introduced a motion to approve the minutes; Ms. Smith seconded; All in favor 7-0
<b>3.</b>	<b>May 5, 2025 Town Meeting Warrant Articles – VOTE Required</b>	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision made to begin with article 5</li> <li>• The April 3, 2025, meeting of the Finance and Advisory Board discussed the fiscal year 2026 budget, focusing on a \$4 million cut to avoid accreditation disaster. Key recommendations included reallocating \$2 million to the school department, eliminating elected official stipends, and reducing funding for various departments. Specific cuts included \$994,100 from the public library, \$247,276 from the Council on Aging, and \$46,493 from the recreation department as well as traffic help and other town stipends. The board also considered the impact of closing the library and senior center on community services and property values. The discussion concluded with a recommendation to table the issue for further discussion.</li> <li>• Discussion moved to article 2 – certification of offices – Favorable action approved</li> <li>• Discussion moved to article 3 – reports of Town officers and committees- Favorable action approved</li> <li>• Decision made to table article 4 – town salaries</li> <li>• Decisions made to table article 6 – capital committee</li> <li>• Discussion moved to article 7 - appropriating money from the PEG Access Enterprise Fund (Stoneham TV) . A discussion ensued regarding funding for Stoneham TV, emphasizing its importance for community media, enabling remote meetings, contractual obligations with Verizon/Comcast, contracts. Favorable action approved</li> <li>• Decision made to table Article Eight proposed spending limits for town departments.</li> <li>• Discussion moved to Article Nine discussed a voluntary donation fund for elderly and disabled tax relief. Favorable action approved.</li> <li>• Decision made to table Article Ten – Real Estate exemption for elderly and disabled tax relief ; Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5C½ -Overlay Reserve</li> </ul>	<p><b>Mr. Joffe introduced a motion to begin with article 5; Ms. Smith seconded; All in favor 7-0</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Smith introduced a motion for favorable action on Article 2; Mr. Joffe seconded; All in favor 8-0</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Smith introduced a motion for favorable action on Article 3; Mr. Joffe seconded; All in favor 8-0</b></p> <p><b>Ms. Smith introduced a motion for favorable action on Article 3; Mr. Joffe seconded; All in favor 7-0 with Mr. Wilson abstaining.</b></p> <p><b>Mr. Wilson introduced a motion for favorable action on Article 9; Ms. Smith seconded; All in favor 8-0</b></p>
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<p>4.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision made to table Article Eleven, which per Massachusetts General Laws Chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 22J, involves raising an appropriation or transferring funds to amend the FY 25 dependent budget.</li> <li>• Decision made to table Article Twelve, which asks the Town will vote to raise and appropriate, or transfer from available funds, a sum of money to amend the Fiscal Year 25</li> <li>• Discussion moved to Article Thirteen, amend the Stoneham Town Code, Chapter 15, Section 6.9 Flood Plain (Overlay) District Regulations to be in FEMA Compliance – favorable action approved</li> <li>• Decision made to table Article Fourteen, Amend Town Code re: Marijuana Establishments due to sponsor not being present</li> <li>• Decision made to table Article Fifteen, Amend Town Code re: Police/Fire employees residing distance from Stoneham due to chiefs not being present to speak</li> </ul> <p>Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Capital</li> <li>b. School Building Committee</li> <li>c. Subcommittees <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms. Smith spoke to a recent informative Board of Health meetings</li> <li>• Mr. Joffe cited a Library call scheduled to speak about budget concerns</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<p><b>Mr. Wilson introduced a motion for favorable action on Article 13; Ms. Smith seconded; All in favor 8-0</b></p>
<p>5.</p>	<p>Other business – Non-deliberative</p>	
<p>6.</p>	<p><b>Adjournment - Vote required</b></p>	<p><b>Mr. Combs then introduced a motion to adjourn; Mr. Joffe seconded; all in favor.</b></p>