

Stoneham Finance & Advisory Board Meeting  
Monday, June 14, 2021 - 7:00 pm  
All Members Attending Remotely

Attendees:

Tim Waitkevitch, Chair  
Cory Mashburn, Vice Chair  
Andrew Harmon, Secretary

Julieanne Bovat	Jen Gray
Ed Hurley	Mike Memmolo
Wendy Smith	Dave Tamarro

*Absent:* Youlia Bowerman

Guests:

Paul Demerjian, Board Appointee to the Water & Sewer Review Board  
Eric Duffy, Town Budget Director  
Scott LeBeau, Board Appointee to the Water & Sewer Review Board

Agenda:

1. Meeting Minutes
2. Board Elections - Vote Required
  - a. Chair
  - b. Vice Chair
  - c. Secretary
3. End of Year Transfers - Vote Required
4. Recess Until 7:30 if Necessary
5. @7:30 Discussion with Water and Sewer Review Board Members
6. FY22 Budget Meeting Location and Schedule
7. Updates
  - a. Capital
  - b. School Building Committee
  - c. Subcommittees
8. Other Business - Non Deliberative
9. Adjournment

## Minutes:

The Finance & Advisory Board Chair called the meeting to order at 7:00pm. Mr. Waitkevitch opened the meeting with Agenda Item #1. Mr. Waitkevitch noted that there were four sets of past meeting minutes for the Board to review. Ms. Gray introduced a motion to waive reading time on the meeting minutes. Ms. Bovat seconded; all in favor. Mr. Memmolo then introduced a motion to accept the meeting minutes from 2/1/2021 as written. Ms. Smith seconded; all in favor. Ms. Gray introduced a motion to accept the 3/1/2021 meeting minutes as written. Ms. Bovat seconded; all in favor. Ms. Gray introduced a motion to accept the 3/25/2021 meeting minutes as written. Mr. Mashburn seconded; all in favor. Ms. Gray introduced a motion to accept the 5/10/2021 meeting minutes as written. Ms. Bovat seconded; all in favor.

Board Chair then moved discussion to Agenda Item #2. Mr. Harmon introduced a motion to nominate Mr. Waitkevitch to another term as Board Chair. Ms. Smith seconded; all in favor. Mr. Harmon introduced a motion to nominate Mr. Mashburn for Board Vice Chair. Mr. Memmolo seconded; all in favor. Ms. Smith then introduced a motion to nominate Mr. Harmon as Board Secretary. Ms. Bovat seconded; all in favor. Mr. Mashburn then asked whether any other members would like to take a turn serving as liaison to the Capital Committee. Mr. Waitkevitch noted that this topic was not posted on the agenda so it would have to wait until the July meeting.

Mr. Harmon then suggested that the July meeting should also include a discussion about all subcommittees for the Board.

Board Chair then moved discussion to Agenda Item #3. Mr. Waitkevitch introduced Mr. Duffy to discuss end of year transfers. He briefly ran through the transfers, noting in particular that most of the change was due to snow and ice removal. He then opened the discussion to questions. Mr. Waitkevitch asked about the trash subsidy. Mr. Duffy explained that the subsidy was operated as a revolving fund. Mr. Harmon then asked about transfers out of salary line items. He asked whether these were due to departures and/or unfilled positions. Mr. Duffy confirmed that this was the case. Ms. Smith asked about the transfer into Fire Department salaries. Mr. Duffy explained that the Town is close to an agreement with the union and additional funds are needed to cover the terms of that agreement. Ms. Gray then asked about the additional transfer into Recreation. Mr. Duffy explained that the Director has left his position and some money was contractually owed to him. Mr. Mashburn introduced a motion to accept the proposed year end transfers. Ms. Smith seconded; all in favor. Mr. Duffy then exited the meeting.

Board Chair then proposed moving discussion of Agenda Item #6 out of order. Ms. Smith introduced a motion to take the discussion out of order. Mr. Mashburn seconded; all in favor. Mr. Waitkevitch outlined the State guidance on return to in-person meetings. The Board then discussed the merits of returning to in-person meetings. No one expressed concerns about meeting in person.

Board Chair then moved discussion to Agenda Item #5. Mr. Waitkevitch welcomed Mistrs Demerjian and LeBeau. He then recapped the current issues around the Water & Sewer Review Board. These include an inability to quorum and no actual authority over setting rates for Water & Sewer in the Town. Mr. Demerjian reiterated the difficulties in achieving a quorum. He suggested an ability to remove members of the Water & Sewer Review Board who do not attend meetings.

Mr. LeBeau noted that his appointment expired in April 2021 and that he is not seeking reappointment. Mr. Waitkevitch then announced that the Finance Board would be accepting applications to fill this vacant spot on the Water & Sewer Review Board. Mr. LeBeau then gave his recommendations on the future of the Review Board. He believed that the Review Board's functions could be easily absorbed by the Finance and Advisory Board. He then further suggested that Mr. Demerjian (as the only current, active member of the Review Board) apply for the current open position on the Finance Board.

Mr. Demerjian expressed interest in this suggestion but also expressed interest to remain on the Review Board and try to make it work. He then suggested that he could run the Review Board on his own without a quorum. He reiterated that non-participating appointees should be removed from the Review Board. Mr. Waitkevitch then announced that the Finance Board would be accepting applications for new Review Board appointees as long as the Board remained a viable body within the Town.

Ms. Gray asked a general question about how the Review Board could be disbanded. Mr. LeBeau responded that only Town Meeting could dissolve the Board. Ms. Gray then asked whether this topic could be added to a future Tri-Board meeting. There was then a general discussion about the pros and cons of attempting to dissolve the Review Board. Mr. Mashburn opined on the merits of maintaining a Board that the citizens of the Town voted for in Town Meeting. On the other hand, he suggested all parties look at the context of the Town at the time of its creation. He did make sure to say that the Review Board's oversight functions need to be carried on by some Town body if the Review Board is dissolved.

Ms. Smith floated the idea of appointing temporary Review Board members from the current Select and Finance Boards. Ms. Grey asked whether citizens could serve on two Boards simultaneously. Mr. Waitkevitch suggested that the Board ask the Town Clerk or Town Counsel for an opinion. Mistrs Demerjian and LeBeau then exited the meeting.

Board Chair then moved discussion to Agenda Item #7. Mr. Mashburn had no update on the Capital Committee. Mr. Mashburn then explained why the upcoming Tri-Board meeting was rescheduled. The School Building Committee wanted to gather actual financial figures in advance of the Tri-Board Meeting. There were no subcommittee updates.

Board Chair then moved discussion to Agenda Item #8. Mr. Waitkevitch reconfirmed the Board's comfort with meeting the 1st Monday of each month. He also reiterated the current openings (Finance, Water & Sewer).

Mr. Harmon then introduced a motion to adjourn. Mr. Mashburn seconded; all in favor.