

Hingham Advisory Committee Financial Policy Working Group

May 09, 2023 Meeting Minutes

May 09, 2023 6:00PM

South Hearing Room 3rd Floor

Town Hall

210 Central Street Hingham, MA 02043

Attendees: N. MacDonald, A. McElaney, C. Kirk, B. Stack, C. Tully

Minutes:

1. 6:00pm meeting was called to order.
2. The team discussed potential changes to the Town's Financial Policy in response to the passage of Articles 12 (creation of a tax stabilization fund) and 13 (creation of a capital stabilization fund) at the 2023 Town Meeting.
 - Discussed changes to the financial policy vs recommended process to AdCom
 - The following changes to the financial policy were agreed upon:
 - Paragraph 7 to read:
 - Amend first sentence to read:
 - 7. When Unassigned Fund Balance exceeds 20%, the Advisory Committee should consider recommending that Town Meeting apply such amounts in excess of 20% to items such as unfunded long-term liabilities, long-term and non-recurring capital expenditures, retirement of debt, or targeted tax relief, **including but not limited to a transfer of some portion of such excess to a tax and/or capital stabilization fund or funds.**
 - Amend second sentence to read:
 - Excess Unassigned Fund Balance should not be used to fund recurring operating budget items, **except as otherwise provided herein.**
 - Additions to either fund should be left to the purview of future AdCom's based on then current balances, economic situation, and Town needs.
 -
3. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00

Respectfully submitted by Nancy MacDonald

Approved June 29, 2023