

## Lenox Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: July 28, 2021

Members Present: Dave Carpenter (DC), Kristine Cass (KC), Michael Feder (MF), Mindi Morin (MM), David Neubert (DN)

Guests: Clarence Fanto (CF) dropped off phone for recording

Absent: Andrea Pignatelli (AP), Blaise Gregory (BG)

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Meeting called to order at 7:07 PM.

KC Kicked off the meeting to discuss what departments the Finance Committee will be a part of. We also have a new committee member, Blaise Gregory (BG).

MF suggested that we assign to departments. In addition to that, how do we work with the select board and the school committee as we head into a negotiation year.

KC suggested that we also work with the school's finance committee and meet with the school committee early in the negotiation process to see how we can assist and have a seat at the table. MF feels that we should have the support of the select board first as to what our role will be. DN also agrees that if we start this process early with the school committee, we will have more of an impact early on.

MF suggested that we review the bylaws to ensure that we are following all the guidelines. An example would be the finance committee receiving the budget by the timeline written in the bylaws. DC suggested that we focus on the two big areas being the permanent building committee and the school committee. This will be done with the hot issues being reported back by the FinnComm Team to ensure alignment as the committee.

MF suggested that KC write a letter to the select board as to our plan to ensure we can get our questions answered to be able to bring back the best information to the town. Committee agreed to this approach.

KC discussed the importance of us reaching out to these committees early and approach it in a way that we are here to help and ask questions that we feel the town will want to know. MF suggested that KC reach out to Bob Vaugh about MM and MF being the subcommittee from the finance committee as their resource.

DN discussed that although we focus on two committees, we will still have a role in reviewing the additional budgets.

Committee discussed we now have 7 members with the option to have up to 9 with 1 person chosen by select board. DN suggested we speak with John McNinch about our two committee focuses.

Below is a tentative grid of our committees and KC will draft the two emails (school and select board) and share with the committee. Once we have heard back from these letters, we will regroup on their response. We will also invite Chris Ketchen to our fall meeting to have an understanding of the towns budget expectations.

<b>Member</b>	<b>Permant Building</b>	<b>Public Works</b>	<b>Genl Govt.</b>	<b>Comm Ctr.</b>	<b>Library</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Treas,Acct</b>
DN		X	X	X			X
AP				X	X		
KC	X				X		
DC	X						
MF						X	
MM		X				X	
BG							

Meeting adjourned at 7:48pm.

Respectively Submitted,  
Mindi Morin, Interim Secretary