

**Finance
Committee
MEETING
MINUTES**

November 1, 2022

Nipmuc High School, Second Floor Meeting Room

Paul Flaherty, Stephen Bern, Shawn Craig, Nick Ensko and Rick McGuire
Dan Lazarz, Mike Penko, Katherine Robertson, Marcella Stasa, Gary
Strichartz, Bill Taylor and Laurie Wodin

The Finance Committee meeting was opened at 6:25 pm by Paul Flaherty.

Review/Approve Minutes: Motion to approve the minutes for October 26, 2022 made by Nick Ensko, seconded by Rick McGuire. Unanimous vote of the members present.

Discussion of Special Town Meeting Article 10: Paul Flaherty opened discussion asking about support for the requested amount of \$75,000 for the study of Pratt Pond and Mill Pond. Mike Penko responded by outlining the approach that was taken, using previous study costs. Mr Penko provided a list of recent studies, noting the 2013 Concord study for \$48,650 as well as the Stockbridge studies for \$89,000.

Mr Penko and Mr Strichartz mentioned that timing was critical and that waiting until the Annual Town Meeting in May would cause a loss of the spring and early summer testing periods, critical for overall report and recommendations.

Mr Bern asks Mr Penko and Mr Strichartz how much would be needed to support the testing period with the expectation to clarify scope of work and estimated cost for full study to be presented at Annual Town Meeting for additional funding. Further discussion indicates that \$40,000 would be needed to support the initial testing while allowing the Ponds and Lakes Committee to get additional support for overall studies and reports.

Motion to approve Article 10 in the amount of \$40,000 made by Nick Ensko, seconded by Shawn Craig. Unanimous vote of the members present.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:59pm by Paul Flaherty, seconded by Rick McGuire. Unanimous vote of the members present.

Respectfully submitted,
Stephen M. Bern, co-chair of the Finance Committee