

Spencer Finance Committee

April 12, 2022, 7:00 PM
Spencer Town Hall, Conference Room A
157 Main Street, Spencer, MA 01562

**Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet, or
smartphone.**

<https://www.gotomeet.me/TownofSpencerMA/finance-committee>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States (Toll Free): [1 877 309 2073](tel:18773092073)

Access Code: 242-835-725

The meeting may be viewed on Spencer Cable Access channel 194 or at SCATV.org

**Minutes
Revised
September 27, 2022**

1) Call meeting to order 7:00 pm

Members attending: Mary Braney, Chair, Paul McLaughlin, Vice Chair, Bill Wall, Clerk, Virginia Davidson (R), Charles O'Connor, Ed Sproul, Nancy Tame (R), Chris Woodbury, Bill Shemeth, (Town Moderator), Jeff Bridges (Town Administrator). From the Board of Selectmen; Gary Woodbury, Ralph Hicks, John Howard (R), and Tony Pepe (R). (R) = Remote

2) Announcement: The meeting will be held in person however members may opt to participate remotely per updated guidance. For this meeting, should any member choose to participate remotely all votes will be taken by roll call in accordance with Regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law.

3) Minutes of March 29, 2022, joint meeting with Board of Selectmen

Ed Sproul made a motion to approve the minutes, Paul McLaughlin seconded the motion. On a roll call vote all were in favor.

4) Public Hearing on FY 2023 Town Budget

Charles O'Connor made a motion to open the public meeting, Bill Wall seconded the motion and on a roll call vote all were in favor.

5) Jonathan Viner to speak as sponsor of Citizen's Petition articles 38 and 39 regarding senior citizens tax exemptions

A handout was supplied by Jeff Bridges explaining the current criteria that the town uses to administer this tax exemption program. Jonathan Viner went into great length to explain his position on these two articles that he proposed.

6) Correspondence

Emails received by the committee; the Beacon and DLS reports

7) Liaison Reports

a) DPHS Building Committee – Mary Braney

The cost of the project should be ready by late May, early June. Ready for fall town meeting vote.

b) CIPC – Chris Woodbury

Committee to meet shortly to rank the capital projects, then the list will go to the BOS.

8) Town Administrator Report

a) FY 2023 Budget update

The latest version of the budget was presented. More changes to follow.

b) ARPA update

Jeff Bridges will present recommendations to the BOS after the budget is completed.

9) Vote recommendations on May 5, 2022, Annual Town Meeting Warrant

See “Fincom Recommendations” sheet attached

10) Any other: None

11) Adjourn: 10:00 pm

Chris Woodbury made the motion and Ed Sproul seconded the motion. On a roll call vote all were In favor.

Next Finance Committee meeting May 5, 2022, preceding Annual Town Meeting

May 5, 2022: **Annual Town Meeting**

May 10, 2022: **Annual Town Election**

Respectfully Submitted,

William J Wall, Jr.

Referenced documents: Memorandum from the office of the town administrator on the citizen petitioned articles to adjust the town’s elderly tax exemption program, the most current budget for the 2023 fiscal year, and the articles for the annual town meeting warrant.

Spencer ATM Warrant May 5, 2022
Fincom Recommendations

#	Motion	2nd	Recommend	Summary	Date	For	Against	Abstain	Comment
1	Chris Woodbury	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Amend FY2022 Operating budget	04/12/2022	8	0		
2	Chris Woodbury	Ed Sproul	Approved	Consent agenda		8	0		
3	Bill Wall	Chris Woodbury	Approved	Amend General by-law, A2, S15 Revolving Funds		8	0		
4	Chris Woodbury	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Revolving funds spending limits		8	0		
5	Ed Sproul	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Fix elected official salaries		8	0		
6	Chris Woodbury	Bill Wall	Approved	Personnel bylaws – pay schedules		8	0		
7	Paul McLaughlin	Bill Wall	Approved	Transfer \$10,000. From P&R Salaries to P&R expenses		8	0		
8	Chris Woodbury	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Transfer \$3,000. From Collector Tax Title Expense to Expense		8	0		
9	Ed Sproul	Bill Wall	Approved	Transfer \$5,000. From Tree Warden Salaries to Expenses		8	0		
10	Paul McLaughlin	Charles O'Connor	Approved	Appropriate \$15,000. From Free Cash to MHC Grant for Community Preservation Plan		8	0		
11	Chris Woodbury	Ed Sproul	Approved	PEG for SCA		6	0	2	
12	Chris Woodbury	Bill Wall	Approved	Appropriate \$30,000. To sick leave buyback from Free Cash		8	0		
13	Ed Sproul	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	\$20,000 to fund FY23 Valuation Update from Free Cash		8	0		
14	Bill Wall	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	SEBRSD budget & transportation		8	0		
15	Paul McLaughlin	Ed Sproul	Approved	BPRVTHS budget & transportation		8	0		

Spencer ATM Warrant May 5, 2022
Fincom Recommendations

16	Chris Woodbury	Ed Sproul	Approved	Smith tuition & transportation	04/12/2022	8	0		
17	Bill Wall	Chris Woodbury	Approved	Tantasqua tuition		8	0		
18	Chris Woodbury	Ed Sproul	Approved	FY 2023 Town Budget		8	0		
19	Bill Wall	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Water Department operations		8	0		
20	Chris Woodbury	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Sewer Department operations		8	0		
21	Bill Wall	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Sewer repairs collection system--transfer from retained earnings		8	0		
22	Ed Sproul	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Sewer screw pump repair transfer from retained earnings		8	0		
23	Bill Wall	Ed Sproul	Approved	Sewer Dept aeration system transfer from retained earnings		8	0		
24	Chris Woodbury	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Sewer Department storage garage transfer from retained earnings		8	0		
25	Bill Wall	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Appropriate \$130,000. From Transfer Station upgrade Fund for trailer		8	0		
26	Ed Sproul	Chris Woodbury	Approved	\$25,000. From Waterways Improvement Fund for SPD boat 2		8	0		
27	Bill Wall	Ed Sproul	Approved	Police cruisers lease payment year 1		8	0		
28			Deferred	Capital purchases					All three waiting
29			Deferred	Lease-Purchase Highway Dept. vehicles					to be finalized
30			Deferred	Transfer from voting capital to purchase poll pads					Will vote @ ATM
31	Chris Woodbury	Paul McLaughlin	Approved	Easements Pleasant St., Smithville Rd.		8	0		
32	Chris	Ed Sproul	Approved	Alter layout of Smithville Rd.	04/12/2022	8	0		

Spencer ATM Warrant May 5, 2022
Fincom Recommendations

	Woodbury								
33	Chris Woodbury	Ed Sproul	Approved	Easements Hastings Rd, Wire Village Rd.		8	0		
34	Chris Woodbury	Bill Wall	Approved	Amend gen. by-law A9 animal control		8	0		
35	Chris Woodbury	Charles O'Connor	Deferred	Amend gen. by-law A7 trees		8	0		
36	Chris Woodbury	Charles O'Connor	Deferred	Amend gen. by-law A6, S4 driveway drainage		8	0		
37			Deferred	Sewer					Waiting to be finalized, vote at ATM
38	Charles O'Connor	Ed Sproul	Deferred	Sr. Tax Exemption cost of living increase		8	0		Need more info on financial impact to
39	Charles O'Connor	Ed Sproul	Deferred	Sr. tax exemption options		8	0		the town