

Town of Northbridge  
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes  
October 4, 2023 at 6:30PM

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**Committee Members in Attendance:** Plato Adams, Jim Barron, David Graham, Steve Gogolinski, and Chris Thompson

**Finance Committee Member not in Attendance:** Sean Ferry

NORTHBRIDGE TOWN CLERK  
LH 04 2023

**Town of Northbridge Administration and Department Managers, etc. in Attendance:**

Adam Gaudette, Town Manager, Town of Northbridge, MA  
Sharon Emerick, Town Accountant, Town of Northbridge, MA  
Brian Paulhus, Selectmen, Town of Northbridge, MA  
Timothy Labrie, Police Chief, Town of Northbridge, MA  
Michael Wilkes, Planning Board Member

**Other: Taxpayer(s) in Attendance:** M. Paulhus

**Finance Committee Meeting:**

At 6:29PM the Finance Committee Meeting was called to order by Plato Adams.

**Town of Northbridge – Public Notice / Hearing / Continuation of The Public Notice / Hearing:**

At 6:29PM, the Finance Committee Chair – Plato Adams – continued the Town of Northbridge Public Notice by reading the following statement:

“Notice is hereby given, pursuant to Sections 2-3(b) and 6-6(a) of the Northbridge Home Rule Charter, that the Finance Committee will hold a public meeting on Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:30PM, in the Level 1 Media Room, Northbridge Town Hall, 7 Main Street, Whitinsville, MA to discuss all articles contained in the Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant and the proposed operating budget as submitted. All interested persons are invited to attend.”

**Fall Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles**

An overview of each Warrant Articles was made by Adam Gaudette, Town Manager with the Finance Committee voting their positions on each Warrant Article:

**ARTICLE 1: (Board of Selectmen)** To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate and/or transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or transfer from the unexpended appropriated funds of one or more of the departments of the Town various sums of money and authorize the payment of prior year bills; or take any other action relative thereto.

A motion to Pass Over the proposed Article 1 was made by Chris Thompson, seconded by Steve Gogolinski and unanimously approved.

**ARTICLE 2: (Board of Selectmen)** To see if the Town will vote to amend the votes taken under Article 3 of the 2023 Spring Session of the Annual Town Meeting (May 2, 2023), appropriations and transfers under the Omnibus Budget Article, to raise and appropriate, and/or to transfer from available funds in the Treasury and/or the Health Insurance Stabilization Fund to supplement appropriations under the Omnibus Budget Article; or take any other action relative thereto.

A motion to approve the proposed Article 2 in the amount of (\$100,000) was made by Chris Thompson, seconded by David Graham and unanimously approved.

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**ARTICLE 3: (Bylaw Review Committee)** To see if the Town will vote to approve the grammatical and stylistic amendments to the Code of Northbridge (Bylaws) in accordance with the final report of the Bylaw Review Committee appointed in 2021 pursuant to Section 8-9(b) of the Home Rule Charter, said report being on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

There was no action taken at this time on this proposed Article 3. An official vote / recommendation will take place prior to the Annual Fall Town Meeting when additional information to make an informed decision is available.

**ARTICLE 4: (Bylaw Review Committee)** To see if the Town will vote to approve the substantive amendments to the Code of the Town of Northbridge (Bylaws) in accordance with the final report of the Bylaw Review Committee appointed in 2021 pursuant to Section 8-9(b) of the Home Rule Charter, said report being on file with the Town Clerk; or take any other action relative thereto.

There was no action taken at this time on this proposed Article 4. An official vote / recommendation will take place prior to the Annual Fall Town Meeting when additional information to make an informed decision is available.

**ARTICLE 5: (Bylaw Review Committee)** To see if the Town will vote to amend the General Bylaws by adding new Section 9-1100 entitled Graffiti Violations and Removal and inserting said section in the Code of the Town of Northbridge.

A motion to approve the proposed Article 5 was made by Chris Thompson, seconded by David Graham and approved. The vote was 3-2 in favor of passing the proposed Article 5.

**ARTICLE 6: (Conservation Commission)** To see if the Town will vote to adopt regulations pertaining to the use of conservation lands for inclusion in Division 5, Chapter 205 of the Town of Northbridge Code, a copy of which is on file with the Town Clerk. The regulations will apply to the use of all lands under the management of the Conservation Commission unless their use is otherwise regulated under a Conservation Restriction; or take any other action relative thereto.

A motion to Pass Over the proposed Article 6 was made by Chris Thompson, seconded by David Graham and unanimously approved.

**ARTICLE 7: (Petition)** Town of Northbridge An Ordinance Relative to Excessive and Unreasonable Noise.

A motion Not to Support the proposed Article 7 was made by David Graham, seconded by Steven Gogolinski and unanimously approved.

**Approval to Close the Public Notice / Public Meeting**

A motion to approve the closing of the Public Notice / Public Meeting was made by Chris Thompson, seconded by David Graham and unanimously approved.

**Approval of Previous Finance Committee Meeting Minutes:**

A motion to approve the Finance Committee Meeting Minutes of 9/27/2023 was made by Chris Thompson, seconded by Steven Gogolinski and unanimously approved.

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**Adjournment**

Since no further business was to be transacted, a motion to adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 7:28PM was made by David Graham, seconded by Steven Gogolinski and unanimously approved.

Respectfully Submitted,

/s/ James P. Barron, Clerk, Town of Northbridge Finance Committee

