

Board of Selectmen

Tuesday, October 18, 2022 – 5:30 PM

Presentation Room, Auburn High School

Minutes

Present: Scott C. Wrenn, Sara K. Rufli, Steven Chambers

Also Present: Town Manager Julie A. Jacobson. Assistant Town Manager/CFO Ed Kazanovicz

Chair Scott Wrenn called the meeting to order at 5:30 P.M.

Chairman Wrenn asked if any members wished to make a motion to reconsider Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles 8 and 9 to either Recommend or Not Recommend Approval.

Ms. Rufli stated that she is in favor of using ARPA funds for major projects, not smaller ticket items. She said she researched the cost of communication systems in other communities and it can be multi-million dollars. She said that Cambridge installed a communications tower 2 years ago at a cost of \$3.65 Million. Ms. Rufli stated that she would rather use ARPA funds to pay for large expenditures such as the communications tower and HVAC systems that Auburn needs than to use ARPA funds for smaller items such as \$7,500 and \$10,000, the latter of which does not have a significant impact on the taxpayer. She supports recommending Articles 8 and 9 as on the warrant.

Mr. Chambers stated that it remains his point of view that Articles 8 and 9 should be funded by ARPA funds not tax levy. He supports the two repair projects but not the source of funding. He does not want to recommend or not recommend these articles. He still wants to defer to the petitioner.

Chairman Wrenn stated that ARPA reporting is very stringent and so he prefers to spend ARPA funds on a few large projects rather than on numerous small projects.

Ms. Rufli made a motion to reconsider recommending articles 8 and 9. There was no second on the motion. No action taken.

Chairman Wrenn moved to the next item on the agenda – the appointment of Ed Kazanovicz as Interim Town Accountant. Town Manager Jacobson explained that with the resignation of Tom Zidelis as Town Accountant, the Select Board should vote to appoint Mr. Kazanovicz as Town Accountant until a new Town Accountant is hired.

Mr. Kazanovicz explained that there are statutory requirements of a town accountant that, while some can be fulfilled by the assistant town accountant, certain tasks must be handled by the town accountant.

Mr. Chambers made a motion to appoint Mr. Kazanovicz as Interim Town Accountant; Ms. Rufli seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous 3-0 to appoint Mr. Kazanovicz.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:37 P.M. (Motion made by Mr. Chambers; motion seconded by Ms. Rufli) voted in favor 3 to 0.

Submitted: Julie A. Jacobson, Town Manager