



**Town of Harvard**  
**Finance Committee**  
Minutes for September 29, 2021

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**The Finance Committee Regular Meeting was held virtually in accordance with the Governor's Executive Order Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law, G.L.c.30A. S.20.**

**Present:** Jennifer Finch(chair), Mike Derse, Richard Fellows, Charles Oliver, Ethan Pride, Eric Ward,Carolynn Luescher

**Absent:** Don Ludwig

**Others:** Tim Bragan (Town Administrator), Paul Green (Harvard Energy), Bob O'Shea (Parks and Recreation), John Osborn (Harvard Press)

**Public Commentary:** None

Paul Green sought approval to align Harvard's climate goals with the Commonwealth of Massachusetts climate goals to attempt to slow the impact of global warming. He specifically was requesting that the Finance Committee support for Article 18 Climate Resolution.

Motion was made to support Article 18 Climate Resolution. A roll call vote was taken and was unanimously approved by Eric Ward, Charles Oliver, Ethan Pride, Mike Derse, and Jennifer Finch.

Bob O'Shea had a reserve fund transfer request of \$9,770. Parks and Recreation needed the funds to cover the cost of weed whacking and dragging of ball fields prior to the start of school sport and little league season. Due to staffing challenges the DPW was unable to accommodate the work required to get the mowing and weed whacking completed before the fields for games. Field and Commons Expense fund was used to pay a private landscaping to "catch up" on field maintenance.

Motion was made to approve the reserve fund transfer request with a reminder that the need for funds to cover cost of labor to get fields ready for school is an operation issue that need to be resolved. A roll call vote was taken and was unanimously approved by Eric Ward, Charles Oliver, Ethan Pride, Mike Derse, and Jennifer Finch.

Bob O'Shea requested \$24,000 to cover the cost of removal of Bittersweet and Poison Ivy as well as potential "catch up" on field maintenance for the time period of now until mid-November and again for the spring game season ending in July 2022. Town of Harvard CDL drivers are not interested in week whacking. Some of the funds will be used for weed whacking in the fall and some spot mowing if the DPW runs into challenges in staffing or equipment. There was an extended discussion on how to resolve the operational issue with getting fields ready for games.

Motion was made to encumber \$24,000 to reimburse on an as needed basis to Parks and Recreation for field maintenance. A roll call vote was taken and was unanimously approved by Eric Ward, Charles Oliver, Ethan Pride, Mike Derse, and Jennifer Finch.

Tim Bragan made a request for \$1,708 for the transfer of archived emails to the new system.

Motion was made to encumber \$1,708 to cover the cost to transfer the archived emails to the new system. A roll call vote was taken and was unanimously approved by Eric Ward, Charles Oliver, Ethan Pride, Mike Derse, and Jennifer Finch.

Tim Bragan brought up the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Memorandum for review.

Motion was to approve the Fiscal Year 2023 Budget Memorandum as amended. A roll call vote was taken and was unanimously approved by Eric Ward, Charles Oliver, Ethan Pride, Mike Derse, and Jennifer Finch.

Review of a templated list of items to be included in the narrative for budget requests.

Motion was to approve the templated list of items to be included in the narrative for budget requests. A roll call vote was taken and was unanimously approved by Eric Ward, Charles Oliver, Ethan Pride, Mike Derse, and Jennifer Finch.

**Minutes for approval:** 09/15/2021, 08/18/2021 were approved with minor revisions requested.

**Upcoming meetings:** October 6, 2021 - 7pm - Zoom link will be available on the agenda when posted.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carolynn Luescher