

TOWN OF LAKEVILLE
Finance Committee Meeting Minutes
November 6, 2023 – 6:00 PM

On November 6, 2023, the Finance Committee held a meeting remotely at 6:00 PM from various locations. Finance Committee Chairman Plonka opened the Finance Committee meeting at 6:00 PM. Finance Committee Members present were Lawrence Kostant, Maureen Candito, Darren Beals and Christopher Plonka, Chairman. LakeCAM was recording the meeting for broadcast.

In accordance with the provisions allowed by Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023, the **November 6, 2023** public meeting of the **Lakeville Finance Committee** will be held remotely. **However, to view this meeting in progress, please go to facebook.com/LakeCAM (you do not need a Facebook account to view the meeting). This meeting will be recorded and available to be viewed at a later date at <http://www.lakecam.tv/>**

Discuss and vote on articles for November 13, 2023 Special Town Meeting

Kathryn Goodfellow, Town Moderator, was present for the discussion. Chairman Plonka said the Committee would be reviewing and voting on the articles for Special Town Meeting.

Article 1: Ms. Candito read the article.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 1.

Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Article 2: Ms. Candito read the article. Mr. Kostant asked Ms. Goodfellow if these items would be separated or voted on in bulk. Ms. Goodfellow replied someone from the floor would need to make a motion to separate them. Town By-law allows this if seven (7) people agree. She would ask seven (7) people to stand and hold up their yes card so that each one can be considered separately.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 2.

Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Article 3: Ms. Candito read the article.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 3.

Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Article 4: Ms. Candito read the article. She said she would like to see this not go to specific capital projects that may increase the budgetary constraints that we are already on, but for more stabilization of existing budget concerns and future concerns on the increases regarding the operating budget for the new Fire Station and other new facilities in Town.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 4.

Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Article 5: Ms. Candito read the article. She said on Line 2 – Historic Town House, after specking to various people at Town Hall and some constituents in Town, the amount that we are appropriating seems over inclusive for what the need is. The project should come in at \$50,000 based on what former Selectman Richard LaCamera said at the last Select Board Meeting, plus a 20% contingency so this seems like overkill. She asked Ms. Goodfellow if the Finance Committee could vote a lower number at this point or does it have to be done at Town Floor. Ms. Goodfellow said an amendment would need to be submitted. Ms. Candito said for #3, for engineering at John Paun Park for architectural plans and improvements, she listened to various stakeholders and the Town Administrator and she is not clear on the funding source after this is fully realized. Mr. Kostant questioned the overall expense; what is this for? Ms. Candito said it is about facilities structures: restrooms and wash stations. They do not have potable water. Chairman Plonka said this is about tying into Taunton water. Ms. Candito said through Blueberry Estates.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 5.

Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Article 6: Ms. Candito read the article. Chairman Plonka said he does not believe there is a cost impact to just shifting the date. Mr. Kostant said this is to push the date out further for budgeting due to delays at the State level. Ms. Candito said to say there is no dollar implication is correct, but to say there is no cost implication may not be correct. If we didn't have a quorum and Town Meeting was scheduled for the second week of June, when July 1st came we would be operating without a budget and there could be a significant impact. We have had some years where we did not have a quorum.

A motion was made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals to recommend approval of Article 6. Ms. Candito and Mr. Kostant voted against and Mr. Beals and Chairman Plonka voted in favor. As a quorum of the Committee did not recommend approval, the motion failed.

Article 7: Ms. Candito read the first paragraph of the article.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To recommend approval of Article 7.
Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Chairman Plonka said Articles 8, 9 and 10 are zoning articles with no direct budget impact.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To offer no recommendation on Article 8.
Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To offer no recommendation on Article 9.
Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Upon a motion made by Mr. Kostant and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To offer no recommendation on Article 10.
Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – aye; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

Approval of Finance Committee Meeting Minutes from July 10, 2023

Upon a motion made by Ms. Candito and seconded by Mr. Beals, it was:

VOTED: To approve the Finance Committee Minutes of July 10, 2023.
Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – abstain; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

New Business:

Chairman Plonka said on December 4, 2023 is the FY25 budget overview that will be presented to the Select Board. We do not have a time or location yet, but he will pass that information along to the Committee when he receives it.

Adjournment

Upon a motion made by Chairman Plonka and seconded by Ms. Candito, it was:

VOTED: To adjourn the Finance Committee Meeting at 6:25 PM.

Ms. Candito – aye; Mr. Kostant – abstain; Mr. Beals – aye and Chairman Plonka – aye.

List of documents provided at the Finance Committee Meeting of November 6, 2023

1. Warrant for Special Town Meeting on November 13, 2023