

**Town of Easton**  
**Board of Finance – Regular Meeting Minutes**

Date/Time: Tuesday, Nov 10, 2020 – 7:00 pm

Location: Virtual meeting using the Zoom app.

**Attendees:** Members: Andy Kachele-Chair, Paul Lindoerfer-Clerk, Michael Kot,  
Art Laske, Paul Skrtich  
Alternates: Tara Gottlieb  
**Absentee(s):** Matt Gachi, Gregg Saunders  
**Guest(s):** Christine Calvert-Finance Director/Treasurer, Dr. David Bindelglass-First Selectman,  
Kristi Sogofsky-Selectman  
**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at: 7:00 pm by: Andy Kachele

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***Appointment of Alternates***

**Action/Motions:** A motion was made to appoint Tara Gottlieb to fill in for Matt Gachi in his absence.  
**Motion (Second):** Andy Kachele (Paul Lindoerfer) **Result:** All in favor

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**Agenda Item 1** ***Discuss and approve the meeting minutes of October 6, 2020.***

**Action/Motions:** A motion was made to approve the subject meeting minutes.  
**Motion (Second):** Andy Kachele (Art Laske) **Result:** All in favor

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**Agenda Item 2** ***Review and discuss Park & Recreation Spring/Summer and Fall/Winter projections for the Activity Fund***

**Notes:** Danielle Alves presented the Field Usage account and Lisa Farasciano presented the Activity Account.  
**Action/Motions:** None

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**Agenda Item 3** ***Discuss and determine next steps on current and future initiatives including:***  
***a) Emergency Services***  
***b) Park & Recreation***

**Notes:** **3a) Emergency Services:** A Request for Qualifications has been sent to 15 – 20 companies and some responses have been received. Vendors have until December 1 to respond. Next steps will be a review of responses and development of a Request for Proposals.

**3b) Park and Recreation:** This item concerns a possible plan to move the responsibility for the Park and Rec maintenance functions to Public Works. Andy Kachele noted that there is no action to be taken by the board on this item. The responsibility for action now is in the hands of the BoS to decide if they want to continue with this plan and produce the necessary change to the town ordinance and then bring it to a Town Meeting for a vote. Rocky Sullivan of the Park and Rec Commission asked how the BoF came to the conclusion that this was a good way to go forward. Andy Kachele noted that the Board has not taken a vote or expressed a “sense of the board” on this plan. His opinion is that the proposed organizational structure is more efficient and cost effective than the current organization but that other board members might feel differently. Art Laske voiced concerns with this plan that he also expressed in an e-mail to board members including

possible union issues, financial issues and a lack of understanding of the need for this change. David Bindelglass noted that there is no consensus yet on the Board of Selectmen about this plan. Also it is not known when the town will be able to have an in-person Town Meeting to discuss this and other potential items.

Agenda Item 4	<b><i>Discuss and possible action on 2020 audit request</i></b>	
Notes:	Concerning the auditors request that each BoF member respond to its request to fill out and return their questionnaire about fraud issues, Andy expects each member to respond.	
Agenda Item 5	<b><i>Discuss and possible action on the Agricultural Land Trust Fund</i></b>	
Notes:	The Agricultural Land Trust Fund usage described in the information sent out with the meeting agenda was discussed.	
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to give the Conservation Commission permission to use \$26,804.25 from the Agricultural Land Trust Fund for use in the purchase of the Barney farm.	
Motion (Second):	Paul Skrtich (Mike Kot)	<b>Result:</b> All in favor.
Agenda Item 6	<b><i>Discussion on the safety concerns at Greiser's and Post Office</i></b>	
Notes:	The proposed project to make infrastructure changes at the Center Road / Westport Road intersection to correct safety issues was discussed. The project design cost is a town responsibility. The construction cost would be funded by a state grant. A question has been raised about this project's effect on the parking situation in front of Greiser's and the Post Office. Paul Lindoerfer stated that his understanding of the project is that it is not designed to have any direct effect on that parking situation. He also asked if the town could make signage changes to the intersection that might alleviate this parking problem. David Bindelglass noted that the town had looked into this problem and that our ability to make changes at the intersection is complicated by Westport Road being a state road.	
Action/Motions:	None	
Agenda Item 7	<b><i>Treasurer's report</i></b>	
Notes:	The Treasurer presented this month's report and answered questions from attendees.	
Action/Motions:	None	
Agenda Item 8	<b><i>Discuss and possible action on Munis Financial Report as presented by the Finance Director.</i></b>	
Notes:	The Finance Director presented this month's report and answered questions from attendees. Christine Calvert said that tax collections have been good in part due to recovery of delinquent taxes from several recent home sales. Town property owners have paid over \$900,000 in taxes via credit card or e-check.	
Action/Motions:	None	
Agenda Item 9	<b><i>Adjournment</i></b>	
Action/Motions:	A motion was made to adjourn at 8:12 pm.	
Motion (Second):	Mike Kot (Paul Skrtich)	<b>Result:</b> All in favor.

Submitted by,  
Paul Lindoerfer- Clerk