

**Holland Finance Board**  
27 Sturbridge Road, Holland, MA 01521  
Holland Town Hall – Community Room  
**Meeting Minutes for Thursday, January 12, 2023**  
Virtual and Physical Meeting of the Board and Guests

**Meeting Attendance –**

Members in person: Andy Harhay, Robbin Lauzon and Cara Bogacz, Paul Tortolani.

Members attending remotely: None

Member Absent: Karen Peret

Guests in person: Selectman Clelland Johnson and TA Stacy Stout.

Guests attending remotely: None

**Open Meeting –**

The Chair called to order at 6:00 pm.

**1. Review of 12/15/22 meeting minutes.**

Cara made the motion to approve the minutes and Paul seconded; approval was unanimous.

**2. Open Meeting Law**

Andy reviewed a section of the OML to ensure that new members had a clear understanding of the law relative to emails. Members are prohibited by the OML from expressing their opinion - via oral, written or electronic mail - to a quorum of the Finance Board on matters within the Board's jurisdiction. Andy stressed that it was important to keep this in mind as we start meeting with the various municipal groups. Deliberations involving a quorum of the members must occur at an open meeting.

**3. Budget Development Activities**

Members and guests were provided with a summary of budget requests received prior to this 1/12/23 meeting. Andy noted that some department heads were requesting significant salary increases. Stacy commented that she is working with Sharon Ashleigh to acquire salary and wage benchmark data from a compensation survey being performed by a neighboring town, with Holland data being incorporated into that survey. New Finance Board members were given a hard copy of the Annual Town Report for

calendar year 2021; Andy hoped the report would provide them with insight as to the mission and accomplishments of the municipal groups, as well as the details in the warrant articles voted on at the ATM. He also distributed an updated schedule of the target dates for meeting with the various departments, boards and committees. Five areas have asked for level funding and will not, at this time, be required to attend a meeting. At our next meeting, on 1/19/23, we are scheduled to meet with the Town Clerk and the Conservation Commission.

### **3. Expenditure Report**

Members did not have any questions or comments on the accountant's 12/19/22 report.

### **4. Select Board Updates**

Clelland indicated that the Select Board is continuing to discuss how to best use of Holland's ARPA funds and are reviewing the requests submitted by various municipal groups for monies to support their projects. A retrofit of the Community Center kitchen with new appliances and upgrading the town's computer hardware/software technology.

### **5. Roundtable Comments**

Attendees had no additional comments.

### **6. Next Meeting**

Scheduled for January 19, 2023 at 6:00 pm.

### **Adjournment**

Paul made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Robbin seconded; approval was unanimous. The Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:31 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Robbin Lauzon and Andy Harhay