

## Event Details

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### Finance Committee

Tuesday, March 29, 2022

**Date:** March 29, 2022

**Time:** 7:00 PM

**Location:** Resource Room

**Address:** 29 Depot Street  
Douglas, MA 01516

Douglas Finance Committee Agenda Tuesday, March 29, 2022 Resource Room Douglas Town Hall Douglas MA 7:00 p.m. 1. Call to order 2.

Executive Session to discuss ongoing negotiations 3. Budget discussion: Capital Improvement Committee: Mike Fitzpatrick 4.

Budget discussion: Blackstone Valley Tech—Dr. Fitzpatrick 5. Update from Town Administrator 6. General budget discussion 7. Approve minutes a. Feb 8, 2022 b. Feb 22, 2022 8. Reserve Fund transfer requests 9. Upcoming meeting dates: a. April 4 (Monday, 6:00 p.m., no Zoom available) b. April 12 (Tuesday—final public meeting where we will vote on budget recommendations for FY 2023) 10. Open session for topics not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance 11. Adjournment

**Douglas**  
**MASSACHUSETTS**

### *CONTACT*

The Town of Douglas

Municipal Center

29 Depot Street

Douglas, MA 01516

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Douglas Finance Committee  
March 29, 2022  
Town Hall  
Douglas MA

Present: Howard D'Amico, Carol Gogolinski, Phil Landry, Heather Morin, Lynne Mussulli, Dick Vandenberg. Absent: Mike Hutnak, Sandy Kuipers

Also present: Finance Director/Town Accountant Jeanne Lovett; Town Administrator Matt Wojcik

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dick Vandenberg at 7:01 p.m.
2. Mike Fitzpatrick, of the Capital Improvement Committee, went over the items approved by that committee to submit to the Town Meeting for its approval.
  - a. Fire Chief Kent Vinson took part in the discussion dealing with the proposal to buy a new fire truck;
  - b. Highway Department head John Furno talked about issues relating to roadway paving;
  - c. Matt Wojcik joined the conversation dealing with road paving and some of the long-term project in town that are related to that;
  - d. There was general discussion about other items including the status of Free Cash and the need for a long term Stabilization Fund to help pay for big ticket items line snow plows, fire trucks, etc.
3. Mike Fitzpatrick, the head of Blackstone Valley Tech, presented his budget proposal; he was joined by Douglas resident and BVT alum Mark Potter. He went over the details of the budget; there was vigorous and wide-ranging discussion with the members of the committee dealing with the nature of the curriculum, attendance policy, grants and other revenue streams, salaries, staffing, and the impact on the Douglas budget by the number of Douglas students who attend BVT.
4. Town Administrator Matt Wojcik presented the most recent iteration of the budget, which was balanced. He went over in some detail the process by which he arrived at a balanced budget; he acknowledged the input of the various departments in town and described some of the trade-offs that were made in order to arrive at a balanced budget. Questions from committee members included those related to projections for future growth in the town, spending on insurance premiums, and the role of state and other grants in our budget process. There was also some discussion about budget projections and issues for the FY 24 budget.
5. Howard D'Amico moved that the meeting adjourn which was seconded by Lynne Mussulli and that motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dick Vandenberg