



**Town of Amherst
Special Joint Meeting of the Town Council and Finance Committee
Public Hearing Regarding the One-Month Budget**

**Monday, June 8, 2020
7:00 p.m.
Virtual meeting**

Minutes

Complete video is available online: <https://amherstmedia.org/content/amherst-town-council-and-finance-committee-joint-public-budget-hearings-june-8-2020>

1. Call to Order

Councilors Participating Remotely: Councilors Bahl-Milne, Brewer, De Angelis, DuMont, Griesemer, Hanneke, Pam, Ross, Ryan, Schoen, Steinberg, and Swartz.

Councilors absent: Councilor Schreiber

Finance Committee Non-Voting Resident Members Participating Remotely: Robert Hegner, Sharon Povinelli, and Marylou Theilman

Others Participating Remotely: Town Manager Paul Bockelman, Regional School Committee Chair Allison McDonald, Superintendent of Schools Mike Morris, Regional Schools Finance Director Doug Slaughter, Finance Director Sean Mangano, Comptroller Sonia Aldrich, IT Applications Analyst Serge Fedorovsky, and Clerk of the Council Athena O'Keeffe

After confirming all participants could hear and be heard, President Griesemer declared the presence of a quorum, called the Town Council meeting to order at 6:31 p.m. and announced audio and video recording of the meeting by Amherst Media.

2. Hearing -- Public Hearing of the Finance Committee on the One-Month budget for July 2020 and other relevant information - Charter Sec. 5.5(a)

Councilor Steinberg called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m.

Town Manager Paul Bockelman stated that there will be another public hearing on the full FY21 budget.

Finance Director Sean Mangano spoke about the following:

- Outlined the one-month budget
- Broken into functional areas
- Gives authorization to spend funds in July
- Consulted with department heads to see what they needed to get through the month
- Pension system paid in one lump in order to receive a discount.
- 12 month budget will completely replace this one-month budget
- Capital not included in enterprise funds for July

Councilor Schoen asked about savings of this years operating budget, COLA for non-union staff and if decisions made in the one-month budget effect the FY21 budget.

S. Mangano responded that he is confident we will not need additional funds for June.

Comptroller Sonia Aldrich spoke about potential savings.

Town Manager Paul Bockelman responded that non-union employees are slated to receive a 2% COLA, and spoke about potential furloughs.

Councilor Steinberg stated that there are no significant staffing or program changes in the one month budget.

There were no public comments or questions.

Councilor Pam expressed her preference for a Zoom meeting rather than webinar format.

Councilor Brewer spoke in support of schools and Town employee COLA increases and furloughs rather than cuts.

M. Theilman spoke in favor of consistency between Town, school, and library staff, and asked about summer programs for children.

P. Bockelman responded that summer camp guidelines are so onerous we cannot do municipal camps this year. An official announcement will be made tomorrow.

Councilor Steinberg called hearing to a close at 8:04 p.m. and announced the Finance Committee will meet tomorrow to consider the one-month budget.

3. Topics Not Reasonably Anticipated by the President 48 Hours in Advance

4. Adjourn

President Griesemer declared the meeting adjourned at 8:07 p.m. on June 8, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,



Athena O'Keeffe

Clerk of the Council

Record of Agenda Packet Materials and Documents Presented

06-08-2020 Town Council Agenda One-Month Budget Hearing

06-08-2020 Town Council Agenda Regional School Budget Hearing

Budget - FY21 One-Month Budget 05-29-2020

Budget - FY21 Regional School District Budget 05-29-2020

Council - One Month Budget 6.8.20

FY21 Budget Guidelines Table 5.15.20

FY21ModifiedRegionalSchoolBudget_AmherstTC06082020

Town Council Revised Budget Policy Guidelines 05-18-2020