

**Warrant Committee
General Government Subcommittee**

Minutes - April 26, 2021
Meeting held via Zoom

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DATE: April 29, 2021
TIME: 9:03 AM

Attending: John Alcock, Elizabeth Dionne, Bob McLaughlin, Paul Rickter, Ellen Schreiber

Meeting was called to order at 8:03 am.

Minutes

The minutes of the April 8, 2021 meeting of the General Government Subcommittee were approved. Moved: McLaughlin, Seconded: Alcock, Voted 5-0.

Discussion of the General Government section of the Warrant Committee report

The subcommittee discussed the proposed draft of the General Government section of the FY22 Warrant Committee report and made several revisions of the text.

Revisions made included:

- Revisions suggested by department heads were incorporated into this draft. Most of these suggestions provided additional detail or clarified important points of fact.
- In several department sections, paragraphs describing the purpose of the department were added.
- A paragraph was added to the Town Administration section describing the costs to the town of not hiring a Procurement Manager, which would have been included in the FY22 budget if the proposed 2 1/2 override had passed.
- A paragraph was added to the Information Technology section clarifying that the budget increase in that department was the result of rising costs of software licenses and security systems.
- Uncertainty around the new growth number in the Assessors section, which does not match the most recent Town Administrator's FY22 budget. Dionne will determine the correct new growth number to use.
- Agreement to include recommendations in the Assessors section that the Town focus on several areas involving property taxes, including payment in lieu of taxes (PILOT) for non-profits that own land in Belmont, senior tax relief, and working with other municipalities to amend a state law that provides tax exemptions for golf courses.

The amended version of the General Government was approved. Moved: Schreiber, Seconded: McLaughlin, Voted 5-0.

Meeting adjourned 8:45 am

Submitted by Paul Rickter