

## Finance Committee Appointing Committee

### Minutes

December 13, 2022 @ 6:00 PM

Town Hall, Room 9, 121 Glen Road, Wilmington

Finance Committee Chairman John Doherty, called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were Judith O'Connell, Board of Selectman, Chair, and Johnathan Eaton, Town Moderator.

Chairman Doherty introduced Dr. Brad Jackson

Dr. Jackson expressed his interest in serving the town of Wilmington again. He informed the group that his background existed mainly within the school system; however, his core philosophy is that municipal government doesn't just pertain to schools, but also expert municipal services as well. It is important to maintain the balance between the two which Wilmington has found over the years.

Dr. Jackson informed the group that his daughter is a teacher at Wilmington high school. Dr. Jackson clarified that he had checked with his attorney as well as the State of Massachusetts Ethics Commission; and since the Finance Committee does not approve line items, there would be no conflict of interest.

Dr. Jackson entertained questions from the group.

Ms. O'Connell acknowledged Dr. Jackson's decorated career within the public sector, she advised that her questions were meant to benefit the public record. Ms. O'Connell asked Dr. Jackson what was driving his interest in serving the community once again as he is in his prime of retirement.

Dr. Jackson explained that the regularly scheduled meetings would be easy to accommodate. Dr. Jackson noted that his family had recently welcomed a grandson his opportunity and therefore his ability to peruse interests such as traveling would be limited.

Ms. O'Connell asked Dr. Jackson to speak further on his philosophy to meet all municipal needs where his background had been weighted in the school department. Dr. Jackson reiterated his previous statements, that the need for well-funded municipal departments coincides with good well-funded schools. This would be important to the Finance Committee to oversee the balance of the two when necessary. Dr. Jackson spoke to his previous experience with this balance presenting itself within the town manager's budget. Ms. O'Connell noted that the process still occurs in the same fashion.

Ms. O'Connell noted that the purpose of the committee as well as other committees is collaboration and transparency, Ms. O'Connell asked Dr. Jackson to detail his ability to accommodate said purposes. Dr. Jackson admitted he had not performed such work in the age of social media, he referenced Mr. Eaton's and Ms. O'Connell's involvement in social media, he stated that specific groups must express their concerns independently.

Ms. O'Connell asked her last question to Dr. Jackson to express his ability to contribute to the committee, or the committee could do better. Dr. Jackson informed the group that he has not been actively watching, selectman meetings or Finance Committee meetings however he has seen Finance Committee work within Wilmington as well as other communities such as Holliston, and he would be willing to contribute his ideas.

Mr. Eaton asked Dr. Jackson what he thought the town could be doing better. Dr. Jackson responded with the town should be communicating better what services residents are receiving from their tax dollars; Dr. Jackson referenced street plowing, education, emergency services, and the importance of being proud of these services offered.

Chairman Doherty referenced the proposal with the MSBA pertaining to the Wildwood School and asked Dr. Jackson his opinion on the idea of pre-k-5 schools. Dr. Jackson informed the group that strategic thinking would need to take place to house all pre-k-5 students, where the condition of schools within the community was unbeknownst to him. Dr. Jackson clarified that it would be important for the community to have a plan in place for this demographic of students. Dr. Jackson referenced his previous experience with consolidating schools for a lower operating cost. Dr. Jackson stated that he didn't have enough information at hand to determine a plan with the Wildwood School.

Chairman Doherty asked Dr. Jackson what his involvement would be with social media. Dr. Jackson stated that he thought it was important to communicate information, and that he would feel more apt to correct misinformation when a situation began to spiral. Dr. Jackson expressed his ability to adhere to the expectations of the Finance Committee in regards to social media.

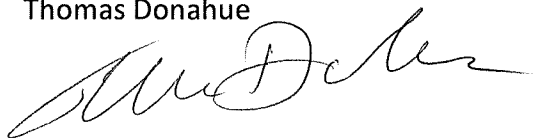
Chairman Doherty asked the group to entertain any further questions or comments regarding Finance Committee candidate Dr. Brad Jackson; there were no questions or comments.

Mr. Eaton motioned to appoint Dr. Brad Jackson as a Finance Committee member, seconded by Board of Selectmen Chair Ms. Judith O'Connell

VOTED: to elect Dr. Brad Jackson as a Finance Committee member

Submitted respectfully,

Thomas Donahue

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Tom Donahue', written in a cursive style.