

From the Annual Town Meeting 2026 Warrant

Article 33:

To see if the town of Southborough will vote to create a separate finance committee with its own members and duties. The finance committee will follow Mass. general laws, chapter 39, section 16. The first priority will be to make sure that the department of revenue financial review of the town of Southborough dated August of 2024 recommendation # I "the Town accountant it appears he (she does not have custody of all contracts 49 and grants he/she is legally obliged to maintain. Therefore, we recommend that the heads of all departments, board and commissions ensure that they submit copies of all grants and contracts to the accountant's office in compliance with M.G.L. c.41, Sub Sect 57 and bylaw Article 3 SUB Sect 3-2. When reviewing payment requests, the accountant must be able to verify the terms of the contract are met. If a department submits a bill and the contract with payment terms is not on file, he/she should not process the payment until he/she gets the contract." We also want the finance committee to confirm that the payment to the vendor is for product or services that followed Comm. of Mass. municipal purchasing rules and laws.

The Finance committee will review and when they vote by a majority of members, they may order an audit from a Mass. Certified Public accounting firm employing a minimum of 10 C.P.A.'s. The committee may spend up to \$20,000 dollars per year without new town meeting authority. If more funds are needed the committee shall ask town meeting for added funds.

The following boards and committees can appoint a single finance committee member for two years. Planning board, Zoning Board of appeals, Advisory committee, Board of Assessors, and the Select board. No Finance member can be an elected official in the town.

The finance committee shall work with the town auditor and any independent auditor and together submit a summary of their work to be included in the town's annual report.

Following the recommendations of the department of revenue of Massachusetts will be the initial role for this committee. The finance committee may increase its responsibilities over time by following the responsibilities as laid out by the finance committee handbook association of town finance committees, 3 Center Plaza, Boston, Mass.

; or do or act anything in relation thereto.