This year’s ATFC Annual Meeting will be held virtually over Zoom. All speakers will present live, and attendees will be able to ask questions via the Q&A function in Zoom. All sessions will be recorded and will be available for viewing after the webinar via a link that will be provided only to registrants.

ATFC Annual Meeting – Session 1: All the Nuts and Bolts of the Budgeting Process
October 22, 2020, 7-8:30 p.m.

7-7:10 p.m.
Welcome, Business Meeting
Brian Boyle, ATFC President and Bolton Advisory Committee

7:10-7:30 p.m.
MMA Budget and Legislative Update
John Robertson, MMA Legislative Director

7:30-8:30 p.m.
Budgeting and Finance
John Coderre, Northborough Town Administrator
This session will cover the budgeting process, from beginning to end. It will include tips on budget development, multiyear forecasting, capital planning, setting fiscal policies, and compliance with all Massachusetts General Laws, including the open meeting law. Coderre, a frequent speaker to the association, will provide clear and practical guidance that attendees can implement in their own communities.

ATFC Annual Meeting – Session 2: How Can DLS Help You to Succeed?
October 29, 2020, 7-8:15 p.m.

Overview and Best Practices from the Division of Local Services
• Sean Cronin, Senior Deputy Commissioner (moderator)
• Zack Blake, Chief of the Technical Assistance Bureau
• Joanne Graziano, Chief of the Local Assessment Bureau
• M.J. Handy, Chief of the Bureau of Accounts
The Division of Local Services serves an array of functions and offers services and technical assistance to all local officials, including finance committees. Everyone knows they set your tax rate, but there is so much more. Panelists will provide an overview of specific DLS functions as they relate to finance committee members. Deputy Commissioner Cronin will facilitate the discussion and highlight the important role finance committees play in the municipal budget process.

ATFC Annual Meeting – Session 3: Keeping Schools Safe and Functioning
November 12, 2020, 7-8:15 p.m.

The State of Schools and the Student Opportunity Act
• Russell Johnston, Senior Associate Commissioner, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

COVID-19 has challenged local government in many ways, none more so than continuing to safely provide quality education to students of all ages. This session will review how the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education is addressing this. Particular attention will be paid to the Student Opportunity Act, enacted in 2019, and how it’s being managed during the pandemic. Speakers will highlight what finance committee members need to know about this important program.