

**ADVISORY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
March 18, 2015**

A meeting of the Advisory & Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, March 18, 2015. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Moody at 7:00PM and was conducted in the Mayflower II Meeting Room at the Plymouth Town Hall, 11 Lincoln Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts.

PRESENT Eleven members of the committee were present:

Cornelius Bakker, Kevin Canty, Michael Hanlon, Harry Helm, Shelagh Joyce, Ethan Kusmin, Kevin Lynch, John Moody, Harry Salerno, Marc Sirrico, Charles Stevens

ABSENT Three members of the committee were absent:

Richard Gladdys, Kevin Hennessey, Christopher Merrill

AGENDA ITEMS

➤ **Majority Rule for Reconsideration - Rules Committee**

The Advisory & Finance Rules Committee met on Tuesday, March 10. They drafted the following standing rule regarding a super-majority requirement for reconsideration of Town Meeting article recommendations as Town Meeting approaches. The proposed rule (and changes to the existing rule), are denoted by underlined italics:

8.5 Reconsideration

In general practice, a motion for reconsideration can be made on any previous action taken by the Committee by any member voting on the prevailing side in the original vote. An affirmative vote of a majority of the members present and voting shall be required for passage of a motion to reconsider.

In the event reconsideration of a Town Meeting recommendation is proposed after the first Precinct Caucus or Presentation Forum for that Town Meeting has commenced, the motion to reconsider may only be taken up if a minimum quorum of two-thirds (2/3) of members are present. An affirmative vote of two-thirds (2/3) of the members present and voting shall be required for passage of the motion to reconsider. As with all motions to reconsider, the motion must be made by a member voting on the prevailing side in the original vote.

Cornelius Bakker made a motion to approve the Majority Rule for Reconsideration. Michael Hanlon, second. The motion passes unanimously (10-0-0).

SPECIAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE UPDATES

➤ **STM Article 3: Unpaid Bills**

At the March 4, 2015 meeting the vote for the school transportation bill portion of STM Article 3 was postponed until tonight's meeting. Since then the school had discussions with the Massachusetts Department of Education and received suggestions from them regarding pursuing other avenues to resolve this outstanding invoice. As a result, the school transportation portion of this article has been withdrawn.

➤ **STM Article 5: Sewer Special Purpose Debt Payment Fund**

Lynne Barrett, Finance Director, thanked the Advisory & Finance Committee for voting to recommend STM Article 5 to Town Meetings. She said that after reviewing the Fund with Legal Counsel, she has decided to withdraw this article. Setting the fund up this way will not be as seamless as hoped because both depositing and withdrawing will require a 2/3 vote of Town Meeting so the timing would be problematic. The Town is going to seek special legislation for a special act to set up the fund and parameters the way it is needed.

Kevin Canty made a motion to rescind our prior vote on STM Article 5, taking back the committee's recommendation, and instead request No Motion No Action. Harry Salerno, second. The motion passes unanimously (10-0-0).

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING ARTICLE UPDATES

➤ **ATM Article 22: Fingerprint Based Criminal History Checks**

This article was already recommended by the Advisory & Finance Committee. Since then a significant re-write of the bylaws took place at the recommendation of Town Counsel. The content is basically the same but shifted a bit and they added a new section on purpose and scope.

Shelagh Joyce made a motion to ratify our vote, confirming our prior vote. Kevin Canty, second. The motion passes unanimously (10-0-0).

➤ **ATM Article 30: Solar PILOT - Herring Pond Road**

This article was already recommended by the Advisory & Finance Committee. Since then a PILOT Agreement has been reached. A motion will be made on Town Meeting floor to vote to approve the Agreement. The terms of the agreement are:

Developer: Renewable Energy Development Partners LLC
Site: Assessors Map Lot 56, Lot 47B 136R Herring Pond Road, Cedarville
Size: .5 MWAC
Terms: \$13,000 per MWAC, 2.5% annual escalator, 20 years

Question: Is this rate comparable to the other PILOT Agreements with the Town? (S Joyce) Yes, all the developers provide the same information and the rates are calculated with the same formula. All PILOTS with the Town are currently in the \$12,000 to \$14,000 MWAC range.

Cornelius Bakker made a motion to recommend approval of ATM Article 30 and its PILOT Agreement. Kevin Canty, second. The motion passes unanimously (9-0-1). Michael Hanlon, abstained.

Public Comment

None

Old/New/Other Business

- The Precinct Caucus schedule will be available in the next day or two. Harry Salerno will be contacting Advisory & Finance members to schedule them for the caucuses.
- Town Meeting books will be ready and going in the mail this Friday, March 20, 2015.
- The Advisory & Finance Committee will be meeting on Saturday, April 11 at 7:30AM right before the 8AM Town Meeting.

Meeting Minutes

- February 25, 2015: **Michael Hanlon made a motion to approve the February 25, 2015 meeting minutes. Kevin Canty, second. The motion carries unanimously (8-0-2). Ethan Kusmin and Harry Helm, abstained.**
- March 4, 2015: **Kevin Canty moved to approve the March 4, 2015 meeting minutes. Harry Helm, second. The motion carries unanimously (9-0-1). Cornelius Bakker, abstained.**

The Chair recognized that Tom Melehan arrived and was here to answer any questions about Article 30 but the meeting went so quickly the Article and PILOT Agreement had already been voted on and recommended. There were no questions for Mr. Melehan.

ADJOURNMENT

Michael Hanlon moved for adjournment. Cornelius Bakker, second. The motion for adjournment carries unanimously (10-0-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kere Gillette