

**ADVISORY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES  
April 11, 2015**

A meeting of the Advisory & Finance Committee was held on Saturday, April 11, 2015. The meeting was called to order by Chairman John Moody at 7:30AM and was conducted in Room 146A - Band Room at the Plymouth North High School, 41 Obery Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts.

**PRESENT**      **Thirteen members of the committee were present:**  
Cornelius Bakker, Kevin Canty, Richard Gladdys, Michael Hanlon, Harry Helm, Kevin Hennessey, Shelagh Joyce, Ethan Kusmin, Kevin Lynch, Christopher Merrill, John Moody, Harry Salerno, Marc Sirrico

**ABSENT**      **One member of the committee was absent:**  
Charles Stevens

**AGENDA ITEMS**

➤ **ATM ARTICLE 8: DEPARTMENTAL EQUIPMENT**

The Advisory & Finance Committee received an update on Article 8. There were six items listed on the warrant that were not being funded:

C	Information Tech.	Clerk - MUNIS Animal Licensing Program
H	Information Tech.	Police - Officer Scheduling System
GG	DPW-Operations	Maint - Animal Shelter Building Repairs
HH	DPW-Operations	Maint - Crematory Building Repairs
II	DPW-Operations	Maint - Nelson Park Restroom Repairs
JJ	DPW-Operations	Maint - Stephens Field Concession Repairs

There were an additional 5 items that were recommended by the Town Manager but left off the warrant so are not able to be funded:

DPW-Operations	Maint - Portable Cutting Torch	\$850
DPW-Operations	Fleet - Pressure Washer	\$5,277
DPW-Operations	Fleet - Tire Changer	\$13,826
DPW-Operations	Fleet - Tire Balancer	\$10,905
DPW-Operations	Fleet - Stick Welder	\$6,000

- The revised sub-total for Article 8 is:                      \$641,835
- -100% Perpetual Care    \$14,950
  - -100% Sewer Enterprise Fund                                      \$14,592
  - -100% Waterways Uses Acct                                      \$43,750
  - -100% White Shark Conservancy                                      \$4,000
  - Total from General Fund Free Cash                                      \$564,543

**Kevin Canty made a motion to reconsider ATM Article 8. Richard Gladdys, second. Motion to reconsider carries unanimously (11-0-0).**

**Kevin Canty made a motion to recommend ATM Article 8, as changed and reviewed this morning, to Town Meeting. Harry Helm, second. The motion carries unanimously (11-0-0).**

➤ **ATM ARTICLE 16E: CPC - BUDGET**

Since the Report & Recommendations of the Advisory & Finance Committee – Annual Town Meeting book went to print, the Town received notification from the Massachusetts Department of Revenue that the first round CPC match is estimated at 18% and not the 30% that had been estimated (match was 31% last fall). New CPC budget numbers are:

Estimated 2016 Tax Revenue:	\$141,105,149	
CPA Surcharge Rate:	1.50%	
2016 Estimated Surcharge less Abatements & Exemptions:	\$2,091,577	
Investment Earnings:	\$5,000	
State Trust Fund Distribution estimated at 18%	\$2,005,303.65	\$359,155
	<u>(\$10,000)</u>	\$2,455,732
	\$1,995,303.65	

USES: To meet required percentages from 2016 Estimated CPA Revenues:

Open Space	10%	\$245,573
Historic Resources	10%	\$245,573
Community Housing	10%	<u>\$245,573</u>
Total to be spent or set aside:		\$736,720

Amount available for CPA Administrative Costs:

CPA Operating Budget	4%	\$98,229
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Amount estimated to be set aside in Budgeted Reserve for future FY2016 Town Meetings:

Available for all 4 CPA Purposes	\$1,620,783
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(if not used in FY16 it will close out to Unreserved Fund Balance June 30, 2016)

**Kevin Canty made a motion to reconsider ATM Article 16E. Shelagh Joyce, second. The motion carries unanimously (11-0-0).**

Ethan Kusmin commented that the CPA state match is plummeting and it is hard to say what will happen with the CPA in the future. Town Meeting Member Pat McCarty added that the match was 100% 12 years ago versus the 18% match today. Town Meeting Member Kevin Joyce asked what the match rates have been each year since 2002. Finance Director Lynne Barrett said that she did not have those figures at this moment but would be happy to provide them at a later date. She also added that 18% is an estimate we are required to use from the Department of Revenue, the actual numbers may come in higher in the fall. John Moody said that we might like to add this subject to our agenda over the summer.

*Cornelius Bakker arrived to meeting.*

**Kevin Canty made a motion to recommend ATM Article 16E, as changed and reviewed this morning, to Town Meeting. Ethan Kusmin, second. The motion carries unanimously (11-0-1). Cornelius Bakker, abstained.**

➤ **ATM ARTICLE 31: LAND SWAP – HERRING POND ROAD / LONG POND ROAD**

Since the Report & Recommendations of the Advisory & Finance Committee – Annual Town Meeting book went to print, the Board of Selectmen requested that the tree buffer along Janebar Circle increase to 300 feet, reducing the acreage from approximately 6.0 to 5.6 that the Town will transfer in the land swap. A new map/configuration was provided in the Supplement.

**Cornelius Bakker made a motion to reconsider ATM Article 31. Harry Helm, second. Motion to reconsider carries unanimously (12-0-0).**

**Harry Helm made a motion to recommend ATM Article 31, as changed and reviewed this morning, to Town Meeting. Cornelius Bakker, second. The motion carries unanimously (11-0-1). Michael Hanlon, abstained.**

Public Comment

Pat McCarthy, Town Meeting Member, said that she is making a Motion to Amend Annual Town Meeting Article 7 at Town Meeting by adding the \$30,000 back to the school budget that the Advisory & Finance Committee recommended be cut. Music is part of the core curriculum at the high school so it is a graded course. The band parents group is a 501(c)3 but can not raise money for items owned by the school. She reported that the Selectmen voted unanimously to approve her motion to amend.

Old/New/Other Business

**Kevin Canty made a motion to reconsider ATM Article 7. Michael Hanlon, second.**

Comments and discussion:

- It would be prudent to reconsider this budget item. (K Canty)
- I do not agree, it is a reasonable cut and the school can find the money within its budget to make these purchases. (S Joyce)
- It is difficult to defend not paying for the band instruments and uniforms even though the schools can afford the cut. It clearly looks like it will be adjusted on Town Meeting floor. (H Salerno)
- Discussion regarding this topic was heated at the caucuses. (R Gladdys)
- It makes sense to cut the school budget, but maybe the committee should not be so specific next year regarding which line(s) are being cut. (E Kusmin)
- Agree that the specific items that are cut should not be articulated. (C Bakker)

**The motion fails (7-5-0). Richard Gladdys, Cornelius Bakker, Kevin Canty, Harry Helm, Ethan Kusmin, Harry Salerno, and Marc Sirrico, in favor. Kevin Hennessey, Shelagh Joyce, Kevin Lynch, Christopher Merrill and Michael Hanlon, opposed.**

Michael Hanlon announced that this will most likely be his last meeting as a member of the Advisory & Finance Committee as he is running unopposed for Town Meeting representative.

Shelagh Joyce suggested that this committee look at improving communication during the caucus phase.

**Richard Gladdys then made a motion to recess to attend Town Meeting and reconvene at the end of Town Meeting. Ethan Kusmin, second. The motion passed unanimously (12-0-0).**

The Advisory & Finance Committee then attended Town Meeting and when Town Meeting adjourned, reconvened as a committee.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Christopher Merrill moved for adjournment. Kevin Hennessey, second.  
The motion for adjournment carries unanimously (11-0-0).**

*Kevin Lynch was not present.*

The meeting adjourned at 2:30PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kere Gillette