

ADVISORY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

MEETING MINUTES

December 16, 2015

A meeting of the Advisory & Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, December 16, 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

Nine members of the committee were present:

Kevin Canty, Harry Helm, Shelagh Joyce, Ethan Kusmin, Mike Lincoln, Christopher Merrill, John Moody, Harry Salerno, Marc Sirrico

ABSENT

Five members of the committee were absent

Betty Cavacco, Richard Gladdys, Marcus McGraw, Patricia McPherson, Patrick O'Brien

AGENDA ITEMS

Meeting Schedule Change

The Joint Budget Meeting with the Board of Selectmen and School Committee has been changed to Tuesday, January 5 at 7PM (not January 12th as originally scheduled).

Budget Updates

Budget Sub-Committees reports are due February 12th and the same template/format used last year will be used this year. The Budget Hearing is February 24th. Chairman John Moody reminded the budget sub-committee chairs to not read their reports but prepare a brief presentation of highlights and changes. A sample Power Point presentation will be shared if chairs wish to use that format.

Annual Report

Chairman Moody shared a draft of the Advisory & Finance Report for the Town's Annual Report. He asked the committee to review it and provide feedback or suggested changes. The report is due to the Town Clerk by January 12th.

Old/New/Other Business

- School Budget Sub-Committee Chair, Chris Merrill, reported that they attended the school budget presentation on December 6th. The school budget is approximately \$90 million, an increase of 5% over last year. The FY17 budget includes the switch to Full Day Kindergarten for all students. The School Committee is voting on their budget next Monday. The sub-committee will meet again the first or second week in January with the Superintendent, Business Manager and School Committee Chair. The timing of receiving the budget books was discussed. Shelagh Joyce said that having 48 business hours to review the school budget, which is half of the town's entire budget, is not enough time. Some also felt that the sub-committee should have input before the School Committee votes on their budget. In the summer, the Advisory & Finance Committee will look at the timing of the budget process and come up with recommendations moving forward.
- Rules Sub-Committee Chair, John Moody, reported that they met after the November 18th Advisory & Finance Committee meeting. They are looking at recommending new Advisory & Finance Committee Bylaws. They will meet again on December 30th at 7PM in the Harbor Room. They will continue to work on the bylaws and will then move on to the standing rules. The plan is to have the bylaws and rules ready to vote on in March or April.

Public Comment

Paul & Helen Hapgood both asked about the bylaws and what they involved. Chairman Moody said that they are not the Town's Bylaws, only bylaws that outline how the Advisory & Finance Committee

operates. In 2013 the Committee did away with the bylaws and now operates under standing rules only. The rules sub-committee is looking to bring back bylaws in addition to the standing rules.

Meeting Minutes

- November 18, 2015: **Harry Salerno made a motion to approve the 11/18/15 minutes. Kevin Canty, second. The motion carries unanimously (8-0-1) with Chairman John Moody voting in favor. Shelagh Joyce, abstained.**

ADJOURNMENT

Kevin Canty made a motion to adjourn. Shelagh Joyce, second. The motion for adjournment carries unanimously (8-0-0). The meeting adjourned at 7:22PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kere Gillette