

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
December 3, 2012, Monday

Present: Kenneth DiFazio, Chairman  
Patrick O'Connor, Vice Chairman  
Arthur Mathews, Councilor  
Michael Molisse, Councilor  
Michael Smart, Councilor

Also Present: Francis Burke, Councilor  
Jane Hackett, Councilor  
Ed Harrington, Councilor  
William McKinney, CFO  
Jeff Bina, DPW Director

Not Present: Richard Swanson, Town Auditor

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman DiFazio called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

**12 115-Free Cash-2013 Receipts-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund**

CFO McKinney presented the measure on behalf of the Mayor. He reported the town has received \$108,080 from LNR for mitigation and requested that it be moved to the Special Purpose Stabilization Fund as quickly as possible. Councilor Hackett asked if base revenue continues to be processed through the Mayor's budget. Mr. McKinney responded yes.

Councilor Mathews noted that Auditor Swanson is on vacation; however he reviewed and reported on each measure to the committee.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Molisse to forward item 12 115-Free Cash-2013 Receipts-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund- to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Mathews.  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**12 116-Appointment to Community Events Committee-Lori DiBona**

Mr. McKinney presented the measure. Lori DiBona was invited to the table. She reviewed her qualifications and her interest in serving on the committee. She is a long time resident who loves being part of the community and giving back. She is the President of the Weymouth Education Foundation, a member of the Columbian Business Association, and teaches the Saving Makes Sense program at the Ralph Talbot and Academy Ave. Schools that culminates in a field trip to the Federal Reserve.

Councilor Molisse noted he supports the appointment; he has known Ms. DiBona for a long time and reported that she will be a great asset to the committee.

A MOTION was made by Vice Chairman O'Connor to forward item 12 116-Appointment to Community Events Committee-Lori DiBona to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. Councilor Mathews noted he will request taking this item out of order at the Town Council meeting later in the evening. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### 12 118-FY13 Tax Classification

Paul Haley and Kevin Spellman appeared before the committee . Mr. Haley reported that other members of the Board of Assessors were also present. They came before the committee to present a proposed shift in tax classification from residential to commercial/industrial to decrease the total tax burden on the residents of the town. He reviewed the calculations and noted that the recommended shift by the board is a 48% shift. The maximum under the law would be 50%. He provided a handout to the committee to support the rates and the request.

Councilor Hackett asked that Mr. Haley review for the residents at the public hearing scheduled at the Town Council meeting later in the evening, the reasons that can cause an individual tax bill to increase more than 2.5% in a given year. Mr. Haley responded that while the state limits the town to increasing the tax levy to 2.5% over the previous year plus the new growth, revaluation and other factors affect the rates.

Vice Chairman O'Connor noted that this year is slightly better than recent years, but residents are still struggling, and it's imperative to the future of the town to generate revenue sources to fund programs and services.

Councilor Mathews asked for an update on the status of the abatement process and if the board is seeing less requests. Kevin Spellman responded that they are decreasing. Mr. Haley also noted that the next full property revaluation will be in 2014.

Councilor Harrington reported that the survey of tax rates for surrounding towns provided by the board indicates that Weymouth has the lowest tax rate. Mr. Haley responded that he garnered the information for surrounding towns within the Norfolk and Plymouth counties.

A MOTION was made by Vice Chairman O'Connor to forward item 12 118-FY13 Tax Classification-- to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

#### 12 119-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund-Pond Plain Improvement Association Building Repair

CFO McKinney presented the measure; a request on behalf of the Mayor for \$75,000 for building repairs to the Pond Plain Improvement Association. This item was a part of the deliberations by the Council for those projects in town to fund with mitigation funds as a

result of the redevelopment of the Naval Air Station in South Weymouth. The list was compiled over numerous hours of deliberation and ultimately voted by the Council in 2005.

Chairman DiFazio asked who will oversee the spending of the funds and monitor the project. CFO McKinney responded that like all projects in the stabilization fund, the funds will be maintained in a separate line item segregated to the project. The funds will not be given to any private organization. The town will receive invoices and track payments.

Councilor Smart reviewed the past history on this request. The Pond Plain Improvement Association building repairs has been on the mitigation list since 2005. Members of the association came forward and requested the funds after the building had been closed because of roof issues and met with the Building and Planning Departments. The association has some insurance money to offset the costs of the repairs. They solicited and received three bids and like any other project, the invoices will be processed through the town. Architectural services were provided pro bono.

Councilor Mathews noted two important points; the current available amount and the process to receive funds. CFO McKinney noted that construction on the base triggers the payments to the town. The amount in total will be over \$13 million over the course of the redevelopment.

Councilor DiFazio noted that the public should realize that these funds are a direct result of the agreement between Weymouth and South Shore Tri-Town Development Corporation, and do not constitute excess revenue, CPC funding, tax monies or funds received for services provided to the base.

Vice Chairman O'Connor noted that although he was not on the Council at the time the mitigation list was voted, this Council has met often to discuss the list. Civic organizations like the Pond Plain Improvement Association exist to provide an important service to the residents and groups in the town and should be encouraged. He will support the measure.

A MOTION was made by Vice Chairman O'Connor to forward item 12 119-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund-Pond Plain Improvement Association Building Repair-- to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Molisse. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

At 7:32 PM; there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Vice Chairman O'Connor to ADJOURN the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by:

Approved by:

Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Kenneth DiFazio as Chairman