

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
May 5 2014, Monday**

Present: Michael Molisse, Chairman
Patrick O'Connor, Vice Chairman
Jane Hackett, Councilor
Rebecca Haugh, Councilor
Brian McDonald, Councilor

Also Present: William McKinney, Chief Financial Officer
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Molisse called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. He reported this is the kick-off to reviewing the proposed fiscal year 2015 budget:

14 057C-Reserve Fund
14 064-Health Insurance Unexpended Funds
14 063-Free Cash-OPEB Liability Trust Fund
14 058-Revolving Accounts Annual Authorization
14 059-Gift Accounts Annual Authorization
14 060-Unpaid Bills
14 057AA-State & County Assessments
14 057BB -Overlay for Abatements
14 057 X Debt
14 057Y-Pensions & Benefits

CFO McKinney reviewed the proposal and responded to the questions provided in advance of the meeting by Auditor Swanson in his preliminary review. Mr. McKinney reviewed the executive summary and what has driven certain changes. He noted some increases (as in the medicaid revenue received) offset other decreases (Planning- as trending over the last several years). The revisions capture growth but remain conservative sustaining growth yearly.

Councilor Hackett asked about the revenue projections that include base revenue. It was noted that they are the same as the current year. The discussion also included the meals tax revenue. Interest income continues to fall. The homeless transportation income is a new category, but the remainder are taken directly from the Cherry Sheet. There was a brief discussion on debt for the Academy Avenue School project; Councilor Hackett asked how many more years remain on the bond. Discussion included the bond projects and special revenues from trash, debt service on, Emery Estate and water treatment plant, and PILOT. Councilor Hackett asked how many previously uncaptured owners are now paying under the new trash collection program. She also asked for more information on

property insurance. During this discussion (at 6:15 PM), Councilor Patrick O'Connor arrived. CFO McKinney reviewed the real estate taxes and the formula. CFO McKinney is underestimating new growth to be conservative because the town is required to budget the full amount. Personal property has increased, and motor vehicle excise has jumped in the last year. Councilor Hackett asked how much of it could be attributed to Southfield. CFO McKinney reviewed the interest and penalties on taxes and then revenues. The town received some revenue reimbursement for the senate special elections. DPW has received reimbursement from FEMA/MEMA for past snow storms. Councilor Hackett asked when the Exelon payment TIFF ends. Mr. McKinney responded that it is in year 13 of 20. The town is required to budget the full 85 million, but allowed for a cushion to accommodate a 98% tax collection rate. It is based on the actual for the next year. Mr. McKinney reviewed the new growth calculation. Councilor Hackett asked for discussion of building permit fees and how it relates to the proposed revision to the legislation for Southfield. The discussion also included the trust fund balance, unemployment. Mr. McKinney noted that several union collective bargaining contracts have not been settled as of yet. This budget does not include any change to contracts in negotiation. The reserve fund (057C) is proposed at \$500,000- the same as the last several years. Mr. McKinney then reviewed the operations requests and the following measures:

14 058-this measure requires an annual authorization/limit to accept/expand. Auditor Swanson asked for an explanation as to how the limits were derived and why Town Council approval is required. He confirmed that department heads follow normal procurement procedures.

14 059-Gift Accounts- Councilor O'Connor discussed the Weymouth Day account and suggested that since it appears to be a sustainable account, the town work to bring back the Weymouth Day celebration.

14 060-unpaid bills- CFO McKinney reported on the bills that were for prior year unpaid expenses. Auditor Swanson reported he reviewed the invoices and confirmed the bills are in order.

It was noted that Weymouth is keeping pace with other communities in terms of funding OPEB, although the town is behind. In the next year, the new GASBY standards will require Weymouth indicate the full pension liability and funding schedule.

At 7:00 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor O'Connor to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Michael Molisse, Chairman of the Budget/Management Committee

Voted unanimously on 16 June 2014