

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Budget/Management Committee
November 16, 2015-Monday

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

Also Present: James Clarke, Director of Planning
Walter Flynn, Chair, CPC
Kathleen Deree, Town Clerk

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Molisse called the Budget/Management Committee meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

15 119-Special Legislation to Buy Back Military Service

Chairman Molisse reported the Council has received a formal written withdrawal by the Mayor. She plans to make a modification to include additional language and then resubmit the measure for consideration.

15 120-Appointment to the Commission on Disabilities-Andrea Feeney

Ms. Feeney was invited to the table to review her qualifications and interest. During this discussion, Councilor McDonald arrived (6:03 PM). Ms. Feeney has been employed by South Shore Visiting Nurses for many years.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 15 111 to the full Town Council Haugh with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

15 121-Appointment to the Community Events Committee-Mary Jordan-Roy

Ms. Roy was not present; however, Chairman Molisse reported that she would be present to appear before the full Council.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 15 111 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

15 122-Appointment to the Construction Steering Committee-John Gillon

Mr. Gillon was invited to the table to review his qualifications and his interest in serving the town; he is a retired civil engineer for the city of Quincy.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 15 111 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Haugh.

At 6:06 PM, Councilor McDonald requested a brief recess. A motion was made by Councilor Hackett and seconded by Councilor Haugh. During the recess, at 6:06 PM, Vice Chairman O'Connor arrived.

At 6:08, the committee reconvened. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

15 123-Appointment to the Cultural Council-Debbie Courteau

Chairman Molisse reported that Ms. Courteau could not be present.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 15 123 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

15 124-Appointment to the Cultural Council-Judith Rizzo

Ms. Rizzo was invited to the table to review her interest and qualifications.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 15 124 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

15 125-Appointment to the Cultural Council-Michael Yavorsky

Chairman Molisse reported that Mr. Yavorsky could not be present.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 15 125 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

15 126-Appointment to the Youth Coalition-Sally Scott

Ms. Scott was invited to the table to review her qualifications and interest.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 15 126 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

15 127-Appointment to the ZBA Alternate Seat-Marissa O'Brien

Chairman Molisse reported that Councilor McDonald has requested that because of the significant responsibilities of this appointment, and the fact that new administration will be in place in January, that the measure be sent back to the mayor. A motion was made by Councilor McDonald to return this measure and to ask the mayor to withdraw pending a new administration. Motion seconded by Councilor Hackett and voted unanimously.

15 130-FY16 Supplemental Budget

Mark Abrahams presented with Nick Bulens from the Planning Department. An information packet was provided to the committee and power point presentation.

1. Intergovernmental payment to Southfield so infrastructure debt service can be paid. Part of original budget (tax levy and special assessment) final numbers couldn't be determined until Weymouth, Rockland and Abington provided final assessments.

Councilor Hackett asked about the last bullet- was \$989,000 handled within the current budget? Mr. Abrahams responded no; this is the first time as Weymouth is seeing new some growth from Southfield to then finance this debt repayment. In the future it will be built into the budget. There were some preliminary numbers presented back in May.

2. Intergovernmental Appropriation- two components- pledge revenue and special assessment of nine properties in Southfield (undeveloped commercial land). As the tax rate is finalized the pledge revenue becomes final first, and then the balance comes from the special assessment. \$600,000 was estimated for pledge revenue.

Councilor Hackett asked if the \$1M in the FY16 proposed budget is now adjusting to 989,000. Mr. Abrahams responded that it was not in the budget, but was presented as an estimate. \$1.5 million was the estimated revenues coming from Southfield.

Auditor Swanson asked when the town will receive the \$418,784. Mr. Abrahams responded it would be sometime in FY16.

Mr. Abraham reviewed the Excess Capacity – certified new growth over what was projected in the FY16 budget. The town will receive the receipts for the undeveloped land in Southfield. DOR certified new growth for the town at \$2.8 million. \$2.1 million comes from Southfield. He then reviewed the increase in overlay for Southfield, the net adjustment to the cherry sheet, provision for loss in revenue and net excess capacity of \$543,419.

Councilor Hackett asked the why the estimate in May and amount certified in June differed. Were they unaware of it? Mr. Abrahams responded that he wasn't here and is unsure why. Vice Chairman O'Connor noted that at ATM in May, \$1M was budgeted at net impact of \$1 million.

Councilor Hackett asked if this is in the budget? Vice Chairman O'Connor noted that yes; is it in the budget now. Mr. Bulens responded that they budgeted for new growth but not the 2 payments; the other is in the infrastructure bond. Under the new acts, Weymouth collects the taxes. They adopted the new legislation after the budget was approved.

Departmental appropriations – Mr. Abrahams noted that a memo was in the packet with the line item detail of each item.

In summary, an appropriation for $\$542,978 + \$989,974 = \$1,532,972$

Councilor Hackett asked if the public hearing is on tonight's Council agenda? It is scheduled for November 30, 2015. She thanked Mr. Abrahams for the packet and noted she will take some time to review the detail.

Auditor Swanson asked when the invoice for Southfield noted on the summary sheet will be received. Mr. Abrahams responded that it will be after Southfield certifies their taxes, probably after the start of the new year. He also asked where in MUNIS he can find detail to certain items noted on the sheet. Mr. Bulens will review and provide to him. Auditor Swanson asked where the special assessment revenue will be booked in MUNIS; Mr. Bulens responded that it will be booked to a separate org and object for Southfield. He also noted that the administration has received comments from the auditor that will need to be reviewed further.

Directors were invited to review where the supplemental funds will be applied in their respective departments.

Jeff Richards reported that \$10,000 will be used to give back 45 staff days for medical leaves due to injuries and the balance for an influx of storm related inspection costs.

Chief Grimes reported that \$55,719 covers the cost of replacement to two vehicles damaged beyond repair. Insurance payoff will cover one. Another amount \$24,000 was received from free cash in the last fiscal year. The Vice Chairman asked the current status of the fleet. Chairman Grimes noted the department is a year off on the replacement schedule because of a production plant shutdown, but it's in good shape. They will meet the annual allocation of seven vehicles. Auditor Swanson noted that two of them caught fire; are the rest in the fleet safe? Chief Grimes responded that they are working with GM; the fires were narrowed down to the cooling fans and they have replaced the fans in the remaining vehicles under warranty at GM's expense. The design was changed in 2015.

Chief Stark reported the fire department will replace 2004 vehicles and supplement 10% of a federal grant to replace harnesses. He reviewed the equipment replacement process for the committee. Auditor Swanson asked about the grant funding and when the harnesses will be ordered.

Mr. Bulens reported that the Legal Department will use \$42,000 for special counsel for negotiations for a certain parcel in North Weymouth (Calpine). It should be enough to cover the expense.

Rob McLean reported that the Library funding will be used to supplement purchasing materials by the library. He provided a handout regarding the per capita spending

requirement. Weymouth needs to spend \$169K in FY16, and is currently not meeting requirement and stands to lose \$17,000 in funding. This will get it to the requirement. Weymouth spends the least. Auditor Swanson asked if they must spend \$21,000 to get \$25,000 funding from state. The spending is to avoid a cut. Councilor Haugh asked if with the additional appropriation, is Weymouth still the lowest in per capita spending? Mr. McLean responded that it will be near but not at the bottom.

Steve Reilly reported that the Recreation Department funds will cover the cost of a software upgrade to improve efficiency. The new system will interface with MUNIS and eliminate a step. The second request is for permit coordinator position. Scheduling Legion events and groups, invoicing and accounting has become labor intensive (scheduling Legion events and groups, invoicing and accounting). It could be handled in a part-time position and the appropriation will have to be an annual one.

Kathleen Deree reported that the Town Clerk funds will cover the presidential election-increase to avoid running short. \$18000 will pay election poll workers.

David Tower reported that the DPW will enhance the maintenance program through personnel. Meal tax had been used in the last two years and they want to maintain and add Southfield.- asked to attend by director/ enhance maintenance program through personnel. It will allow them to maintain the playground at current levels and add one laborer to parks and grounds and supplement small equipment purchasing. They will look for this on an annual basis.

Dr. Kenneth Salim and Dr. Curtis Whipple reviewed the use of the funding by the school department. \$45,000 will be used to purchase curriculum materials for SPED and ESL programs, \$50,000 will be used to support technologies; purchasing pc's, printers, copiers, security cameras. There are needs at the classroom level that are not being met. \$25,000 will be used to map curriculum to standards adopted in 2011 and adopt standards in science to provide consistency across the schools and classrooms.

Councilor Haugh asked if the allocation of \$50,000 for technology will be entirely to staff? They will either be interim positions or contracted support. Chairman Molisse asked if these will be permanent? Dr. Salim responded that he is unsure at this time; they have not assessed the needs yet for the FY17 budget.

Councilor Hackett thanked the departments for the prioritization. They are looking at spending another half million with 3.5 positions added at the halfway point of the year. This is recurring revenue being used to fund one-time expenses or building free cash into the current budget. If they had had half of new growth that was underestimated they would have had \$600,000 to add positions at the beginning of the year. She is concerned about the process and financial projections around which the Council had to make some difficult decisions.

Vice Chairman O'Connor agreed it would have been more beneficial to use these funds at the beginning of the year than now. Realistically, they proposed an override to fund

positions that were desperately needed, and these monies could have gone a long way toward investing in the community. Chairman Molisse thanked them for the discussion and reminded everyone that the Public hearing will be held on November 30, 2015

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:55 PM, there being no further business, a motion was made by Councilor Hackett to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Respectfully submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Chairman Michael Molisse

Voted unanimously on 21 December 2015