

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
Town Hall Council Chambers
December 1, 2014, Monday**

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

Not Present: Jane Hackett, Councilor

Also Present: CFO William McKinney
Michael Gallagher, Director of Administrative & Comm. Svcs.
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
Paul Haley, Chair BOA

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Molisse called the meeting to order at 6:40 PM.

14 105-General Government Supplemental FY15 Budget Appropriation

Chairman Molisse reported that this measure was deliberated at the last meeting and was tabled. The Mayor forwarded a memo requesting withdrawal of the measure.

A motion was made by Councilor McDonald to take the measure off the table and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Councilor Haugh to take no action on measure 14 105-General Government Supplemental FY15 Budget Appropriation and was seconded by Councilor McDonald. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

14 108-Authorization to Include Retiree Health Care Costs in Determining Net School Spending Compliance

Chairman Molisse reported that the matter was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on November 10, 2014 and the committee deliberated at the last meeting and voted to table, pending review and report out from School Committee. Chairman Molisse reported that he received a call from the superintendent who reported he would not be available for the meeting.

A motion was made by Councilor McDonald to take the item off the table and was seconded by Councilor Haugh. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A motion was made by Councilor Haugh to forward measure number 14 108-Authorization to Include Retiree Health Care Costs in Determining Net School Spending Compliance to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor McDonald. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

14 112-Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Classification

Chairman Molisse reported that the matter was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on November 10, 2014. Paul Haley and Kevin Spellman from the Board of Assessors were invited to the table.

(During this presentation at 6:44 PM, Vice Chairman O'Connor arrived.)

Mr. Haley reviewed the year's actions by the Board of Assessors. He noted the re-evaluation of town property is now complete and they are beginning to see values appreciate. Values were posted at the town hall and published. There were some abatements but not as many as in prior years. DOR certified the town and bills will be printed and sent out following the vote by Town Council. The Board deliberated how to apportion the burden of taxes- residential class must bear a certain percentage of the shift. If there was no shift, the burden would be significant.

The Board recommends a 55% shift for 2015. It would be slightly higher than last year but not as significant as in years where values were really appreciating. The average increase would be about \$144. They could recommend up to a 57% shift.

Vice Chairman O'Connor asked if they considered a 50% shift which would be more equitable to residential and commercial owners. With a 55% shift, commercial property owners take a huge hit. Mr. Haley responded that because values are moving- if they recommend a 55% shift now and it continues to change, it would be more significant next year. It will be more difficult in a year to accommodate the change. Vice Chairman O'Connor responded that he will reluctantly support the recommendation.

Councilor Haugh noted that this will negatively affect North Weymouth businesses, several of which have closed. She asked if they are offering any incentives to bring in new business. She also noted the requests for rezoning from commercial to residential in two developments.

A motion was made by Councilor O'Connor to forward measure 14 112-Fiscal Year 2015 Tax Classification, to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Haugh and UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Councilor Molisse as Chairman of the Budget/Management Committee
Voted unanimously on 5 January 2015