

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Town Hall Council Chambers**  
**April 18, 2017, Tuesday**

Present: Patrick O'Connor, President  
Michael Smart, Vice President  
Robert Conlon, Councilor  
Kenneth DiFazio, Councilor  
Jane Hackett, Councilor  
Ed Harrington, Councilor  
Rebecca Haugh, Councilor  
Thomas J. Lacey, Councilor  
Arthur Mathews, Councilor  
Brian McDonald, Councilor  
Michael Molisse, Councilor

Also Present: Robert Hedlund, Mayor  
Ted Langill, Chief of Staff  
Brian Connolly, Chief Financial Officer  
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor  
Kathy Deree, Town Clerk  
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor  
Ed Walker, Chair, Historical Commission

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

President O'Connor called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. After the Pledge of Allegiance, Town Clerk Kathy Deree called the roll, with all members present.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Hackett announced a meeting of the Recreation Advisory Commission on April 26, 2017, to be held at the McCulloch Building to discuss possible locations to relocate the skate park; which was displaced under the current construction project in East Weymouth.

Councilor Conlon announced the annual Fiesta Shows Carnival which runs from April 19-23 on the grounds of Weymouth High School.

Councilor Harrington announced the annual Earth Day Community Clean-Up at various public park locations across town, from 9-noon on April 22, 2017. Participants/groups were invited to call the Mayor's Office to register.

## **MINUTES**

### **Budget/Management Committee Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2017**

A MOTION was made by Vice President Smart to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2017 Budget/Management Committee meeting and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 20, 2017**

A MOTION was made by Vice President Smart to approve the minutes of the March 20, 2017 Town Council meeting and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

### **Special Town Council Meeting Minutes of March 27, 2017**

A MOTION was made by Vice President Smart to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2017 Special Town Council meeting and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **PUBLIC HEARINGS**

### **17 014-Proposed Ordinance Change to Allow Alternate Members of the Historical Commission**

A MOTION was made by Vice President Smart to open the public hearing on measure 17 014 and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. This was published on April 7, 2017. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Historical Commission Chairman, Ed Walker, was invited to the table. He reported that under state law, this committee may have alternate members. Weymouth's Historical Commission is oftentimes unable to meet quorums in winter months.

Councilor Hackett noted that the committee composition was discussed in the Ordinance Committee. The Transition By-Law committee extensively reviewed the makeup of each board and committee in 1999-2000. Two were allowed to include alternative members; Historical Commission and BZA. They discussed whether to increase to Conservation Commission but chose not to because they didn't want members able to choose who hears particular matter. State law allows the use of alternative members but does not require it.

President O'Connor asked if there were any comments from the public, to which no one replied.

A MOTION was made by Vice President Smart to close the public hearing on measure 17 014 and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## OLD BUSINESS

### **Mass DEP Air Quality Permit/Citizen Intervener Group-Joseph Callahan/Town Solicitor**

Solicitor Callanan provided an update to the Council. All Council members have agreed to join the ten-citizen group in opposition to the expansion plans for the compressor as did the Conservation Commission. Comments will be filed on behalf of the town and the town officials. He asked the Council to appoint a delegate to work with the Solicitor.

A motion was made by Vice President Smart to nominate Councilor Rebecca Haugh as the Council's delegate on the committee and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.

UNANIMOUSLY VOTED. Councilor Haugh invited any other Councilors to join with her.

Solicitor Callanan noted that any resident can still submit comments and they can be sent to: [Thomas.cushing@state.ma.us](mailto:Thomas.cushing@state.ma.us) or [nocompressor@weymouth.ma.us](mailto:nocompressor@weymouth.ma.us) before the deadline May 1, 2017.

## COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS FROM THE MAYOR, TOWN OFFICERS AND TOWN BOARDS

### **Presentation of Fiscal Year 2018 Operating Budget-Mayor Robert Hedlund/Ted Langill, Chief of Staff/Brian Connolly, Chief Financial Officer**

Mayor Hedlund was joined by Chief of Staff, Ted Langill, and Chief Financial Officer, Brian Connolly, to present the proposed budget and review via a power point presentation.

#### **Fiscal Year 2018 Budget – Summary**

- \$162.2 million operating budget (4.3% increase over FY17)
- A balanced, fiscally responsible operating budget built on recurring, predictable sources of revenue (no reliance on free cash)
- Modest Growth to address primarily personnel obligations/needs. Several CBA's settled for FY17 and FY18. Includes 1.5% COLA increase for non-union, non-school personnel
- School Budget increased by \$2.9 million (4.5%), slightly higher than level services
- Increases in Pension and Benefits Cost (21.5% of Operating Budget)
  - 2.0% Increase in Health Care Benefits
  - 6.5% Increase in Contributory Retirement
- Increase in State Assessments more than increase to State Aid

#### **Operating Revenue**

	FY17 Budgeted	FY18 Budgeted	Variance
Total Revenue	\$155,506,272	\$161,171,975	\$6,665,703 (4.3%)
Tax Levy	\$97,255,945	\$101,383,864	\$4,127,919 (4.2%)

Local Receipts*	\$12,900,000	\$13,907,100	\$1,007,100 (7.8%)
State Aid	\$37,193,663	\$38,428,546	\$1,234,883 (3.3%)

These three revenue sources make up 95% of total revenue.

\*Includes MVE, licenses, permits, meals tax, PILOT, tax penalties and interest, and Southfield special assessments collected to pay parkway bond.

#### Revenue Factors

- Tax Levy - \$4.1 million increase
  - FY17 tax levy limit plus 2.5%
  - FY18 estimated new growth is \$1.45 million (FY17 actual was \$1,058,858)
- Local Receipts - \$1 million increase
  - Building permit revenue and motor vehicle excise account for \$850,000
- State Aid - \$1,234,883 increase
  - Estimated Chapter 70 increase \$188,000 based on House budget
  - UGGA increase \$326,975 based on House budget
  - Charter School tuition reimbursement \$650,000

#### Operating Expenditures

	FY17	FY18	Variance
Total Expenditures	\$155,506,272	\$162,171,975	\$6,665,703 (4.3%)
Town Departments	\$40,708,404	\$41,571,640	\$863,236 (2.1%)
Debt Service	\$9,958,884	\$10,044,280	\$85,396 (0.9%)
Schools	\$65,160,413	\$68,069,237	\$2,908,824 (4.5%)
State Assessments	\$3,377,146	\$4,974,730	\$1,597,584 (47.3%)
Charter School Tuition	\$1,473,061	\$3,032,976	\$1,559,915 (106%)
Pension/Benefits	\$33,267,000	\$34,847,262	\$1,061,929 (3.1%)

#### Cherry Sheets (Local Aid)

State Aid	FY17 Budget	FY18 (House)	Variance
Chapter 70	\$27,883,625	\$28,071,515	\$187,890
UGGA	\$8,383,979	\$8,710,954	\$326,975
Charter Reimbursement	\$250,000	\$901,663	\$651,663
Total Revenue	\$37,193,663	\$38,482,546	\$651,663

State Assessments	FY17 Budget	FY18 (House)	Variance
MBTA	\$1,198,564	\$1,207,418	\$8,854
Charter Tuition	\$1,473,061	\$3,032,976	\$1,559,915
Total Expense	\$3,377,146	\$4,974,730	\$1,597,584
		<b>Cherry Sheet Deficit</b>	<b>(\$362,701)</b>

## Addressing Needs in FY18

FY18 Budget includes funding for:

- 2 additional Police Officers
- 1 additional Firefighter (in addition to grant application)
- 2 additional DPW workers-park/town maintenance
- 3 Health positions-previously funded by grants
- 2 additional School positions
  - Curriculum Leader
  - SPED Teacher

FY18 Budget includes savings:

- 88 budget line items are decreasing
- 288 budget line items are level funded
- 150 budget line items are increasing

### Enterprise Budgets

	FY17	FY18	Change
Sewer	\$15,898,214	\$16,301,088	\$402,874 (2.5%)

- MWRA Assessment increasing by 2.4% or \$280,902
- Debt Service near level funded from \$1,629,836 to \$1,623,051

	FY17	FY18	Change
Water	\$9,979,669	9,851,522	\$53,853 (0.5%)

- Debt Service decreasing by \$40,921 or 1.2% from \$3,370,357 to \$3,329,436
- Health Insurance decreasing by \$78,363
- Overall Water/Sewer Budget increasing by 1.8% (\$456,727)
- Supporting budget increase without increasing existing rates

## Community Preservation

	FY17	FY18	Change	Current Fund Balance
Revenue	\$776,000	\$806,000	\$30,000	
Admin Costs	\$38,800	\$37,399	(\$1500)	
Debt Service	\$147,313	\$139,800	(\$7,513)	
Open Space	\$77,600	\$80,600	\$3,000	\$150,167
Historical Resources	\$77,600	\$80,600	\$3,000	\$213,792
Community Housing	\$77,600	\$80,600	\$3,000	\$462,098
General Reserve	\$357,087	\$387,100	\$30,013	\$833,608

## Weymouth Schools

FY18 Operating Budget		Additional School Spending/Priorities	
School FY17 Budget	\$65,160,413	WHS A/C Unit	\$175,000
Level Services	\$2,779,649	Boilers**	\$1,225,000
Curriculum Leader	\$100,000	IT Improvement Plan-Yr. 2	\$980,750
SPED Teacher*	\$29,175		
FY18 School Budget	\$68,069,237		

\*From School Needs List

\*\* Reimbursement by MSBA

## Capital Spending

Available Capital Funding			
Certified Free Cash	\$7,399,043	Initial Funding Needs / Proposals	
Wey-Bra	\$28,915	Snow Deficit	\$870,000
Unpaid Bills	\$45,211	Small Bridge Match	\$500,000
Stabilization	\$2,000,000	Herring Run Wall/Gate	\$700,000
Workers Comp.	\$350,000	School Boilers	\$1,225,000
Town Hall Repairs	\$530,000	Incinerator	?

Remaining Free Cash- \$4,444,916

Comcast Account for IT needs

Mayor Hedlund thanked the various town departments for their assistance and cooperation in crafting the budget and the cooperation of the school committee. The budget public hearing will be held at the Annual Town Meeting on May 22, 2017 in the Abigail Adams Auditorium.

Councilor Molisse thanked the administration for the presentation. He reported that the Budget/Management Committee has a series of meetings scheduled, on Mondays and Wednesdays, to deliberate the budget with the various town department heads. Council President O'Connor reported that all Councilors are welcomed during budget deliberation.

Brian Connolly presented the non- budget measures:

### **17 022-Reserve Fund Transfer-Human Resources**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$2,269 from the General Fund Reserve to the Human Resources Salary account for the purpose of funding additional personnel hours needed to implement changes required by the Commonwealth's Group Insurance Commission (GIC).

Motion was made by Vice President Smart to refer measure 17 022 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Mathews.  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**17 023-CPA Request for Funding-Memorial Wall**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth appropriate the sum of \$800,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Balance Reserve for Historic Resources and Unreserved Fund balance accounts for the purpose of funding the costs associated with the preservation of the Veterans' Memorial Wall.

A Motion was made by Vice President Smart to refer measure 17 023 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Mathews.  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**17 024-CDBG & Home Budget Authorization 2017-2018**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth accepts the fiscal year 2017-2018 estimated HUD grants in the amounts of \$635,910 for CDBG and \$136,672 in HOME Investment Partnership Grant funds.

Furthermore, that the Director of Planning and Community Development, having received the approval of the Mayor, be permitted to expend said grants in their entirety as described on the referenced funding allocation list.

A Motion was made by Vice President Smart to refer measure 17 024 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Mathews.  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Fiscal Year 2018 Budget Measures**

**17 025-General Government Annual Appropriation (to be segregated by Department and coded Alphabetically)**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$161,911,975 to provide for all the expenses for the maintenance and operation of the town's several departments and activities for fiscal year 2018, and that the several sums herein set forth are hereby approved for the several purposes and are subject to the conditions specified. The sources of funding for said expenditures are as outlined in the Revenue Projections, which are attached hereto and incorporated herein.

Furthermore, that the sum of \$50,000 is appropriated from the Waterways Fund to meet some of the costs of the Harbormaster's Program.

Furthermore, that the sum of \$210,000 is appropriated from the Comcast Fund to meet some of the costs of the Information Services Department.

A Motion was made by Vice President Smart to refer measure 17 025 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Hackett.  
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**17 026-Revolving Accounts Annual Authorization**

Brian Connolly requested on behalf of the Mayor that the Town of Weymouth authorizes the creation of the following revolving accounts for fiscal year 2018 in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53E ½ and revolving account for Parks and Recreation established by Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 44, Section 53D. Furthermore, that each of these revolving accounts is permitted to accept funds in the aggregate to the limit set forth below and expend those funds in the aggregate to the limit herein expressed with the consent of the Mayor.

Account	Fund Name	Limit to Accept	Limit to Expend
5201	Conservation	\$30,000	\$30,000
5202	Law Enforcement	\$50,000	\$50,000
5216	Community Services	\$150,000	\$225,000
5210	Law Enforcement	\$100,000	\$100,000
5235	Harbormaster	\$85,000	\$85,000
5209	Parks & Recreation	\$600,000	\$600,000

**17 027-Gift Accounts Annual Authorization**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth authorizes the creation of the following gift accounts for fiscal year 2018 in accordance with Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 44, Section 53A. Furthermore that each of these gift accounts is permitted to accept gifts and/or donations in the aggregate to the limit set forth below and expend those funds in the aggregate to the limit herein expressed with the consent of the Mayor.

Account	Fund Description	Limit to Accept	Limit to Expend
5401	Junior Police Academy	\$15,000	\$15,000
5406	Fourth of July	\$25,000	\$25,000
5408	Library	\$5,000	\$5,000
5409	Health	\$5,000	\$5,000
5410	Health Clinics	\$10,000	\$10,000
5414	Fire Department	\$5,000	\$5,000
5423	Veteran's Donations	\$1,000	\$1,000
5431	Weymouth Day	\$20,000	\$60,000
5435	Canine Donations	\$5,000	\$7,000
8324	Franklin Pratt – A	None Required	\$15,000
8338	James Humphrey Bequest	None Required	\$12,000
8339	Christine Sweetser	None Required	\$17,000



#### **17 028-Free Cash for Fiscal Year 2017 Snow Removal**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$870,000 from free cash for the purpose of supplementing the fiscal year 2017 snow removal budget. This amount is to be placed in the fund account 0002 and any unexpended balances as of June 30, 2017 are to fall to Free Cash.

#### **17 029-Sewer Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$16,301,088 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund receipts and appropriate for salaries, operation and expenses during fiscal year 2018 for the Sewer Department and that the Director of Public Works with the approval of the Mayor be authorized to expend said funds.

In addition, any expenditure from the Reserve Fund for extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances is subject to the approval of the Mayor and Town Council.

#### **17 030-Sewer Retained Earnings-Pump Station Improvements**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund's Retained Earnings for the purpose of funding the costs associated with sewer pump station improvements. This is item #49 in the Capital Improvements Plan – Proposed Buildings, Grounds and Equipment.

#### **17 031-Sewer Retained Earnings-Annual I/I Program**

Brian Connolly requested, on behalf of the Mayor, that the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$500,000 from the Sewer Enterprise Fund's Retained Earnings for the purpose of funding the costs for the purpose of planning, construction, and reconstruction of sewer systems, consisting of infiltration/inflow improvements. This is item #48 in the Capital Improvements Plan – Proposed Buildings, Grounds and Equipment.

#### **17 032-Water Enterprise Fund Annual Appropriation**

Brian Connolly requested on behalf of the Mayor that the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$9,851,522 from the Water Enterprise Fund receipts and appropriate for salaries, operation, and expenses during fiscal year 2018 for the Water Department and that the Director of Public Works with the approval of the Mayor be authorized to expend said funds.

In addition, any expenditure from the Reserve Fund for extraordinary and unforeseen circumstances is subject to the approval of the Mayor and Town Council.

#### **17 033-Water Capital Projects-Transfer Unexpended Balances to Capital Projects Residual**

Brian Connolly requested on behalf of the Mayor that the Town of Weymouth Transfer the sum of \$106,771.64 from the following projects to capital projects to the Water Capital Projects Residuals Fund:

Account	Project	Amount
02430739	Water Monitoring	\$432.93
02430754	Appraisal	\$10,436.74
02430840	Filter Media	\$33,033.00
33320005	Rte. 18 Water Mains	\$62,868.97
	Total	\$106,771.64

**17 034-Water Retained Earnings-Water Treatment Plant Upgrades and Improvements**

Brian Connolly requested on behalf of the Mayor that the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000 from the Water Enterprise Fund's Retained Earnings for the purpose of funding the costs associated with the Water Treatment Plant improvements.

This is item #48 in the Capital Improvements Plan – Proposed Buildings, Grounds and Equipment.

**17 035-Community Preservation Fund Annual Appropriation**

Brian Connolly requested on behalf of the Mayor that the Town of Weymouth adopt the recommendation of the Community Preservation Committee on the fiscal year 2018 Community Preservation budget in the amount of \$806,000 and all other necessary and proper expenses for the fiscal year 2018 as identified on the attached exhibit. (Revenue Projections attached to support the budget request.)

A MOTION was made by Vice President Smart to refer measures 17 025 through 17 035, inclusive to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Hackett. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**Ordinance Committee-Chairman Kenneth DiFazio**

Councilor DiFazio reported that the Committee met earlier in the evening to deliberate the following measures:

**17 014-Proposed Ordinance Change to Allow Alternate Members of the Historical Commission**

This matter was referred to the Committee on February 21, 2017. The Committee met on March 6, 2017 and on April 18, 2017 voted 3/2 to forward to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. A public hearing was held on April 18, 2017. On behalf of the Ordinance Committee, a motion was made by Councilor DiFazio to approve measure 17 014; that the Town of Weymouth, through the Town Council, amend the Town of Weymouth Code of Ordinances, Section 3-213(a), by adding at the end of the following sentence:

*“The Mayor may also appoint no more than six alternate members of the Commission pursuant to MGL Chapter 40, Section 8D”* and was seconded by Vice President Smart. Vote Passed 9/2 (Councilors Hackett and DiFazio-NO). UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The next regular meeting of the Town Council Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, May 1, 2017. At 8:37 PM; there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Vice President Smart to adjourn the meeting and was seconded by Councilor Mathews. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

## **ATTACHMENTS:**

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary.

Approved by Council President Patrick O'Connor

Unanimously voted on 15 May 2017