

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
Town Hall Council Chambers
February 21, 2012 - Tuesday

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

Not Present: Victor Pap, III, Councilor

Also Present: William McKinney, Chief Financial Officer
George Lane, Town Solicitor
Richard Swanson, Town Auditor
Kathleen Deree, Asst. Town Clerk
James Clarke, Director, Planning & Development
Rob McLean, Director of Libraries
Cindy DiPina, Director Human Resources

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Town Council President Mathews called the Town Council Meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Asst. Town Clerk Deree called the roll with Councilor Pap not present. President Mathews reported that he spoke with Councilor Pap who is unable to be present due to a prior work commitment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Vice President O'Connor announced the Weymouth Elks is hosting a comedy night on March 3, 2012, 7-11 PM. Proceeds will benefit Troop 2, BSA.

Councilor Harrington announced the Weymouth Band Parents are presenting a scholarship night at the Knights of Columbus Hall on Chauncey Street, also on March 3, 2012.

Councilor DiFazio announced the East Weymouth Neighborhood Association is presenting the State of Weymouth; an open forum featuring the Weymouth School Committee on March 7, 2012.

Councilor McDonald announced a Karaoke Night at the Weymouth Elks Hall on February 26, 2012. Proceeds benefit the Weymouth Food Pantry and the Weymouth

Animal Shelter.

Councilor Lacey announced Weymouth High School will present the authors of Shut Up About Your Perfect Kid on March 13, 2012, 7PM; a survival guide for parents.

MINUTES

Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2012

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to APPROVE the minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting of February 1, 2012 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Environmental Committee Meeting Minutes of February 1, 2012

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to APPROVE the minutes of the Economic Development Committee Meeting of February 1, 2012 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

RESIDENT AND COMMUNITY COMMENT

Gustavo Perez, President of the Weymouth Athletics Boosters Association, addressed the Council. Mr. Perez thanked the Council for the opportunity. He is a longtime resident of town with two former and one current student athlete. WABA was formed four weeks ago in response to the precarious position of the non-funding of athletics over the last four years. WABA includes parents of athletes, supporters and participants from youth sport groups. He provided a short history of the athletic financing. Mr. Mackin, Athletic Director for WHS, held a meeting and discussed the state of finances. The gift account, the lifeline or safety net for WHS in conjunction with gate and user fees, will be \$24,000 in deficit and will be depleted by spring. Combined with the revolving account, the program will be \$11,000 in deficit by spring. Mr. Mackin's request for funding in the 2013 budget presented to the School Committee is \$100,000. This appropriation will maintain the program; without it all junior varsity sports will be eliminated as will all other programs determined to be non-viable, and user fees will increase. This is not acceptable and as a result, WABA was formed. This pertains to not only WHS athletes, but all sports in Weymouth. They have met with the school committee and the \$100,000 in the budget is merely a band-aid. He implored the Council to ensure the school committee maintains the \$100,000 and help to continue to work with the school committee to fund the athletics program. The program at the high school over the last four years has averaged \$400,000 and covers the costs of rental for ice time, user fees, association dues, etc. and was not funded by the town. \$1,600,000 was raised by supporters and covered those costs. The gift account has been drawn down each of the last four years to compensate for the unfunded budget. It has served as a safety net and is now gone. Without assistance the program will collapse. User fees in Weymouth are among the highest in the area. Any depletion from gate fees, user fees, etc. will bring down the rest of the program. The school department in general has not received full funding; it is behind in per pupil spending by the town. Mr. Perez requested the Council's help; and questions why coaches' contracts, which are part of the Unit A contractual obligation, are not funded in the budget--while selective costs such as administrative

oversight, secretaries, and the trainer are. At a minimum, the town should be funding at least that portion of the budget. If it did, then booster, gate and user fee revenue could support the remainder of the program. Even with support, the town charter does not require the school department to appropriate in any manner it chooses. He expounded on the benefit of sports to the community as a whole. The fundamental request is to ask each councilor to let the public know where he/she stands on the issue. WABA will provide any assistance it can.

Vice Chairman O'Connor noted that he met with Mr. Perez and Mr. Reilly at the State House and has gone on record in support of their efforts. He has also spoken with Councilors Lacey and Hackett, and recommended this issue be referred to the Education Committee, which has been done. He does not want to pit money against other curricula at the high school. Mr. Perez responded that WABA is against increasing user fees; noting there is no ceiling or cap, while a third of the WHS population qualified for free/reduced lunch program. You can't ask those families to pay additional fees.

Councilor Lacey noted he has also spoken with Mr. Perez. He noted they should be embarrassed if they can't support \$100,000 in a \$57M budget; his personal opinion. He also noted that while activism is good, the Town Council's role is merely to approve the town's budget, which includes the school department's budget as presented. The Council, even if it wanted to, cannot add to any budget, per charter. They can assure support, but once the school department's budget is voted, the school committee is in charge of how those funds are expended. The matter is on the agenda for the next Education Committee meeting scheduled for February 28, 2012. This meeting will also include an update on the Superintendent's search, Net School Spending and the FY13 School Department budget. He is concerned hearing that contractual agreements are not being appropriately funded within the budget and this issue will be addressed in committee.

Councilor Molisse thanked Mr. Perez for the information and he looks forward to addressing this at the Education Committee Meeting.

Councilor Hackett thanked Mr. Perez, and noted that he has support in the Council and in the town. She does not believe there has been an attack on athletics, but that all departments have suffered over the last several years in a difficult economy and most other departments have done an outstanding job. Reserves that were plentiful several years ago have had to be drawn on to supplement funding. The time has come to discuss funding across the board. She commended Mr. Perez for a strong outreach program and making awareness known. Mr. Perez responded that they appreciate the support for the issue from the town officials.

Councilor Conlon thanked Mr. Perez for enlightening him on the issue. He concurred that high school athletics have a positive effect.

President Mathews noted his concern that stipends for coaches are being paid by user fees/gate fees and boosters. He recommended Auditor Swanson review this matter.

Councilor Lacey noted that the town has had free cash over the last few years (\$3,700,000 in FY11) that may not be appropriated appropriately in his opinion.

Council President Mathews invited the public to the Education Committee meeting.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

12 006-CPC-National Grid Utility Petition – Broad Street

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to OPEN the public hearing on item 12 006 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. Abutters were notified on February 13, 2012. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

John Doherty, National Grid, was present and noted that at the request of the customer at 303 Broad Street-- requested removal of an old tree guy wire holding up pole 43 on Schoolhouse Road, and the need to install a stub pole across the street to hold up pole 43.

Council President Mathews asked if there were any comments from the public, to which no one responded.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to CLOSE the public hearing on item 12 006 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to CONSIDER item 12 006 under 2-9 (b), same night action and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to APPROVE item 12 006 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 007-CPC-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund- Turf Field Feasibility Study

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to OPEN the public hearing on item 12 006 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. This measure was published on February 11, 2012. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

James Clarke and Steve Reilly from the Recreation Commission made a presentation to the Council requesting the use of \$35,000 from Host Community Agreement funds to complete a study to determine feasibility of installing turf playing fields in town.

Mr. Reilly made his presentation in power point format. It is the sum of information from a meeting with groups: Weymouth Youth Soccer, Weymouth Girls Soccer, Weymouth Youth Football, North Weymouth Flag Football, Weymouth High School Athletics, etc. that revolved around discussions of the field conditions, availability, general concerns and the number of children participating in sports in town. It included the condition of the fields, the proposed state, whether turf fields are cost effective, potential for revenue from turf fields, and possible steps to resolve the issues. Keeping the focus on the importance of sports to the town's youth, Weymouth currently has over 5,000 youth participating in

sports activities that take place on the town's rectangular fields: those that can be used for multiple purposes. The baseball fields were not part of the discussion since they don't take the same wear and tear and most appear to be in good condition. Mr. Reilly noted Weymouth's fields are unsafe and unsightly from overuse. He compiled a spreadsheet of how much use takes place within the organizations, in terms of games, special events and practices. The total events were 11,792. On 16 fields per year, the average is 737 per field. In a national horticulture survey of 300 field managers of average use on a quality field, 80 events per year constitutes overuse. Mr. Reilly reviewed the individual fields and average and type of use for each. The fields average six times the recommended usage. Even with aggressive maintenance, there aren't enough grass fields in town to accommodate the amount of children playing sports.

Mr. Reilly then reviewed the town's options. There isn't space to add additional fields, nor staff to maintain them. Another option is to limit participation. The third is to do nothing.

If the town considers installation of synthetic fields, one would likely not meet its needs. Consider installing six fields; one at Legion, two at Talbot and three at Central. Siting at Legion would meet the reuse goal at Legion; locating two at Talbot, proximity to the high school and putting three in a central location such as Central, would be cost effective.

The expected benefit to the town would be increased practice and playing time, not having to rely on weather, and the ability to host tournament play. It can be a reliable source of revenue; the upfront investment would offset the long-term cost with less required maintenance. The high school has used the turf field to produce some income; there is a bigger opportunity to provide revenue with rental possibility or tournament hosting. In speaking with other groups, an approach to designing the user fees and the manner in which permitting groups can also offset the costs. There are groups that are willing to help out with fundraising as part of the expense.

Mr. Reilly noted the installation is a good fit for Weymouth. Maintenance costs can be decreased if six of the sixteen fields are replaced with synthetic surface. They would be safe from future budgetary cuts and the town would be the recipient of any revenues from the fields.

Mr. Reilly noted that this information is posted on the town website and includes the FAQ on turf fields.

The next steps in the process were outlined. Mr. Clarke reviewed the scope of work. Three locations were earmarked in town; however, they will take a preliminary look at the information and conduct an additional survey to make sure the fields identified are the appropriate ones to move forward with for further evaluation. Once the fields are identified, a consultant will prepare site plans, with constraint analysis, prepare cost analysis for the various types of turf fields, and prepare plans, with preparation of the site. The consultant will also identify any permitting, prepare renditions of the site which

would assist in presenting materials to the Council and the community. The administration does not have a predisposition.

President Mathews noted the subject was reviewed at a joint meeting with the Budget/Management and Public Parks & Recreation Committees earlier in the evening. Both committees voted to continue the discussion as everyone agreed it is important to gather public input before recommending an action.

Councilor Molisse asked Mr. Clarke if the three locations, Riley, Legion and Talbot will be the primary focus, as was discussed in committee. Mr. Clarke responded that based on feedback in committee, they will go back and review the town as a whole to determine which fields are appropriate for consideration.

Councilor Lacey asked about the intent with the public meetings. Mr. Clarke responded that there will be opportunity for public hearings at various steps in the process, both to provide and garner information.

Councilor Hackett requested the review take into consideration all of the youth sports groups to make sure there is parity and to include input from the Athletic Director at WHS, the Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds and the DPW.

Councilor Smart requested the study include a cost analysis comparison between installation of synthetic fields and redoing the grass fields; and that the study includes the cost, maintenance, wear and durability, health and human health injury statistics, cost for labor and maintenance on both types. He is looking for validation of the information already brought to the administration. Mr. Clarke responded that the intent of the study is to gather more information to make an informed decision.

Linda McDonald, 58 Laurel Street noted while she appreciated the group's work, she is concerned with Mr. Reilly's representation. She commented that the Recreation Commission does not post its meetings or minutes online and this does not show transparency by a town appointed committee. She also noted there is no one currently on staff with specialized expertise to maintain turf fields. She noted the permitting for the fields is by a separate entity. A study was conducted in 2007 on the athletic field standards by Carroll Johnston of Boston with some of the recommendations presented here and questioned the need for another study. She recommended the Council not commit to a proposal until after the Open Space and Recreation Plan has been presented. She asked for the source of the funding and whether it could pay for the cost of the installation. Mr. Clarke addressed the maintenance issue; the Mayor and DPW director are looking at the issue. They are moving forward with it, but this feasibility study doesn't necessary rely on it.

Mathew Buccella- 215 Roosevelt/President Hills Neighborhood Association and direct abutter- addressed inconsistencies in the intent to limiting the scope to three fields, the integrity of the study; whether a consultant stands to financially benefit from a study? He is concerned with the lack of transparency between the administration and the

neighborhood groups, particularly in light of the Mayor's long-standing ties to the Youth Soccer program. The material presented tonight contains much of the same information from the Sports Council, and he is concerned that the same group that might inherently benefit from the study is a part of the feasibility study. He asked if the environmental impact will be a part of the study. He is concerned with the lack of transparency between administration and neighborhood groups. He addressed the power point presentation data and that many of the photographs are from old sources. He is concerned that Weymouth is considering this when Southfield is in the process of installing world-class sport facilities with the construction on the base and able to accommodate the town. He questioned the appropriation of funds when the high school is underfunding its sports programs. None of the abutters has been invited or approached to attend any meetings at which this issue has been discussed. He questioned the breach of warranty from inability to protect these fields from vandalism or misuse. He requested a review of the towns field plan before going forward with a feasibility study.

EJ Nordstrom, 250 Roosevelt Rd. –has worked for years in the architectural industry, and is familiar with Central. He questions why nothing was distributed relative to turf surface health risks. He thanked Councilor Smart for addressing. He noted that two of the sites in the proposal are on open fields with no protection from the elements. He asked if the presenters were confident that revenue can be generated from the installation of the fields. Mr. Reilly responded that a potential revenue stream will not be known until the study is completed. Mr. Nordstrom asked that information be presented to the public and uploaded to the town website as it becomes known.

Seamus Moriarty, 19 Sherricks Farm Road, President WYS and Weymouth Sports Council -He has had sixteen years experience and is in support of the study.

Colleen Malick, 117 Roosevelt Ave. -Weymouth should save money and replace the grass on the fields. If the funds are coming from Southfield to fund the study and they have the space for facilities, Weymouth should take advantage and work out a plan with them.

Leeanne Mills Bald Eagle Rd. by Ralph Talbot- no complaints about WHS- mentioned that Talbot home games are played out of town. She noted there were no complaints when the field was constructed at Talbot, they were in great shape; now they worry about injury. Her children play club soccer and the town needs to invest in its fields.

John Halloran, 99 Cedar St and WHS/club soccer coach. Weymouth has one of the top two soccer programs in the state but will lose participants to outside clubs because of the conditions of the existing fields. The clubs are providing income to neighboring Hingham's indoor fields and participants will migrate to other towns that can provide the facilities they need to learn. The groups are asking for a safe surface to play on.

Sue Abbott, 271 Roosevelt Rd, asked why the direct abutters were not notified by mail of this meeting. She questioned the revenue aspect, and the right of taxpayers to enjoy their property. She asked that the study consider health and safety of not only the youth

but also the neighbors. She is not in favor of the loss of green space and access to public lands by sale or lease. There have been prior plans to consider leasing this property. There are maintenance, police, fire and traffic concerns that will come into play with the development. President Mathews noted that the public hearing for this matter was properly advertised as required.

George Berg 74 Summer St., lifelong resident and parent of three student athletes and a business owner in landscaping which specializes in feasibility studies-- he noted that while he appreciates the comments of the neighbors the areas under consideration have always been used as fields. They are not asking for a new use. He reported for full disclosure that he is a member of the Board of Weymouth Sports Council, a soccer coach and on the executive board of WABA. He has spent many hours on these fields. Many haven't had work on them in years. There is great work being done by individuals. \$35,000 is not unreasonable for a study of this type to put a plan in place. Maintenance is an issue, but the town has empirical data available from the turf field installed at WHS. He also agreed with Councilor Hackett that parity is necessary so that all of the groups have equal access to a project that will be funded by taxpayer money. He also noted that whatever gets built on Southfield will be a private entity and Weymouth has no jurisdiction over who uses the facilities. He also noted it is not fair to ask neighborhoods to bear the burden of access to fields by clustering all of the fields in one area. Now is the time to address issues as this will affect thousands of children now and in the future in an appropriate and positive way. He reminded all that the cost of this feasibility study is less than what the Emery Estate reuse plan cost.

David Quietto, 43 Brewster Rd.; he noted he coaches children and played on those fields as a youth, and noted that without appropriate tools, they can't teach the basics.

Mike Doyle, Director, Recreation Department; he noted that his department was asked to assess the field conditions. His department permits the fields. In his opinion, the fields are vastly overused and a plan is needed to address a solution. He also noted that Recreation Commission meetings are appropriately posted under the Open Meeting Laws. His department supports the study.

Bob Petrelli, 63 Mt. Vernon Rd., and Weymouth Soccer Club president; he noted that communication with the neighbors is essential to the process. He knows the condition of the fields and supports the study. Having to find other fields to be able to play is not convenient to the teams.

Karen Johnston, 35 Clarendon St., noted she is a newer resident who wants to spend her money at games in town and they need the appropriate facilities to do this.

Gustavo Perez, President of WABA; discussion should focus on support for athletics around the community. The town should not want to make decisions without investing short money to make solid decisions. There is a real need for the study. As a representative of WABA, he supports the funding for the study needed for this initiative.

Tammy Sullivan, 263 Roosevelt Rd. applauded Steve Reilly for dedication to the youth. The discussion surrounding this began a year ago with the Weymouth Sports Council and the proposed plan to bring lights and traffic to the area. She wants to ensure the neighborhood and the town can support a proposal. She wants her children to have a good experience, and does not want to appear to have a nimby attitude, but still is concerned that whatever is the end result, does not overwhelm their neighborhood.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to CLOSE the public hearing on item 12 007 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 008-Debt Refinancing-2002 and 2005 Bond Issues

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to OPEN the public hearing on item 12 006 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. This measure was published on February 11, 2012. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

CFO McKinney presented a request for refinancing prior bonds at lower rates. There are \$6,400,000 bonds from 2002 and \$7,580,000 bonds issued in 2005. The town is only allowed to borrow what's necessary. The intent is to take advantage of the current lower rates. The town can realize a potential savings of \$1,000,000 after issuance fees.

Councilor Smart noted these were reviewed in committee earlier in the evening and asked for the CFO to review the information. Bonds cannot be refunded until ten years after the date of issuance. The bonds issued in 2002 are coming up later this year, and will realize higher savings than those issued in 2005-- that must be deposited into an escrow fund until the ten years have been met.

Councilor Hackett congratulated the administration on creative financing and asked for the town's current bond rating. Mr. McKinney responded that the town's rating is AA-3; it had been AA-3 with a negative outlook. When the town went out to bond last year the negative outlook was removed and resulted in a net interest cost of 2.23%. the administration would like to continue to borrow while rates are as low as they are.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to CLOSE the public hearing on item 12 008 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 009-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund-Fogg Library Phase II Interior Repairs

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to OPEN the public hearing on item 12 006 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. This measure was published on February 11, 2012. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Jim Clarke and Rob McLean delivered a presentation. Mr. Clarke reported the request is for \$400,000 from mitigation funds for part of the funding for the interior repairs of the Fogg Library, Phase II. Phase I exterior repairs are complete. He provided a handout to the Council. The work includes HVAC, electrical upgrades, window restoration, plaster and painting, floor and furnishings, new parking in the northeast corner and handicap access. Cost estimates were prepared last July in conjunction with Building Inspector Jeff

Richards. \$850,000 is the total estimate for the work; source of funding will be a combination of measures before the Council; \$250,000 from CPC, this measure from HCA funds, and an application for competitive state grant funding. Mr. Richards has begun preparation work for an RFP to hire the architect. Work will commence next spring. Rob McLean reviewed the plan for reuse based on the recommendations from the reuse committee. Reuse will include a community meeting space in the basement, lending library with wireless internet access for the main floor, and special collections on the top floor. It will provide a more inviting space and broader access to persons with mobility issues.

Councilor Harrington noted that funds were set aside in the Special Purpose Stabilization fund for Columbian Square improvements. He asked what the balance will be after this project is completed. President Mathews responded that \$430,000 was allocated for Fogg Library and \$2,000,000 for Columbian Square.

Councilor Smart recommended that additional future funding sources are sought; administration conducted a Columbian Square traffic study that included some parking; he asked that the library reuse plan not do anything that would conflict with recommendations from the traffic study. Mr. Clarke responded that the reuse plan was taken into consideration and will continue with it going forward. Councilor Smart noted that the \$2,000,000 was earmarked for aesthetics, underground utilities and parking but does not take into consideration MEPA certificate. The funds were intended for beautification of the Columbian Square neighborhood. He recommended leaving the balance of \$30,000 be set aside for moving costs for the collections, etc.

Councilor Conlon asked if the parking lot will overshadow the library. Mr. Clarke responded that the intent is to discretely put some spaces in the northeast corner HP spaces near the ramp to the basement. With proper landscaping, it should be a good fit.

George Berg, 74 Summer St- applauded the appropriation for Fogg Library and urged support for the measure. The building is an architectural gem and the exterior restoration was well done. It will bring much-needed public meeting space to that area of town.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to CLOSE the public hearing on item 12 009 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Budget/Management Committee-Chairman Kenneth DiFazio

12 014-Authorization to Overexpend Snow Removal- action requested under 2-9 (b)
CFO McKinney, Jeff Bina, DPW Director, stated that under MGL, Ch.44, §31(d), the Town Council authorizes the Department of Public Works with the approval of the Mayor to over-expend any and all line items associated with snow removal and requested action under 2-9 (b).

President Mathews requested the memo dated February 15, 2012 from CFO McKinney to Mayor Kay be read into the record:

“I am requesting a measure to be put forward to the Town Council to allow for over-expenditure of the snow removal budget. Even though this has been a mostly snow-free winter, the Town has still been incurred costs associated with snow removal, mostly for purchases of materials like sand and salt and some plowing for the snowfall on January 21.

“Each year we budget \$320,143 for snow removal. To date we have spent \$181,721 and have encumbered another \$28,110. This leaves us with a balance of under \$113,000, which could be spent if a big snowstorm or two occurs before the next Town Council meeting of March 12. Hopefully, that will not happen, but we do need to be authorized to over-expend if it does.”

There was a brief discussion. The majority of the money spent to date is for sand and salt. CFO McKinney noted this is a yearly request. Vice President O’Connor recalls it from the past and asked that the Council consider attaching it as a measure to the yearly budget process. Councilor Smart noted that the budget for snow removal is underfunded purposely. Mr. McKinney noted that the administration is required to present a balanced budget; snow removal is the only line item that legally can be underfunded. It is underfunded in order to avoid cuts and layoffs elsewhere in the budget. Councilor Lacey questioned the need for same night action. Mr. McKinney responded that it is being requested at this time as a precaution, since the Council is not scheduled to hold a regular meeting for three weeks.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O’Connor to CONSIDER item 12 014 under 2-9 (b), same night action and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O’Connor to APPROVE item 12 014; that in accord with MGL Ch.44 §31d, that the Town Council authorizes the Department of Public Works, with the approval of the Mayor, to over-expend any and all line items (program 0620) associated with snow removal, and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 015-Free Cash-OPEB Liability Trust Fund

CFO McKinney requested on behalf of the Mayor that the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate the sum of \$600,000 from Free Cash to be transferred to the “OPEB Trust Fund.”

A MOTION was made by Vice President O’Connor to refer item 12 015 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED

12 016-Reappointment to the Waterfront Committee

CFO McKinney requested on behalf of the Mayor that in accordance with Section 2-10 of the Town Charter, **Daniel Keefe of 56 Concannon Circle** be considered for reappointment to the Waterfront Committee, for a term to expire on June 30, 2014.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to refer item 12 015 to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Smart.
UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

REPORT OF COMMITTEES

Budget/Management Committee-Chairman Kenneth DiFazio

12 007-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund-Turf Field

Councilor DiFazio reported that this item was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 6, 2012. The committee met on February 21, 2012, at which time it was unanimously voted to continue deliberation on the matter to the next meeting.

12 008-Debt Refinancing-2002 and 2005 Bond Issues

Councilor DiFazio reported that this item was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 6, 2012. The committee met on February 15, 2012, at which time it was unanimously voted to forward the item to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. This measure requires a two-thirds vote of council.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE item 12 008; *ordered, that in order to reduce interest costs, the Treasurer, with the approval of the Mayor is authorized to issue refunding bonds pursuant to G.L. c.44, §21A or any other enabling legislation to refund all or a portion of the remaining amounts of the Town's \$17,500,000 General Obligation Bonds dated September 1, 2002 and its \$14,800,000 General Obligation Bonds dated March 1, 2005; that the refunding bonds shall be issued in an amount not to exceed \$15,000,000, in order to pay the principal, redemption premium and interest on the bonds to be refunded, and costs of issuance of the refunding bonds; and that the Treasurer is authorized to execute such documents as may be necessary or desirable to carry out this transaction, including a refunding trust agreement or escrow agreement with a bank or trust company."*

This was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 009-Special Purpose Stabilization Fund-Fogg Library Phase II Interior Repairs

Councilor DiFazio reported that this item was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on December 6, 2012. The committee met on February 15, 2012, at which time it voted unanimously to forward to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE item 12 009; that the Town of Weymouth raise and appropriate

the sum of \$400,000 from the Special Purpose Stabilization Fund for Capital Projects (Fund 8352) for the purpose of funding costs associated with the interior renovations at the Fogg Library and was seconded by Councilor Smart.

Councilors Smart, Harrington and Molisse and Vice President O'Connor urged support of this item. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 010-Reserve Fund Transfer-Reclassification Human Resources

Councilor DiFazio reported that this item was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 6, 2012. The committee met on February 15, 2012, at which time it voted unanimously to forward it to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE item 12 010; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$4500 from the Reserve Fund for the purpose of funding reclassification of the HR Clerk, Grade 2-6 to an HR Generalist, Grade 7-1 and was seconded by Councilor Smart. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 011-Reserve Fund Transfer-Reclassification Town Council

Councilor DiFazio reported that this item was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 6, 2012. The committee met on February 15, 2012, at which time it voted unanimously to forward to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a MOTION was made by Councilor DiFazio to APPROVE item 12 011; that the Town of Weymouth transfer the sum of \$2400 from the Reserve Fund to Line Item Town Council Audit and Oversight-Salaries for the purpose of funding a Reclassification of the Financial Assistant, Grade 6-9 to an Assistant to the Council, Grade 8-7 and was seconded by Vice President O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 012-Town Clerk Appointment

Councilor DiFazio reported that this item was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on February 6, 2012. The committee met on February 13 and February 15, 2012, at which time it voted unanimously to forward a recommendation to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action. Cindy DiPina, Human Resources Director, was invited to the table to summarize the process. The position was posted internally and on the state website. Thirteen applications were received. Ms. DiPina reviewed these and further evaluated several candidates. She then presented four candidates to Budget/Management Committee for interview on February 13, and February 15, 2012. At the meeting of February 15, 2012, it was unanimously voted to forward the name of Kathleen Deree to the full Town Council with a recommendation for appointment to the position of Town Clerk.

On behalf of the Budget/Management Committee, a MOTION was made by Councilor

DiFazio to APPROVE item 12 012; to APPOINT Kathleen Deree to the position of Town Clerk for a three-year term and was seconded by Vice President O'Connor.

President Mathews thanked Cindy DiPina for her assistance and the committee for the support of the recommendation. Councilor Molisse commended the members of the Budget/Management Committee for the smooth process.UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Lacey to add a late agenda item under REPORT OF COMMITTEES and was seconded by Vice President O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Parks & Recreation Committee- Vice Chairman Thomas J. Lacey

Councilor Molisse reports out that the committee met in a joint session with the Budget/Management Committee earlier in the evening and unanimously voted to continue the deliberation on a proposal to consider a feasibility study for town fields to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

12 013-Review of Town Council Rules and Regulations for 2012-2014-Councilor Jane Hackett

A MOTION was made by Councilor Hackett to REFER this item to the Rules Committee and was seconded by Vice President O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

12 017-Fiscal Year 2011 Financial Statements and Management Letter-Town Auditor Richard Swanson/Council President Arthur Mathews

President Mathews reported that the annual audit report, in a management letter and financial statement from the auditing contractor, Melanson, Heath and Co. has been received and will be scheduled for review at the Budget/Management Committee meeting and presentation to the full Town Council Meeting, on March 12, 2012.

A MOTION was made by Vice President O'Connor to REFER this item to the Budget/Management Committee and was seconded by Councilor Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Review of Drainage Issues in the Area Bordered by Ralph Talbot/Pine Street to the Hingham Line-Councilor Ed Harrington

Councilor Harrington reviewed at last meeting. Neighbors spoke at the public hearing and Councilor Harrington noted he grew more concerned with the overall issue of drainage in that area. He toured the neighborhood with one of the neighbors.

A MOTION was made by Councilor Harrington to REFER this item to the Public Works Committee and was seconded by Vice President O'Connor. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

Education Committee-Chairman Thomas J. Lacey

- Net School Spending
- Update on the Superintendent Search
- 2013 School Budget
- Funding for High School Athletics in 2013 Budget

Councilor Lacey reported that the Education Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 28, 2012 at 7PM to discuss these subjects. Members of the School Committee and school administrators have been invited to review and discuss the above agenda items.

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting of the Town Council will be held on Monday, March 12, 2012, due to the Presidents Primary Election, which will be held on March 6, 2012. At 10:30PM, 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 Mary Barker as Recording Secretary

Approved by Council President Arthur Mathews