

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES  
BUDGET/MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE  
Town Hall Council Chambers  
May 2, 2018, Wednesday**

Present: Michael Molisse, Chairman  
Thomas J. Lacey, Vice Chairman  
Jane Hackett, Councilor  
Christopher Heffernan, Councilor

Absent: Brian McDonald, Councilor

Also Present: Ted Langill, Chief of Staff  
Brian Connolly, Chief Financial Officer  
Joseph Callanan, Town Solicitor  
Shawn Rothman, Director Information Technology  
Steve Reilly, Director of Recreation  
George Pontes, Veterans' Agent  
John Mulveyhill, Civil Defense Director  
Kathy Collins, Youth and Family Services  
Karen Johnston, Elder Services Director  
Rob McLean, Director of Libraries  
John MacLeod, Asset Management Director  
Nicholas Bulens, Administrative Services Coordinator

Recording Secretary: Mary Barker

Chairman Molisse called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to take measure 18 023 out of order and was seconded by Councilor Heffernan. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**18 023-Dedication of land at King Oak Park for MGL C45,§3Park and Recreation Purposes**

This matter was referred to the Budget/Management Committee on April 17, 2018.

Mr. Bulens presented the measure; necessary to satisfy requirements under the MA Park Grant-any property benefitting from a MA Park Grant must be restricted in perpetuity, for recreational use, under MGL, Ch.45 §3 and then it becomes permanently dedicated as park land under Article 97 of the MA Constitution. The town was awarded a \$400,000 Park Grant in FY 2017 for the grounds of the Emery Estate to renovate it as a passive and functional park, and in December the Council passed a resolution to dedicate land. The resolution served to accept the grant. They acknowledged at that time they may need to come back before the town in order to maintain flexibility with the use, it may be necessary to separate the house and subdivide the land and separate off the park land from the existing buildings. In conversations with the EEA (state agency maintaining the

grant) and the Community Preservation Coalition, they were advised that in order to maintain the flexibility with the buildings, they should separate the buildings and not protect it under MGL. If approved, the measure would dedicate approximately 18 acres (identified as Lot 1 on the subdivision plan) as protected parkland. This lot about 75% of the total property and encompasses all of the work that's currently being done: pavilion, parking and passive walking paths. The remaining land includes the house and the access from Commercial Street. Future use of the house has not yet been determined. This was approved by the EPA.

Councilor Hackett asked about the number of trees in construction. Mr. Bulens responded that they enhanced the number of trees in the plan; 22 additional trees are being added along the Mt. Vernon side.

During this discussion, at 6:07 PM, Vice Chairman Lacey arrived.

A motion was made by Councilor Hackett to forward measure 18 023 to the full Town Council with a recommendation for favorable action and was seconded by Councilor Heffernan. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**Review and Discuss General Government Budgets with Administration and applicable Department Heads:**

**Deliberate the following measures:**

**18 060B-Mavor's Office**

**18 060F-Information Services**

**18 060R-Veterans' Services**

**18 060S-Parks and Recreation**

**18 084-Free Cash for Clark Nature Center Improvements**

**18 060U-Civil Defense**

**18 060V-Commission on Disabilities**

**18 060W-Youth and Family Services**

**18 060E-Town Solicitor**

**18 060J-Town Building Maintenance**

**18 060T-Elder Services**

## **18 060Q-Library**

### **Mayor's Office –Presented by Ted Langill**

- Organizational chart
- Insurance line item- MIIA (includes coverage auto, general liability); the town maintains separate policies for marine, drone, flood and storage fuel tank coverage- \$800K total
- Bra-Wey- Weymouth's share of cost of Pond Meadow Park

### **Town Building Maintenance –Presented by Ted Langill**

- Building Maintenance- level funding-personnel 3% and cost for each of the 6 town owned buildings

### **Parks and Recreation – Presented by Ted Langill and Recreation Director Steve Reilly**

- Organizational chart reviewed
- Lifeguards in exceptional program
- Lifeguards/camp counselor- tracked and adjusted
- Van/bus-transportation- bus rental for exceptional / limited storage capabilities
- Expanding programs / partnerships with town departments
- Fee schedule- some increases to retain staff
- Streamlined transactions/ additional programs/ allocations adjusted within the program

Councilor Hackett noted that measure 18 061 is for a lot of money and responsibility. In her opinion, the authority to accept is too much for one individual. She is glad to see they are looking at detail. Mr. Langill noted that it's a lot of new money and it will continue to grow over time. There are six departments in town with similar sizes. Councilor Hackett responded that her concern is just that it is new and will grow.

### **Free cash-18 084- Improvements to Nature Center at Great Esker**

This building is used primarily for summer programs. (18 084) Chairman Molisse asked if this refers to the building at the end of Elva Rd? Mr. Reilly responded yes. Councilor Hackett asked if it needs to be voted separately. Mr. Langill responded that it will be voted on the same night as the budget.

### **Town Solicitor – Presented by T. Langill and Solicitor Callanan**

- Legal- work in opposition to utility stations- as a result of the department's efforts, none of the utility's deadlines have been met. So they spent a lot of money on outside counsel but it resulted in returns.
- 2 outside firms used- stipend payments for insurance consultation
- special counsel for litigation- these are used for labor and real estate matters
- exceptional claims / judgments

Vice Chairman Lacey asked if it is common practice to have a have flat fee plus an hourly rate? Solicitor Callanan responded no, but new alternative fee arrangements were

negotiated; it's not common but becoming more prevalent (Joe Emerson- who consults for Civil Service matters was cited as an example).

**Information Services – Presented by Brian Connolly and Chief Information Officer Shawn Rothman**

- no change to organizational chart
- cell phones- aggregated from all departments- the actual amount is greater than anticipated.
- Software- adding additional services to MUNIS- citizen access
- Professional services – to focus on firewalls this year; server next year
- Software upgrade-smaller products
- GIS expense- property viewer
- Misc. expenses- software support- storage, server protection (hardware piece)
- Contracts
- Utilities-data and phones, security networks
- Internet- town except schools/maintenance to fiber network

Vice Chairman Lacey noted there has been a lack of further consolidation with the schools. He asked if there has been further thought to it. Mr. Rothman responded that they looked at but it didn't gain traction for true integration. Improvements were made in Comcast and with bandwidth that will give the schools space.

At 6:37, Councilor Hackett left the meeting.

**Veterans' Services -Presented by Brian Connolly and Veterans' Agent George Pontes**

- State mandate to meet veterans needs – public assistance.
- CH 115 reimbursement
- Veteran outreach to file claims

Vice Chairman Lacey asked if the Veterans' Agent is concerned based on the numbers in the state budget. Mr. Pontes responded that the line is funded at 100% because it's mandated by law. A raise takes effect July 1<sup>st</sup> which coincides with a Social Security increase that may not happen. Chairman Lacey thanked Mr. Pontes for the work done for the town's veterans.

**Civil Defense -presented by Brian Connolly and Director John Mulveyhill**

- Organizational chart- no change
- Grant purchases
  - radios
  - lettering for vehicles
  - equipment trailers to transport barricades/cones
- Number of volunteers- up 2 from last year for a total of 37

Chairman Molisse noted that it was a tough winter. Mr. Mulveyhill responded that the town submitted for reimbursement from the federal government for three storms over

the winter. The first was approved, second denied, and the third hasn't been determined yet.

**Youth and Family Services –Presented by Brian Connolly with Kathy Collins**

- Teen center- has had a successful year
- Teen center generates its own revenue from snack bar
- Teen employments-in various offices in town

Chairman Molisse asked if the teen center is still busy? He applauded the department for the years of service it provided to the town families.

**Elder Services -Presented by Brian Connolly and Karen Johnston**

- 3 open positions- they are going after federal funding
- Senior Center is utilized every day
- 50+ programs take place
- medical transportation- funding provided from a grant
- full time CDL and part time drivers
- gas controls reviewed
- 28 communities use the center, but Weymouth citizens have priority
- Building is busy 7 days a week and is used by Recreation and other departments

**Library-Presented by Brian Connolly and Rob McLean**

- Currently no vacancies
- Including the trustees
- Same operating hours; but will be impacted by new library project.  
Library grant awarded, with signing of contract to remain
- certified public library during construction- including spending, hours of operation
- Unsure of operating hours yet- seeking temporary space-
  - RFP going out, to be opened June 11<sup>th</sup> then choose
  - Challenged to make life bearable for next 2 years, but if they can't find adequate space, they may have to put collections and staff in the branches and may have to expand hours.
- Architect- will present design development plans to the committee- out to bid in fall, and select contractor in December hoping to identify space in July for an opening in September.
- They will be back in June before full Town Council to review a full presentation of status
- 

Councilor Heffernan asked if they have funds set aside for the cost to move to temporary quarters. Mr. McLean responded that funding is set aside in the bond.

- Computers- membership in OCLN / Comcast static IP addresses/Envisionsware/Booksite/Library Insight
- Book materials – reviewed the process to determine how funds spent
- Cost to maintain buildings- don't have an analysis for Tufts

- Pratt Library- splits utilities with WETC which is housed in the building basement.

**Commission on Disabilities** –no information provided

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:08 PM, there being no further business, a MOTION was made by Councilor Heffernan to adjourn and was seconded by Vice Chairman Lacey. UNANIMOUSLY VOTED.

**ATTACHMENTS: Budget Presentation-Response to Auditor's Questions, May 2, 2018**

Respectfully Submitted by Mary Barker as Recording Secretary.

Approved by Michael Molisse as Budget/Management Committee Chairman  
Approved unanimously on 30 July 2018