

**Advisory Meeting
January 11, 2012
Juliani Meeting Room, Town Hall**

Virginia Ferko called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Those present also included Robert Capozzi, Rebecca Epstein, Marjorie Freiman, Ann Marie Gross, Laura Hockett, Catherine Johnson, Philip Licari, David Murphy, Maura Murphy, Deborah Robi, Richard Woerner, Jack Haley, Richard Page and Derek Redgate.

Citizen Speak

None

Library Trustees Capital and Operating Budget

Ann Howley, Library Trustee, Chair, Janice Coduri, Library Director, and Beth Sullivan Woods, Marla Robinson and Ann-Mara Lanza, Library Trustees, presented. Ms. Howley described the Library's mission and services and provided a breakdown of different library programs and statistics and what the future may hold for the libraries. It was noted that staff increases are not keeping pace with Library demands. Ms. Howley then described the Library's operating and capital budget requests. Ms. Howley noted that the Library's union contract was not yet settled so no union increases were included in the budget. The Library Trustees have transferred \$7,000 in computer peripherals from its operating budget to its capital budget in order to keep the operating budget within guideline and because the Library Trustees felt that these items are capital in nature. Ms. Howley also reviewed the Library's sources of funds and described what percentage of the Library's funding came from each source. Ms. Ferko requested the dollar amounts from each source.

Questions from the committee were addressed.

DPW and Water & Sewer Operating Budgets and Capital ATM Articles

Bill Charlton, Department of Public Works (DPW) Chair, David Donohue, DPW Vice Chair, Judy Kirby, DPW Assistant Director, Mike Pakstis DPW Director, Paul Criswell, DPW Secretary, and David Cohen, DPW engineer, presented. PowerPoint slides were shown detailing the structure of the DPW organization.

Mr. Charlton reviewed the DPW FY13 operating budget request. Questions from the Committee were addressed.

Mr. Charlton next presented the operating and capital budget requests for the water and sewer enterprise fund. Mr. Charlton explained that the budget is not tax impact, is user fee based and is intended to break even in a moderate water usage year.

Mr. Charlton then presented the DPW's warrant articles for the 2012 ATM.

1. *Morses Pond Replacement Wells:* The DPW is seeking to borrow \$1,600,000 to dig new wells at Morses Pond in order to increase capacity and reduce the amount of water that the Town must purchase from the MWRA.
2. *Recycled Materials Loading Structure:* The DPW is requesting a supplemental appropriation of \$220,000 based on a detailed engineering estimate. This will replace the old transfer station with a new structure, which will increase the capacity and decrease the cost of handling materials.
3. *Park/Highway Building HVAC:* The DPW is requesting \$75,000 for designing a new system. The current system is 60 years old and beyond its useful life, which is causing inefficiencies. The DPW expects that the construction cost, which it will seek in FY14, will be approximately \$1,000,000 and will be repaid in cost-savings within a few years.
4. *Bacon Street Reconstruction:* The DPW is seeking to borrow \$480,000 to reconstruct Bacon Street.
5. *Wales Street Bridge Reconstruction:* The DPW is seeking to borrow \$400,000 to reconstruct the Wales Street Bridge, which is being required by the State. The cost of reconstruction will be shared equally with the City of Newton, and therefore the timing of this expenditure will depend in part on Newton's funding schedule.

Questions from the Committee were addressed.

Liaison & Sub Committee Updates

Ms. Freiman reported that the Board of Selectmen and Library Trustees met with the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) to request \$5,000 for an envelope study of the Hills Branch Library on the chimney issue. There may be more extensive work required on envelope itself. CPC authorized up to \$6,500 from its administrative funds.

Mr. Page updated the Committee on a meeting with the School Business Office and Hans Larsen to discuss the construction of the FY13 budget. He reported that the Business Office had completed the personal services portion of the budget and was close to completing the budget.

Questions from the Committee were addressed.

Discussion of Capital Budgets

The Committee conducted a brief discussion on capital budgets. Ms. Ferko identified the following items for further discussion and follow-up: (i) Natural Resource Commission request of funds for Pine Point; (ii) the timing of the School Department request for funds for a security system at the Middle School; (iii) the DPW vehicle replacement budget; (iv) the Board of Selectman request for funds for a

carport at the police station; and (v) the decision of the Library Trustees to transfer its budget for computer peripherals from operating to capital.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 pm

Documents: Agenda, DPW Operating budget for Tax Impact Program PowerPoint, Water Sewer , Morses Pond Management FY13 Operating Budget, DPW Capital Funding Request and Five Year Plan Table 2, Board of Library Trustees Budget FY13.