

Town of Wellesley



INTER-BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 26, 2013

Inter-Board Meeting
Kingsbury Room, Wellesley Police Station
September 26, 2013, 7:30 PM

7:30	Welcome and review agenda	K. Babson
7:35	December 9 th Special Town Meeting	K. Babson
7:40	Facilities projects outreach effort	B. Searle
7:45	HR Board update	L. Hockett
7:50	FY15 planning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Budget guidelines• Override and debt exclusions• Other matters	H. Larsen
8:10	Advisory update	M. Freiman
8:15	Open discussion	All
8:25	Wrap-up	K. Babson

Key messages from prior meeting



- A blank slate from a union contract perspective
- Free Cash balance healthier than anticipated
- Health insurance and pension account for disproportionate share of new revenue
- Tax rate coming under pressure from anticipated debt exclusions
 - Tolles Parsons Center, Fuller Brook Park, School facilities, etc.
- FY15 budget increases $>1.75\%$ will require additional revenue

Input received since prior meeting



- Anticipating significant use of Free Cash at December STM
- Range of possibilities for Schools' increase
 - Bottom of range >1.75%
 - Additional investments called for by Strategic Plan
 - Range of possibilities further leveraged by open contract
- External factors and interdependencies
 - MAR guidelines
 - Facilities maintenance
 - Utility costs
 - ✦ Anticipating a W&S rate increase, but no Electric increase
 - ✦ Sustainability initiatives should help

Proposed budget guidance



- **Town departments**
 - Provide for recommended level of increase for Series 40 employees and any step increases
 - Make no provision for Series 50 increases (budgeted centrally) or unsettled union contracts
 - Level funding of expenses
 - Additional investments will require additional revenue
- **School department**
 - Any increase in PS >1.75% will require additional revenue, i.e., an override
 - Level funding of expenses, inclusive of ST&T (potential Circuit Breaker carryforward will help)

Note:



- Above guidance is really just budget process
- Focus of FY15 planning will necessarily shift to contract negotiations
- Each Board remains free to make its case for additional investments

Plan for overrides/debt exclusions



- **Potential debt exclusions**
 - May 2014 – Tolles Parsons Center, Fuller Brook Park, Town/School facilities projects
 - December 2014 – Schofield / Fiske renovation
 - 2016? – Hardy/Hunnewell/Upham
- **May 2014 override**
 - Default assumption – menu approach
 - Will need to carry us at least through FY16
 - As contracts are settled, we will need clear projections for FY16/17

Other matters



- Tom D’Orazio to lead collaborative review of Town’s phone system architecture

Questions

