

**Advisory Committee
Meeting #28
Wednesday, March 10, 2010**

Peter Cory, Chair, called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Those present included Judi Donnelly, Virginia Ferko, Jack Haley, Rick Hill, Kathy Macdonald, Barbara McMahon (6:45 pm), Maura Murphy, Rich Page, Caren Parker (7:15 pm), Derek Redgate (7 pm), Steve Simons, Steve Sykes, Marc Taylor, and Jason Whittet (7:25 pm).

Citizens Speak. No one was present.

Minutes. After review, upon a motion made by Ms. Donnelly and seconded by Mr. Simons, the Committee unanimously voted to approve the minutes of the Advisory Committee meetings of the February 17, 24, 27 and March 3, 2010.

Warrant Articles for 2010 ATM

Article 30 - Signs, Ms. Ferko discussed the article and noted some minor changes to the proposed bylaw from what was previously presented by the Planning Board. Ms. Ferko clarified that this bylaw does not address signs on vehicles, which has been determined are better regulated through the Parking regulations. After discussion, Mr. Sykes moved and Ms. Ferko seconded recommending favorable action on Article 30. **The vote was 11 in favor; 0 opposed.**

Articles 11– Municipal Light Plant Appropriation. Mr. Hill discussed Article 11, the WMLP budget appropriation, and Article 3 which addresses the WMLP's \$1 million payment to the Town. After discussion, Mr. Hill moved and Ms. Macdonald seconded recommending favorable action on Article 11. **The vote was 10 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention.**

Article 3 – MLP Payment. After discussion, Mr. Simons moved and Mr. Hill seconded recommending favorable action on Article 3. **The vote was 10 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention.**

Article 17 – MLP Building Design Funds. Mr. Haley discussed the article which requests that the allocation of \$1.92 million be appropriated to the PBC for constructing a building addition for the MLP's administrative offices, and \$80,000 be appropriated to the WMLP for building furnishings. Funding will be from the MLP's cash on hand. The cost has decreased since prior estimates due to favorable trends in construction costs and the proposed use of modular units for the office building. After discussion, Mr. Hill moved and Mr. Haley seconded recommending favorable action on Article 17. **The vote was 13 in favor; 0 opposed; 1 abstention.**

Article 33 - Sustainable Energy Committee. Ms. Parker noted that there are some amendments being made to the motion under this article; however, it does not appear that the changes will impact Advisory's previous recommendation. She also clarified that the salary proposed for the energy coordinator is \$19,000 for each program, rather than \$20,000.

Article 16 – Fire Station Floor. Mr. Redgate indicated there is no additional information available at this time concerning repairs to the Central Street Fire Station floor. The consultant will meet with PBC tomorrow night. Mr. Cory indicated the Executive Director has informed him that the Selectmen plan to request \$300,000 for the repairs at this time; however, he did not believe the consultant's evaluation report will be completed prior to the finalization of Advisory's Report.

Article 26 - Cochituate Aqueduct Leases. Negotiations are still ongoing. Advisory's Recommendation will be made at Town Meeting.

Article 27 – Linden Square Agreement. Mr. Taylor expects that agreement will be reached by Town Meeting, however, not in time for inclusion in the Advisory Report.

Article 20 – Middle School Project. Mr. Haley reported the Middle School Building Committee has met with the consultant who will conduct a utilization study; results should be available close to the start of Town Meeting. If it is determined that there are not enough classrooms available, the SBC's general view is to go forward with an appropriation of funds, and build modulars in 2011 for completion by the 2012 school year. Discussion deferred pending additional information. The SBC will meet with Advisory as soon as the utilization study is completed. It is expected that Advisory will make its recommendation at Town Meeting.

Article 8 – Omnibus Budget and Capital. It has been announced that the state legislature will cut aid by 5 percent. However, in addition to the regular Chapter 70 funds Wellesley received last year, the Town will receive additional Chapter 70 funding to bring the Town's allocation of these funds to foundation budget levels (for years, affluent communities received less in Chapter 70 funds than the level indicated by foundation budgets).

Mr. Cory reviewed the status of Sources and Uses of Funds, and the FY11 budget, noting that due to a number of actions that have taken place in the last few days, the budget has been balanced for FY11. He reviewed the adjustments made to projected State aid, local revenues, health insurance costs, and departmental capital budgets. Based on these adjustments, it is estimated that the net draw on Free Cash will now be \$422,390.

Mr. Cory reported that the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Public Works met and discussed the need for increased spending for road and sidewalk repairs. Repairs have lagged over years due to budget cuts, and the DPW's 20 year cycle for road and sidewalk repairs/rehabilitation is steadily increasing to a 40 year cycle.

Various sections of the Article 8 write-up were discussed and the tone of the write-up was discussed.

After a lengthy discussion, Ms. Macdonald moved and Ms. Donnelly seconded recommending favorable action on Article 8. **The vote was 14 in favor; 0 opposed.**

Adjournment. Upon a motion made by Ms. Donnelly and seconded by Ms. Macdonald, the Committee unanimously voted to adjourn at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Adeline G. Doherty
Administrative Assistant