

**Advisory Committee
Meeting
Wednesday, March 23, 2011, 7:30 PM
Juliani Room, Town Hall**

Jack Haley called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Those present included Virginia Ferko, Catherine Johnson, Jason Whittet, Maura Murphy, Laura Hockett, Philip Licari, Richard Page, Polly Smith, David Murphy, Barbara McMahon, Steve Simons, and Rick Hill. Derek Redgate and Caren Parker were absent.

Citizen Speak

No one attending spoke at Citizen Speak.

Updates

Mr. Haley distributed a document “Budget Closure 3-23-11” showing a more than \$2M deficit as of March 23, 2011, as well as anticipated changes that could reduce the budget shortfall to just over \$1M. Advisory discussed the schedule for voting on warrant articles and there were extensive discussions on Article 3 (Town Wide Financial Plan) and Article 8 (Omnibus Budget) that centered on the Town’s budgeting calendar and the School’s budgeting process.

Article 8, Motion #1

Ms. McMahon moved that the Advisory Committee recommend favorable action on Motion #1 expected under Article 8 on the Town’s Omnibus Budget. Mr. Simons seconded the motion, which was approved by a vote of 12-0.

Break

Advisory took a break at 8:45 PM and reconvened at 8:53 PM.

Article 8, Motion #2

Mr. Hill moved that the Advisory Committee recommend favorable action on Motion #2 expected under Article 8 of the Warrant. The motion authorizes acceptance of a \$1M payment from the Municipal Light Plant (MLP) in FY12. Ms. McMahon seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 12-0.

Article 12 & 13

Ms. Ferko moved that Advisory rescind the favorable actions taken on Article 12 and Article 13 of the Warrant with the intention of re-voting these articles. Ms. Smith seconded the motion. In a discussion of this motion, Mr. Hill explained that the Massachusetts Water Resources Authority (MWRA) lowered estimates of water and sewer charges. The water charges (reduced by an estimated \$162,701) are reflected in Article 12, and will enable the Board of Public Works (BPW) to not raise FY12 water rates as much as anticipated. Article 13 is for the Sewer Enterprise Fund and the estimated \$361,233 reduction in sewer charges should also have a positive impact on sewage rates, Mr. Hill said. Advisory approved the motion to rescind by a vote of 12-0.

Mr. Hill moved that the Advisory Committee revote and recommend favorable action on the motion expected under Article 12 of the Warrant regarding the Board of Public Works’ Water Program. Ms. Smith seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 12-0.

Mr. Hill moved that the Advisory Committee revote and recommend favorable action on the motion expected under Article 13 of the Warrant regarding the Sewer Enterprise Fund. Ms. Smith seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 12-0.

Article 3

Ms. Ferko moved that the Advisory Committee recommend favorable action on the motion expected under Article 3 of the Warrant. Mr. Licari seconded the motion, which regards acknowledgement of the receipt of the Town Wide Financial Plan. The motion passed by a vote of 12-0

Article 16

Ms. Murphy moved that the Advisory Committee recommend favorable action on Motion #3 expected under Article 16 of the Warrant. There was a brief discussion of Motion #3, which involves the Community Preservation Committee (CPC) Report and designates the Fuller Brook Park Coordinating Committee (FBPCC) as the body that will oversee the Fuller Brook Project and authorizes the FBPCC to receive and expend any appropriated funds. Ms. McMahon seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 12-0.

Ms. Murphy moved that the Advisory Committee recommend favorable action on Motion #4 expected under Article 16 of the Warrant. There was a brief discussion of Motion #4, which involves a request to fund \$23,000 from the Community Preservation Fund Historic Resources Reserve to review design recommendations for the Fuller Brook Project. Ms. McMahon seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 12-0.

Liaison Reports

There was a discussion of the NRC Budget, costs of the move to the new high school and other school developments, financing the proposed DPW Building, and consolidating the facilities maintenance functions that are now split between the Board of Selectmen and the Schools.

Adjournment

Mr. Licari made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Simons seconded the motion, which passed by a vote of 12-0. The meeting adjourned at 9:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Davis
Administrative Assistant

Meeting Documents: Budget Closure 3-23-1; Town of Wellesley, Sources and Uses of Funds; Draft: Supplement #2. Advisory Report to the 2011 Annual Town Meeting.