

**Advisory Committee Meeting
January 25, 2012
Juliani Meeting Room, Town Hall**

Virginia Ferko called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Those present also included Robert Capozzi, Marjorie Freiman, Ann Marie Gross, Laura Hockett, Catherine Johnson, David Murphy, Maura Murphy, Deborah Robi, Richard Woerner, Jack Haley, and Derek Redgate. Richard Page, Rebecca Epstein and Philip Licari joined the meeting at 9:00 after attending the School Committee meeting.

Citizen Speak

None

Natural Resources Commission (NRC) Capital Budget Revision

Neal Seaborn, NRC Chair, and Janet Bowser, NRC Director, presented.

Mr. Seaborn and Ms. Bowser first reviewed the NRC's capital appropriations vs. actual expenditures for FY09-FY11 and explained that the NRC was revising its capital budget for FY13 to eliminate any request, because the NRC had carry forwards from prior fiscal years.

Questions from the committee were addressed, including a discussion regarding whether watershed education expenses should continue to be included in the capital budget or moved to the operating budget

Morses Pond Operating Budget

Mr. Seaborn and Ms. Bowser presented the Morses Pond Operating Budget for FY13.

Questions from the committee were addressed.

NRC Operating Budget

Mr. Seaborn and Ms. Bowser presented the NRC FY13 Operating Budget. The budget is level funded for operating expenses but includes funds for an additional 9 hours per week for the educational coordinator who currently works 10 hours per week. The NRC feels that education is an important part of its mission and that it could better fulfill this mission with more hours that could be used to expand school programs, expand the use of social media, and pursue grant funds.

The NRC will also seek Town Meeting approval to carry over funds not used in FY12, because the Assistant Director position was vacant.

Discussion of Capital Budgets

Ms. Ferko distributed a summary of the FY13 Capital Requests and led a discussion of issues requiring follow up, including:

1. *Department of Public Works (DPW)*: The committee had requested additional information regarding the vehicle replacement schedule. Mr. Redgate informed the committee that the DPW subcommittee had met with DPW staff members and reviewed the schedule and the process for determining the schedule, and that the subcommittee is satisfied.
2. *NRC*: The committee suggested the proposed \$45,000 expenditure for Pine Point should be funded this year but be deferred and included as part of a larger erosion study project.
3. *School Department*: The committee discussed whether the new security system at the Middle School should be deferred to give the School Department more time to consider the system and to see how the security system at the new High School operates.
4. *Board of Selectmen*: The committee will seek additional information regarding the proposed carport and driveway widening at the Police Station.
5. *Library*: The committee will follow up with the Library Trustees on their decision to move \$7,000 in computer peripherals from the operating budget to the capital budget and will also seek more detailed information regarding sources of funds.

Liaison & Subcommittee Updates

Mr. Page gave an update of the status of the School Department Budget.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Documents: Agenda, NRC Revised Moses Pond Capital Budget Request, Board of Selectmen FY13 Budget Status PowerPoint, NRC FY09-FY11 Appropriations vs. Expenditures, FY13 Capital Request Summary, 2012 ATM Warrant Articles.