

**Advisory Committee
Meeting
Wednesday March 9, 2011, 7:30 PM
Juliani Room, Town Hall**

Jack Haley called the meeting to order at 7:31 PM. Those present included Caren Parker, Virginia Ferko, Catherine Johnson, Maura Murphy, Laura Hockett, Philip Licari, Derek Redgate, David Murphy, Barbara McMahon, Steve Simons, Rick Hill, and Jason Whittet. Steve Simons, Rich Page, and Polly Smith were absent.

Mr. Haley announced that the WCAS was broadcasting the proceedings.

Citizen Speak

Rusty Kellogg of 35 Sawyer Road distributed a document that was an analysis of annual base salary increases of Town employees. After describing the concept of inflation adjustments embedded in union contracts, he urged that Advisory give guidance to Town departments that will be entering into union contract negotiations that we are experiencing historically low rates of inflation.

ATM Articles Discussion and Votes

Mr. Redgate moved that the Advisory Committee recommend favorable action on the motion expected under Article 30. There was a brief discussion of the article, which involves the designation of Brookside Road as a scenic road. Ms. McMahon seconded the motion, which was approved by a vote of 11-0.

Ms. Parker updated Advisory on Article 14 which has 3 motions involving revolving funds. No action was taken on Article 14. Other articles pending action were briefly discussed, including the article regarding the recycled materials loading structure, and Mr. Haley said that there will be a site visit to the existing structure.

Updated Sources and Uses

Mr. Haley reported on the budget deficit to date and the level of free cash, and there was an extensive discussion that included circuit breaker reimbursements, costs of opening the new high school and the state of the School Budget.

Break

Advisory took a short break at 9:54 PM and reconvened at 10:01 PM.

Report to Town Meeting and Balancing the FY 12 Budget

There was a wide-ranging discussion on Article 8, alternatives for balancing the FY12 Budget, problems of drawing down free cash to address the budget gap, and Advisory's recommendations to Town Meeting on these issues in view of the TWFP and budgeting beyond FY12. It was the consensus of the Advisory Committee that a letter should be drafted requesting that all boards and departments reassess their budgets in view of the projected budget deficit and the level of free cash.

Adjournment

Ms. Parker moved that Advisory adjourn the meeting, and Mr. Hill seconded the motion. The motion was approved by a vote of 11-0. The meeting adjourned at 10:37 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Eileen Davis
Administrative Assistant