

Advisory Committee
December 17, 2014
Felix Juliani Meeting Room, Town Hall

Andy Patten called the meeting of the Wellesley Advisory Committee to order at 7:00 p.m. Those present included Mary Crown, Thomas Engels, Chad Harris, John Hartnett, John Hussey, Lucy Kapples, Michael Mastrianni, Frank Pinto, Ann Rappaport, Mason Smith, Scott Tarbox and Kathleen Woodward.

Citizen Speak

No one wished to speak at this time.

Planning Board FY16 Budget and Potential Articles for ATM

Michael Zehner, Planning Director with Sara Preston, Chair and Catherine Johnson of the Planning Board presented the review. The FY16 Operating Budget request is for \$280,575 which represents an increase of 2.24% from FY15. Personal Services of \$236,276 with Expenses of \$44,300 are being requested. Planning is asking for \$24,000 for Professional Services this fiscal year which will likely be used for the initial work associated with updating the Comprehensive Plan. However, several changes are being made in the Expense Budget: increasing two accounts for office supplies and dues for MetroWest Regional Collaborative and reduction in two accounts for advertising and travel which will allow the budget to remain within the recommended 2.25%.

A summary of revenue funding from previous years was discussed. These sources include PSI fees, LHR fees and other fees such as ANR, DRB, HDC, etc.

Completed projects from FY14 include an off-street parking study, registered marijuana dispensary amendment and single building historic district study. Remaining projects from FY15 were also reviewed. The FY16 work plan includes the Comprehensive Plan, Route 9 Enhancement Plan, review of stormwater regulations, recodification, updating the zoning map and design guidelines for DRB and HDC. Department and board members represent Planning on several boards and committees.

It is anticipated that there will be several items presented at the Annual Town Meeting in 2015. Some items may be able to be bundled together into one article, but a comprehensive review of planning statutes and regulations have shown many areas that need updating. More information on the items will be presented to Advisory at a later date. It is expected that updating the Comprehensive Plan will be a major expenditure of the Capital Budget, possibly \$100,000 or more, budgeted over two years as \$50,000 line items.

Board of Health FY16 Operating Budgets

Shepard Cohen, Chair and Marcia Testa Simonson, Lloyd Tarlin, Carol Hannenberg of the Board of Health and Leonard Izzo, Director of Public Health presented the budget. They were accompanied by Deadra Doku-Gardner, Administrator.

The FY16 Operating Budget includes increases in Personal Services to reinstate the position of Assistant Director, correction compensation inequities for Public Health Nurses, Community

Health Coordinator and Community Social Worker and provide an increase in hours needed for the Social Worker, as well as an entry-level per diem clerical position. The Board of Health is requesting funding an increase in the pay rate of nurses from \$26 to \$31 per hour with the supervisory position changing from \$31.16 to \$36 per hour. The social worker currently works two days a week and the request is for an increase to three days at a new rate of \$27 per hour, up from \$22 currently. Also, the Community Health Coordinator would increase to a five day-per-week which would represent an increase of one day. These changes represent a total 15.15% increase. Total Personal Services request would be \$442,827.

Revenues collected from the department come from fees and fines. Total FY14 revenues were \$68,946.

Robert Evans, Director of HRS presented the Mental Health portion of the budget. He stated the Town has a long-standing commitment of support for HRS to ensure mental health services for any who need it regardless of their ability to pay. He mentioned an increase in the number of residents who need behavioral or mental health services and the decreasing numbers of professionals to provide assistance as well as the lower reimbursement rates from insurance plans. The FY16 budget request from Mental Health is \$140,560 which represents an increase of \$40,000 or 18.55%.

FY16 Schools Capital Budget

John Hussey provided an overview of the anticipated FY16 Schools Capital Budget including technical costs and furniture, fixtures and equipment costs. FF & E request for FY16 is for \$127,581 which includes instructional equipment of \$16,030, furniture \$68,651 and other costs of \$42,900 which would include digitizing records, installing cameras and purchasing a vision machine. Technology costs would also include infrastructure updates. Capital request for technology costs in FY16 is \$836,549.

The FMD Cash Capital Budget for FY16 reflects Schools \$865,000 and Municipal \$760,000 for a total of \$1,625,000.

Three budget scenarios will be presented to the School Board for consideration: 4.55% increase, 5.2% increase and 5.9% increase.

Approval of Minutes

Mason Smith made a motion to approve the minutes of December 10, 2014. The motion was seconded and the minutes were approved unanimously by a show of hands.

Liaison Reports

The Chair asked for liaison reports and various members of the Advisory Committee provided their reports.

New Business/Old Business

The Warrant will close on Friday, January 9th for the Annual Town Meeting in 2015.

The Town is anticipating a Special Town Meeting in early 2015 to address the purchase of the North 40 sale if the Town is successful in securing the property from Wellesley College.

The Advisory Committee will meet at 6:45 p.m. on January 7, 2014 in the Juliani Room of Town Hall.

Mr. Patten adjourned the meeting at 10:07 p.m. with no objections.