

Advisory Committee
January 19, 2016
Felix Juliani Meeting Room, Town Hall

Public Hearing for February 1 Special Town Meeting

Tom Frisardi called the public hearing for the 2016 February 1 Special Town Meeting Warrant to order at 7:05pm. Each article was presented individually and the public was invited to comment. No one wished to speak. Those present included Mary Crown, Tom Fitzgibbons, Chad Harris, John Hartnett, Mike Hluchyj, Mark Kaplan, Michael Mastrianni, Frank Pinto, Alena Poirier, Sara Raveret, Mason Smith, Ria Stolle, Scott Tarbox, and Kathleen Woodward.

Tom Frisardi asked Board of Selectmen Chair David Murphy to discuss the unresolved issues still being discussed for each of the STM Motions.

A motion was made by Sara Raveret to adjourn the 2016 STM Public Hearing. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands. Tom Frisardi adjourned the 2016 STM Public Hearing at 7:20pm.

Tom Frisardi called the meeting of the Wellesley Advisory Committee to order at 7:20 p.m.

Citizen Speak

No one wished to speak at this time.

Board of Selectmen (BOS), general government services budget for FY17

BOS Chair David Murphy, Fire Chief Richard DeLorie, Assistant Fire Chief Jeffrey Peterson, Facilities Director Joe McDonough, Deputy Chief of Police Jack Pilecki, Police Lieutenant Marie Cleary, Executive Director Hans Larsen, and Finance and Budget Analyst James Ryan addressed the Advisory Committee.

Hans Larsen reviewed the existing Town government organization chart and the departments and appointments that fall under the BOS purview. He also described the responsibilities of the BOS, including licensing and union contracts. The current FY17 budget request is \$22,778,689, which is \$633,547 more than FY16 and a 2.86% increase. The current request is \$79,918 over the 2.5% guideline. Changes include adding 1.5 Facilities Maintenance Department (FMD) FTE related to the assumption of responsibility for maintenance of Department of Public Works (DPW) buildings (eight in total); .5 FTE to increase a part-time Building Inspector to full-time; 1.0 FTE for a Police civilian IT resource; and .5 FTE for Sustainable Energy Committee support.

Joe McDonough reviewed the FMD Operating Budget. The FMD is responsible for 20 Town buildings. The FY17 budget request is \$7,114,149—an increase of \$212,480, or 3.08%. The request includes an added 1.5 FTE; 1 FTE to be a Maintenance Control Technician (to monitor all HVAC systems, diagnose problems, and solve problems); and an added .5 FTE to the Office Clerk position (due to the added work of assuming responsibility for the maintenance of eight DPW buildings). Advisory members asked about outsourcing work vs. keeping work “in house,” especially for the new Maintenance Control Technician and custodians.

Deputy Chief of Police Jack Pilecki explained the Police Department organization chart, current staff positions, shift capacities, and the budget request of \$5,848,828. The Police Department is requesting an additional 1.0 FTE for a Civilian IT Programmer/Analyst. Currently one of the detectives fills this role, and it takes away time from police duties. Even with this increase, the Police Department budget request is 2.15% over the FY16 budget (well within the 2.5% guidelines). Advisory members asked whether this role could be filled with the Town IT Department; it was explained that the police IT work is very specialized and involves privacy issues.

Fire Chief Richard DeLorie reviewed the Fire Department’s FY17 budget request of \$5,176,432 (a 2.49% increase). The Fire Department responded to 4,097 calls for service this year. The Chief reviewed the Fire

Department organization chart, current staff positions (57 FTEs), and department priorities. Advisory members asked about the ambulance services for the Town and how the neighboring towns' fire departments work together.

Hans Larsen explained other components to the BOS budget, including Shared Services (Risk Management, Injured on Duty, Legal, Street Lighting, and the Audit Committee), Employee Benefits, Health Insurance, and Pension and OPEB Funding. He also reviewed the Planned Debt Exclusions (Tolles Parsons May 2016, Hardy/Hunnewell/Upham [HHU] FY18/FY20, and Middle School renovations FY18) and the projected tax bill impact they will have. The Median Tax Bill for FY17 is expected to be \$12,070, a 3% increase. An override is expected for FY18. Advisory members' questions included questions about "inside the levy" borrowing vs. "outside the levy" borrowing, police detail and revenue from it, and budgeting for upcoming union contracts.

Discussion and vote on motions for February 1 Special Town Meeting

The Advisory Committee discussed the STM Advisory Report due to the printer the following day. Because the BOS had not finalized the Motions for the STM, no votes were taken. Advisory members discussed the proposed bylaw amendments and how Advisory's role will evolve going forward.

Liaison Reports

Advisory members gave updates on schools, HHU, PBC, and 900 Worcester Street.

Old business/new business

Mason Smith pointed out that as soon as the Warrant for the ATM is finalized by the BOS, write-up assignments for the articles need to be assigned for the Advisory Report. First drafts of write-ups are due 2/19/16.

Approval of Minutes

No minutes were approved.

Adjourn

The Advisory Committee will hold its next meeting on January 27th in the Juliani Room of Town Hall.

Tom Frisardi adjourned the meeting at 10:25 with no objections.