

Approved March 23, 2022

**Advisory Committee Meeting
Zoom Video Conference
Wednesday, March 9, 2022, 6:30 p.m.**

Those present from Advisory Committee included Shawn Baker, Tom Cunningham, Jake Erhard, Jenn Fallon, Neal Goins, Jeff Levitan, Corinne Monahan, Doug Smith, Susan Clapham, Al Ferrer, Wendy Paul, Pete Pedersen, Madison Riley, Patti Quigley.

Neal Goins called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and introduced members of Advisory in attendance.

Citizen Speak

There was no one present for Citizen Speak.

Discuss and Vote 2022 ATM Warrant Articles

Article 3

Shawn Baker made and Corinne Monahan seconded a motion favorable action on Warrant Article 3, as proposed by the Select Board, that the Town vote to act on certain articles set forth in this warrant by a single vote, pursuant to a consent agenda. The Advisory Committee has recommended favorable action unanimously on each of the articles to be included in the consent agenda, and they are:

<i>Article 4:</i>	<i>Amend Job Classification Plan</i>
<i>Article 7.2:</i>	<i>FY22 Supplemental Appropriations</i>
<i>Article 10:</i>	<i>Injured on Duty Stabilization Fund Contribution from Free Cash</i>
<i>Article 11:</i>	<i>Special Education Reserve Fund Contribution from Free Cash</i>
<i>Article 12:</i>	<i>Baler Stabilization Fund Contribution from Free Cash</i>
<i>Article 14:</i>	<i>Sewer Program</i>
<i>Article 15:</i>	<i>Electric Program</i>
<i>Article 26:</i>	<i>Uber/Lyft Funds</i>
<i>Article 30:</i>	<i>Wellesley Housing Authority Board Composition</i>
<i>Article 34:</i>	<i>Amend Definition of Child Care Facility</i>
<i>Article 42:</i>	<i>Amend Sign Bylaw</i>
<i>Article 43:</i>	<i>Amend Zoning Bylaw</i>
<i>Article 49:</i>	<i>Appoint Fire Engineers</i>

Discussion

- There was an update on water budget provided by David Cohen and the Board of Public Works (BPW) approved a revised budget that moves \$5.3 million from FY23 to FY24. Notable changes are the deferment of the permanent PFAS solution and the addition of dollars to maintain the interim solution in FY24. Also included are the projections for rate increases. There was a revised estimate from the MWRA that resulted in a decrease of \$101,000. And there were minor adjustments for IT services.
- There was a discussion about the need to postpone the permanent solution until more data is available.
- A question was asked as to the groups that are the highest consumer of water in town. ...
 - The larger the property, the more water is consumed. Wellesley College has its own irrigation system.
- A comment was made that there is believed to be an inequity of water rates for those on fixed income. And a concern about the rate increase was expressed.

Approved March 23, 2022

- The rate structure is built so the highest users pay the higher rates. Rate hearings will be held in April.
- A question was asked as to when the Morses Pond well will be back online.
 - Work has begun and the hope is to bring the well back online at the end of April or beginning of May.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory recommends favorable action on Article 3, 13 to 0.

Article 8, Motion 2 – Supportive and Unsupportive votes for budgets that are out of budget guideline.

Rescind supportive/unsupportive votes

Shawn Baker made and Patti Quigley seconded a motion to rescind Advisory’s supportive votes of the out of budget guideline for the Climate Action Committee, the Planning Board, Risk Management, the Recreation Commission, the Board of Health, and the Natural Resources Commission as the amounts voted on did not include benefits and merit pay increases.

Discussion

- Clarification was provided as to why the vote is being rescinded. The previously voted numbers did not include benefits and merit pay increases. Advisory needs to vote on the full increase.
- The chart with the COLA increases was presented and reviewed to explain the need to rescind previous votes and revote.
- A question was asked as to why the Board of Assessors over budget guideline.
 - This is the second year of two-year contract with a consultant to analyze and value all residential and commercial property. With new development and the extra work required with the 40R this budget increased by \$3,000
- A comment was made that the increases for some of these departments are very large.
 - It was clarified that this is not a step and lane issue. The third column of the chart shows a department’s allocation of the Merit Pay Plan, which is only for 50 series employees, like department heads. Each of these budgets were discussed by Advisory. Article 5 was voted by Advisory and is separate from the budget. The big jumps in some of these budgets are the result of adding new staff and the benefits for those new hires. Programmatic changes also add to these increases.
- A question was asked as to where the \$20,000 in benefits for full time equivalent employees is coming from.
 - It is the rule that when a department adds a FTE the department pays the first year of benefits. After that the benefits go into the base budget.

Approved March 23, 2022

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory rescinded its vote taken on March 3, 2022, 13 to 0.

CAC FY23 Operating Budget

Shawn Baker made and Doug Smith seconded a motion for support for the proposed FY23 Climate Action Committee operating budget, including benefits and merit pool allocations, which will result in an 73% (\$57,696) increase over FY22.

Discussion

- A question was asked if this budget includes the \$25,000 consultant and bringing an employee to full time.
 - The consultant is on the capital budget not in the operating budget.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - no
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – no
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory supports the Climate Action Committee FY23 operating budget, 11 to 2.

Planning Budget FY23 Operating Budget

Shawn Baker made and Jenn Fallon seconded a motion for support for the proposed FY23 Planning Board’s operating budget, including benefits and merit pool allocations, which will result in a 28% (\$74,378) increase over FY22.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes

Approved March 23, 2022

Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory supports the Planning Department’s FY23 operating budget, 13 to 0.

Risk Management FY23 Operating Budget

Shawn Baker made and Corinne Monahan seconded a motion for support for the FY23 Risk Management operating budget, including benefits and merit pool allocations, which will result in an 8% (\$51,378) increase over FY22.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory supports the Risk Management FY23 operating budget, 13 to 0.

Recreation Commission FY23 Operating Budget

Shawn Baker made and Al Ferrer seconded a motion for support for the FY23 Recreation Commission’s operating budget, including benefits and merit pool allocations, which will result in an 6% (\$25,242) increase over FY22.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – no
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory supports the Recreation Commission’s FY23 operating budget, 12 to 1.

Board of Health FY23 Operating Budget

Shawn Baker made and Doug Smith seconded a motion for support for the FY23 Board of Health's operating budget, including benefits and merit pool allocations, which will result in a 6% (\$59,693) increase over FY22.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory supports the Board of Health's FY23 operating budget, 13 to 0.

Natural Resources Commission FY23 Operating Budget

Shawn Baker made and Al Ferrer seconded a motion for support for the FY23 Natural Resources Commission operating budget, including benefits, which will result in a 25% (\$67,218) increase over FY22.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - no
Doug Smith – no
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - no
Madison Riley – no
Shawn Baker – no

Advisory supports the Natural Resources Commission FY23 operating budget, 9 to 4.

Board of Assessors FY23 Operating Budget

Shawn Baker made and Jenn Fallon seconded a motion for support for the FY23 Board of Assessors operating budget, including benefits, which will result in a 3% (\$13,718) increase over FY22.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan – yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes

Approved March 23, 2022

Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer -
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory supports the Board of Assessors FY23 operating budget, 12 to 0.

Department of Public Works FY23 Operating Budget

Shawn Baker made and Jeff Levitan seconded a motion for support for the FY23 Department of Public Works operating budget, including benefits, which will result in a 2.76% increase over FY22.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer -
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory supports the Department of Public Works FY23 operating budget, 12 to 0.

Article 13

Shawn Baker made and Doug Smith seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 13, as proposed by the Board of Public Works, that the Town vote to appropriate the sum of \$11,586,265 to the Water Enterprise Fund, to be expended under the direction of the Board of Public Works for the purposes of operating and managing the Water Program, as set forth in the Warrant and Motion.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory recommends favorable action on Article 13, 13 to 0.

Article 31

Shawn Baker made and Susan Clapham seconded a motion for favorable action on Warrant Article 31, as proposed by the Recreation Commission, that the Town vote to amend the General Bylaws by adding a new subsection to establish a non-criminal disposition for individuals who use Town Recreational Resources for commercial gain without a Permit as provided in the Warrant and the Motion.

Discussion

- A comment was made that it was thought that the first offense would be a warning and disappointed was expressed that wasn't in there. Therefore, without the warning position it was felt this article could not be supported
- Confusion was expressed about how people knew of the procedures to sign up with instructions and rules.
 - This article is simply about making sure that the people who are giving instruction in town are properly credentialed. And people giving the lessons should know that this is required because other towns have this. This is not about solving the load problem on the courts. It is understood that if an instructor uses any town resources that the Recreation Commission is where a permit is procured. There is paperwork that needs to be completed. This particular article is solely looking to put in place a structure for those who are using courts for private gain.
- A comment was made that the language is very broad and as drafted it's not clear. It was further questioned whether this would impact residents.
 - If someone is being paid to provide lessons then this is to enforce the bylaw provision that is already in place but there is no penalty. This article adds the penalty to the existing bylaw. Questions were circulated with answers from Recreation regarding what peer communities do in this regard.
- Concern was expressed that this might hit some unintended people. It was further commented that the motion language as presented says individuals and doesn't specify instructors.
 - If you are making money on the courts then this applies you.
- The professionals who are using the courts and who aren't registered, don't have CORI, W-9 filed, and liability insurance. This Article is specifically for instructors who are not permitted.
- Confusion was expressed over the Article and motion
- The bylaw language and the proposed addition to the bylaw were reviewed.
- A question was asked whether signup procedures for the courts, similar to what is done at Morses Pond, had been considered.
 - This is not an article solely because of tennis. There are issues at other field resources. This is putting in place a uniform system to get people to be permitted and with the appropriate paperwork filed with Recreation.
 - Morses Pond has an entrance and exit. On the fields and tennis courts, often it is not known who is supposed to be there and who isn't. This is to ensure that instructors are credentialed in the town. It's a two-step process.
 - This is not about managing the sign-up process. It is licensing in the sense of CORI review and liability for the safety of residents.
- A question was asked if high school kids who coach and umpire are required to register.
 - This applies to the individual conducting the business of coaching on a particular field and this is different than the permitting for the use of the field.
 - Umpires and refs are hired by league that has games and there is a certain process that they go through with the league. They are not permitted through the town.

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes

Approved March 23, 2022

Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – no
Jake Erhard – no
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - no
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

Advisory recommends favorable action on Article 31, 10 to 3.

Minutes Approval/Liaison Reports/Administrative Items

Liaison Reports

Schools/Susan Clapham – an update of the recent School Committee meeting was provided and included a midyear review of goals for year; vote to approve Article 31; discussion of the proposed updated plan on bullying; report on the Hunnewell lighting, bathrooms, and team rooms. Schools are proceeding ahead with the bathroom; reducing the number of stalls and proposing one building; not two. NRC will meet on March 17 to discuss the lights.

DPW/Pete Pedersen – BPW met yesterday to discuss the PFAS issue. Regulatory situation is evolving as is the overall impact.

- A suggestion was made to have a town wide discussion on water conservation.

Coming Attractions

- The Advisory Report is scheduled to go to the printer on Monday, March 14.

Minutes

Madison Riley made and Pete Pedersen seconded a motion to approve the March 2, 2022 and March 3, 2022 minutes and to adjourn the meeting

Roll Call Vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
Corinne Monahan - yes
Patti Quigley - yes
Tom Cunningham – yes
Jake Erhard – yes
Jeff Levitan - yes
Doug Smith – yes
Susan Clapham - yes
Al Ferrer - yes
Wendy Paul – yes
Pete Pedersen - yes
Madison Riley – yes
Shawn Baker – yes

March 2, 2022 and March 3, 2022 minutes were approved, 13 to 0.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Documents Reviewed

<https://wellesley.ma.gov/DocumentCenter/Index/1633>

- FY23 Operating Budget with COLA