

Approved October 26, 2021

**Advisory Committee Meeting
Zoom Video Conference
Monday, October 25, 2021, 6:30 p.m.**

Those present from Advisory Committee included Neal Goins, Tom Cunningham, Shawn Baker, Jennifer Fallon, Jake Erhard, John Lanza, Corinne Monahan, Jeff Levitan, 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.

Discussion on STM Warrant Article 6

It was reported that there is on-going discussion around PFAS that may result in a revised motion. An update on the known details was provided. As of today's 5 p.m., DPW/BPW meeting, DPW/BPW stands by Article 6 as written but is willing to talk about the 2nd part of the motion – the long-term solution. DPW/BPW feels strongly that it is necessary to proceed with first part of the motion which is the interim fix. DPW/BPW has drafted a letter to be sent to all Town Meeting members but this letter has not been sent out yet by DPW/BPW.

At tonight's Select Board meeting members were discussing Article 6 and the possibility of a one article Winter Town Meeting. Advisory will follow up with BPW/DPW regarding whether there will be revised motion language or amount and the Select Board on the conclusion of their meeting with representatives of the BPW/DPW last evening.

Advisory will not re-vote but will wait to see if there is a revised motion.

- A question was asked if there is flexibility in the motion to go in a different direction if there is more information as it seems important to approve the funds so DPW can move forward as needed.
 - The understanding is that there is flexibility in the ARPA request. At this point DPW/BPW stands by Article 6 subject to input from SB. The purpose of Article 6 can't be changed but it can be shortened and the appropriation request reduced. At this point we are listening to input from people around town. The sense is waiting to Annual Town Meeting will be too long and adding in a study component to the current Article and motion would not fit within the four corners of the original Warrant Article language.
- A comment was made that the original support was for the entire amount to be spent on the proposed water treatment and that it's important to know where the money is being spent if the Article is changed.
- A comment was made that the consultant during the DPW/BPW meeting believed that a longer delay would cause a delay in getting the equipment.
- A question was asked if there was any discussion of a state response to this as there is an understanding that it is expected that State guidelines will come out in the next couple of months.
 - There was no discussion on this at the DPW/BPW meeting.
- A question was asked as to the cause of the delay and if it is a supply chain issue?
 - The sense is that it is a supply chain issue and many towns are making requests for this equipment. The consultant mentioned it could be a supply chain issues as well.

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- A question was asked as to the length of time for project?
 - At this time, the PFAS treatment schedule was known to be a moving target, but as originally conceived Advisory did receive information on the length of time for the project.
- A comment was made that a phased approach and a breakup of the appropriation was felt to be a better solution.
- A comment was made that the Article as written is for an appropriation for water treatment and the funds can't be redirected to build facilities to get more pumping power from the MWRA.
- A question was asked as to whether there had been a request for a feasibility study.
 - There has not been a feasibility study and DPW/BPW was to refine the numbers, but the numbers have not been refined. \$1.5 million is for the interim solution. DPW/BPW wants to make sure we do not get stuck next summer with a water shortage and this is why they want to move forward with the interim solution.

Adjourn

Shawn Baker made and Jenn Fallon seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Roll call vote

Jennifer Fallon – yes
John Lanza – 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

Meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m., 14 to 0.