

Advisory Committee

Meeting June 26, 2023

Minutes

Present at meeting: Peter Cusolito, Chair, Bill Brennan, Sandra Wilson, Mary Kay Hannant, Dorothy Dudley, Ashlyn Coyle

Absent:

The meeting began at 6:00. Ashlyn Coyle told members she is resigning, effective after this meeting.

We approved the minutes of the June 12, 2023 meeting – SW motion, MH second - unanimous

We recessed our meeting to move to meet with the Selectboard regarding required transfers to close out fye 2023.

The first item on the transfer of funds agenda was to approve \$20,000 to the Fire Department Chief Dupuis stated the major causes for the under budget was due to 48 more calls this year than 2022, and more mutual aid calls than previously. (this is always an unknown). It was noted for June 53% of the calls were mutual aid. A note was made stating eventually we will require at least a “hybrid” type department of some fighters full time and some call, or a fully staffed fire department.

We voted to approve the transfer for the Fire Department – AC motion SW second – unanimous

EMS enterprise fund requested \$61,000.00 to cover their \$73,017.00 under budget number. Brian listed the reasons, noting one IOD incident requiring utilizing general fund,s(workers compensation), will be paid by insurance in fy 2024. We also had expenses surround an investigation and admin leave, shift coverage costs. <Within the discussion it was strongly suggestion EMS provide the Advisory Committee and the Selectboard with State sanctioned accounting forms monthly.>

We voted to approve the transfer – AC motion, SW second unanimous

We also voted to transfer \$1,000.00 to the Town Hall telephone expense. MH motion, BB second unanimous

The Advisory committee then left the selectboard meeting to reconvene its meeting.

The Committee voted to request the Selectboard to either add the school committee candidates to the special election ballot on November 7, 2023 or provide the ability to vote 1 hour prior to the Fall Town Meeting for the school committee election, usually in October, thus providing for a full elected school committee as soon as possible. Motion SW second MH unanimous

There was a brief discussion surrounding the situation with the State Police use of the former Middle School for training and any fees received for such. The Police have been using the school since last fall for training, to date, we have seen no fees. It was noted we should be receiving, at the very least funds to cover costs of electricity, water, sewer, cleaning, wear and tear. This will be discussed at another meeting since the town is looking for income, and good will should not be expected uninterrupted.

Their will be a joint meeting of Selectboard, School Committee, and Advisory Committee in July. It was noted we would like to have received year end accounting prior to the meeting if possible.

Elections of new officers on the committee were voted as follows:

Peter Cusolito – Chair – unanimous

Sandy Wilson – Vice Chair – 5-1-0

Sandy Willson agreed to act as Clerk until this position can be filled

Peter regretfully received the resignations of Ashlyn Coyle and Dorothy Dudley with thanks.

We discussed beginning the budget process in August – possibly as soon as the final fy '23 numbers are in, so we can review with each department where/why overages or shortages occurred.

Fire department is currently in a negative position due to 3 significant fires.

Motion was made by SW, seconded by dd. To adjourn at 7:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Dorothy Dudley, Acting Clerk