

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Anderson acting as Chairman at 7:02 p.m. in the Third Floor Conference Room A. The meeting was not live cablecast. Mr. Stumpf was delayed in traffic and arrived at 7:06 p.m.

In attendance were Chairman S. Jon Stumpf (arrived at 7:06 p.m.), Linn Anderson, Margaret (Peggy) Kruse, Eugenie (Janie) Moffitt, Greg Serrao, Bonnie Zahorik, Max Arai and Joanne Marden. Absent were John Barry, Jr. and Finance Director, Donna Walsh.

Approval of Minutes**April 29, 2015**

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Marden and seconded by Ms. Kruse, it was voted to approve the above minutes. Motion passed 5-0-2 with Mr. Arai and Ms. Zahorik abstaining.

May 4, 2015

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Serrao and seconded by Ms. Kruse, it was voted to approve the above minutes. Motion passed 6-0-1 with Mr. Arai abstaining.

May 5, 2015

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Serrao and seconded by Ms. Moffitt, it was voted to approve the above minutes. Motion passed 6-0-1 with Mr. Arai abstaining.

May 11, 2015

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Serrao and seconded by Ms. Moffitt, it was unanimously voted to approve the above minutes. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Stumpf arrived at 7:06 p.m.

March 16, 2015 Joint Meeting, 2015

Upon motion duly made by Ms. Moffitt and seconded by Ms. Marden, it was unanimously voted to approve the above minutes. Motion passed 8-0.

Town Meeting Feedback

Mr. Stumpf asked the Committee to consider one thing it would like to see improved for Town Meeting 2017. It was the consensus of the Committee that communication and timing were top priorities. Among the topics discussed were: a) clarification of the differing roles of the Finance Committee, Board of Selectmen and Town Manager; b) timing of decisions to allow enough time for dialogue before votes by both bodies; c) the need for votes to be taken before FC book is published; d) the desire of Town Meeting that its boards work out disagreements; and e) in addition to Triboard meetings, scheduling meetings individually with School Committee.

Mr. Stumpf noted that he had already met with Ms. Gilbert and Ms. O'Donoghue, and they agreed that Triboard meetings would be scheduled much earlier in the year, possibly in October, to discuss key issues of taxing to the levy limit or not, etc.

Discussion also ensued with regard to Mr. Arai's suggestions for change in the development of the Finance Committee Report.

Liaison Updates

IT – Ms. Zahorik reported that she had attended the IT Advisory Committee Meeting. Of concern to the Committee was the inadequacy of the fundamental infrastructure of remote access points to support the one-on-one initiative. An additional \$80-125K would be needed to address this issue. Mr. Stumpf noted that building infrastructure was part of the original plan and questioned why additional monies were being requested. Ms. Zahorik will question whether this expense can be handled within the operating budget.

School – Ms. Moffitt and Mr. Serrao reported that end-of-year numbers would not be available until September. Mr. Stumpf noted that FY15 surplus monies would be expended in order to alleviate the draw on the Special Education Reimbursement Fund. Mr. Stumpf suggested that a new Budget Book be published reflecting the change in the Town Meeting appropriation.

Retirement – Ms. Marden reported that the Retirement Board meets on Thursday, May 28 @ 8:00AM. The state investment firm PRIT would be in attendance.

OPEB – Mr. Stumpf reported that the OPEB subcommittee has appointed liaisons from the three Boards, and John Barry is liaison for the Finance Committee.

Elder Services – Ms. Anderson reported that the senior needs study was available and would be emailed to members. She also noted that there is a new proposal pending for senior housing of 200+ units on River Road at the Franciscan Monastery site.

Audit – Ms. Moffitt reported that Richard Sullivan of Powers and Sullivan would be replaced by James Powers of the same firm to provide a “fresh set of eyes” to the audit process.

Municipal Services – Ms. Kruse reported a meeting of the Board of Selectmen to discuss the landfill was scheduled for Monday, June 1st.

Other

Ms. Moffitt suggested a review of the Capital Request Evaluation Form. Mr. Stumpf to email to members.

Ms. Zahorik suggested a form similar to the Capital Request Evaluation Form be adapted and used by department heads when requesting funding or new employees.

Mr. Serrao suggested that the Illinois situation with regard to pension benefits be closely followed.

Next Meeting

July 15th – requested by Ms. Walsh to address FY2015 year end.

There was general discussion about the budget line items where the Finance Committee’s recommended appropriation was different from that of the Board of Selectmen or the School Committee. No votes were taken to change those recommendations.

Adjournment

Upon motion duly made by Mr. Serrao and seconded by Ms. Moffitt, it was unanimously voted to adjourn. Motion passed 8-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Martin Barraford
Recording Secretary

Capital Improvements Evaluation - Checklist
FY16 Departmental Subcommittee/Liaison Assignments
FY15 School Budget Book
FY13 Andover Senior Needs Study