

TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
DATE 4/9/2014

Committee Members Present: Paul DeFazio, Tracey Metivier, Jeff Anderson, Kevin Powers, Larry Stern, Thom Freeman, Sue Dring, Heidi Krockta, Cal Calnan, Patrick Mosesso, John Chlebek, Larry Thomas

Members Absent:

Others Present: Lorraine Brue, Ginny Coppola, Steve Udden, Dick Heydecker, Janet Kennedy

Notes taken by: Kristin Meehan Papianou

The meeting was brought to order at 7:00PM by Paul DeFazio, Chairman.

7:05PM Motion to accept Article 1 as written brought by Tracey Metivier. Seconded by Heidi Krockta.
VOTE: 10-0-0

Motion to accept Article 2 as written by Tracey Metivier. Seconded by John Chlebek.
VOTE: 10-0-0

Motion to accept Article 3 as written by Tracey Metivier. Seconded by Heidi Krockta.
VOTE: 10-0-0

Discussion of the personnel by-law Article 6. Thom advised that he's waiting for some information from the new Town Manager. Ad Comm agreed to hold this.

Article 7 – there is no fire contract and it's not anticipated that there will be.

Article 8 – Dispatch is assigned to Patrick Mosesso. Will be discussed at a future meeting.

Article 9 - Highway Contract. Jeff Anderson advised that this was the same as last year. AdComm voted to support it last year but it wasn't ratified by the union, so it's back this year. This year it's a one year deal. Discussion of the increases. The weekend call duty is one of the more expensive items. The guys have to be on call for snow emergencies. Water and Sewer is always on call and that rate is going from \$15 to \$17 per hour. He is waiting for the total impact to the budget calculation, but overall Jeff recommends that AdComm approve the Article as written.

7:15PM Motion to accept Article 9 as written by Patrick Mosesso. Seconded by Cal.
VOTE: 8-0-2

Abstaining: Sue Dring and Heidi Krockta.

Article 10 – Library Contract. Kevin Powers discussed the increase (2% for 2014 and 2015 each) equates to approximately \$11,000 annually. Discussion of the increase rate historically as well as in comparison to other departments. Tracey asked if the Sunday funding is separate and Kevin confirmed that it is. Paul asked if this 2% is in addition to step raises or is it a flat 2%. Kevin wasn't certain and said he would follow up if AdComm would hold. Discussion of the steps and the way this is addressed by other contracts and what steps are. Paul expressed a desire for the people of town to understand what the employees of the town are actually being paid. The step piece can be behind the scenes.

7:20PM Larry Thomas arrived at the meeting.

7:25PM Motion to accept article 10 as written brought by Tracey Metivier. Seconded by Sue Dring.

VOTE: 12-0-0

Article 11 Middle Managers contract. Larry Stern is the liaison and advised he'd have some information next week.

Article 12 Budget Adjustments. Heidi advised that she met with Randy Scollins. Discussion of the inspections that are contracted. This money is for those inspections. The funding is coming from the unemployment expense budget and from the WC budget. Jeff Anderson asked for a hold on this article for more of an explanation unless Heidi is confident on it. She indicated that she was. Discussion of the money coming from the other budgets. Larry Stern asked why we have so much extra money in the accounts that we're moving it from. Additional discussion of the funding source.

7:30PM Motion to accept Article 12 as proposed brought by Thom Freeman. Seconded by Heidi Krockta.

VOTE 12-0-0

Article 13 – Unpaid bill for \$148.00 for Sturdy Memorial.

Motion to accept Article 13 as written by Heidi Krockta. Seconded by Thom Freeman.

VOTE: 12-0-0

Article 14 Revolving Funds. Held. Larry Stern will speak to it next week.

Article 15 OPEB Liability, Larry Stern liaison. This puts money into a trust fund to earn money for us. The deposit comes from the meals tax. Discussion of the funding and the benefits of making this investment.

7:35 PM Motion to accept Article 15 as written brought by Jeff Anderson. Seconded by Larry Thomas.

VOTE: 12-0-0

Article 16 Expend Highway Funds. Cal is holding pending some additional questions that he is waiting for answers on.

Article 17 Personnel Bylaw Recommended changes, Thom Freeman. This is just a name change for by-law purposes. Lorraine Brue said that they changed the wording to “replace town administrator with Town Manager or designee”. Board of Selectmen voted in favor.

Motion to accept Article 17 as written by Thom Freeman. Seconded by Tracey Metivier.

VOTE 11-0-1

Heidi abstaining.

Article 18 Amend Senior Tax Program, Thom Freeman liaison. Thom discussed this with Randy – it pertains to credits and tax on the credits. That the credits need to be treated as income. The number of people involved has varied from 18 – 40 per year. This is to bring us into compliance with state and federal law. Tracey asked what is different in this article from the way this works today. Currently they haven’t been considered employees of the town and we are required to do that. Several AdCom members asked that this be held for Randy to come in to answer more questions.

7:45PM Article 19 Master Plan Appropriations, Sue Dring. We voted to support this last year and they didn’t use the money so they are asking for it again. They want to use the money for studies for Route 1 planning. Larry Thomas said that this one is important. It will look at the zoning and let the town people weigh in on what they want to do out there. It will also help us understand the impact of the racino.

7:50PM Motion to accept Article 19 as written by Heidi Krockta. Seconded by Larry Thomas.

VOTE: 11-0-1

Kevin Powers abstaining.

Article 20 Special Legislation for sale of State Hospital Property. Agreement to hold on Planning Board articles until they have their hearing tomorrow.

Article 21, Easement, Patrick Mosesso. Discussion of the horseshoe courts being moved next year.

Motion to accept Article 21 as written brought by Tracey Metivier. Seconded by Sue Dring.

VOTE: 12-0-0

Article 22, Solar, Heidi Krockta liaison. Heidi advised that the contract is signed with Power Options and is pending approval of the town. No money exchanges hands with this deal. We will be credited back our utilities for the municipal buildings. Vendor will assume all maintenance and testing, which is a savings to us. They expect to generate about 2 million kilowatts. Easton, Canton and Wrentham are already doing this. Roger reached out to the other local towns to compare contractual rates. No neighbors are going to be impacted.

Dick Heydecker asked what this does to the methane issue. Heidi said there is no cost of this package. The vendor is taking over the testing of the site. Heidi recommends that we support the article. There are no known safety risks and no impacted neighbors. Question raised as to where this will tie in. That

was unknown. John Chlebek asked if there is any additional liability on the town as a result. Are we paying higher insurance premiums as a result? Heidi said there is no cost to the town.

AdComm agreed that Randy Scollins and Bob Cutler would be asked to come back to speak further to this article.

Article 23 Child Safety Committee. Larry Thomas said that they would like to come in to speak. They will come in next week around 7:45. Jim DeVellis and others will present.

Article 24, MGL Chapter 40 section 22G, Jeff Anderson liaison. Jeff advised that two years ago Foxboro accepted section 8J which is a disability commission, but it's unfunded. This section allows them to get a funding source. Specifically, this means they will get the ticket funds from tickets issued to people who park in handicap spots. They can then spend this money on town specific projects. They cannot spend it on private homeowner projects. Last year they collected about \$3000 in fines for this. It's about \$100 per ticket. Larry Thomas suggested that this group be invited to speak at AdComm. Paul DeFazio will reach out.

8:05PM Motion to accept Article 24 as written by Tracey Metivier. Seconded by Jeff Anderson.

VOTE: 12-0-0

Article 25 MGL Ch. 41 section 81U, Tracey Metivier. Allows the town to take bond money to finish work abandoned by builders. This removes some red tape and improves conditions for people who live in the impacted area.

8:10PM Motion to accept Article 25 as written brought by Larry Thomas. Seconded by Heidi Krockta.

VOTE: 11-0-1

Larry Stern abstaining

Article 26, fines for concert violations. John Chlebek, liaison. He isn't prepared to move forward with this but he did have questions. Lorraine Brue said this is a new law, it was implemented for one concert in the past and they decided to continue it. John asked where this money would end up. Lorraine advised in the General Fund. She also advised that there are times when performers make a special request to go long and those are considered on a case by case basis. Larry Thomas said that the Kraft Group didn't have any issue with this and Lorraine agreed with that. There's no impact to the Patriot games.

8:15PM Motion to accept Article 26 as written brought by Jeff Anderson. Seconded by Tracey Metivier.

VOTE: 12-0-0

Article 27 and 28 are being skipped pending the planning board meeting tomorrow.

Discussion of the impact of a no action vote at Town Meeting and procedural discussion.

Article 29, Adoption of General Bylaw, Kevin Powers liaison. Kevin advised that this is about the recodification of all the by-laws. None of the substance has changed. The ordering and the sequencing has been updated. There will be an annual fee of \$1000 - \$1500 to update it. Town Counsel hasn't looked at this. Bob Cutler, Sharon Wason and Bill Casbarra have all reviewed it and they have found a few things that need changing. Kevin suggested an alternative to voting for this now is to take no action now and bring it back in the fall after Town Counsel has had a chance to review it.

Tracey Metivier asked why we didn't have town counsel review it. Lorraine Brue said that there was group who was responsible for this. She views this as housekeeping. Larry Thomas asked if there's any way that people can look at this prior to town meeting. Discussion of whether we have a contract with the vendor who did this work for us and if they retain any liability for clerical errors.

Ad Comm agreed to hold this to have Bob Cutler in to discuss it further.

Article 30 will be held for discussion along with Article 29.

Articles 31 – 35 are being held as they are planning board articles.

8:30 PM Larry Thomas advised that today the schools hired an MIT graduate to teach math, computer science and robotics to teach at the high school.

Larry Stern said that over the last few weeks there have been a number of crises across town that required our first responders. He wanted to recognize the people who do that work.

In light of the loss of Lakeview Pavilion this week, Kevin Powers shared that in the early part of the 20th century Foxboro was hosting concerts. Duke Ellington played at Lakeview Ballroom in the mid 1920's. Busses were run from the center of town down to Lakeview because there wasn't enough parking. The building was constructed during 1908 and they are going to rebuild.

8:40 PM Motion to accept the minutes from 4/3/14 as amended brought by Tracey Metivier. Seconded by Paul DeFazio.

VOTE: 10-0-2

Sue Dring and Tracey Metivier abstaining.

8:41 Motion to adjourn by Jeff Anderson. Seconded by Tracey Metivier.

VOTE: 12-0-00

Minutes approved by Vote of the Advisory Committee.

Date of Meeting:

Vote:

Signature of Chairperson

Signature of Secretary