

OFFICE OF THE **Advisory Board TOWN HALL 511 MAIN STREET DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313** (978) 649-4514 x222 FAX (978) 649-4371 finance@dunstable-ma.gov

April 23, 2012 Meeting Minutes

Attending: Harold Simmons, Christine Muir, Dana Metzler, Ron Mikol, Joe Dean Absent: Dan St Jean

Meeting opened at 7:05 p.m.

Prior Meeting Minutes

The meeting minutes from April 9 (continued on April 10 and 12) were unanimously approved.

Transfer Requests

There were no transfer requests to consider tonight.

Police FY 13 Budget

For those who did not attend the prior meeting in which we discussed the addition of a police officer, Dana summarized the thinking: We can either add \$50,000 to police overtime (for a total of \$170,000) or combine that \$50,000 with another \$15,000 (from the FY13 recommended allocation for Stabilization, reducing that line item to \$35,000) and get another officer. The members who attended the previous meeting, as well as the Selectmen, feel that there's more value in the second option.

Ron suggested that it's worthwhile to form a committee to study and better understand the entire police budget. Dana recommended that the committee find an informed consultant to work with them. The BoS agreed that this is a good recommendation and they will pursue it.

To accommodate the cost of an additional officer, Joe modified the budget as follows: increased police salaries by \$35,000; increased FICA by \$3000; increased health insurance by \$10,500; dropped Stabilization to \$35,000; increased free cash used to balance the budget to \$60,156.

Fire Station

Interim chief Brian Rich dropped off quotes for repairing the shingles on the fire station roof. The cost is approximately \$2600. Harold pointed out that the roof covers and protects over a million dollars' worth of equipment, so it is worth replacing. Dana recommended that the cost be incorporated into the FY13 budget and not paid with a transfer from free cash. Because some funds are still available in the Fire Dept budget, Joe added \$2000 to the Fire Dept FY 13 budget request to fully fund the roof repair.

Public Hearing

We opened the public hearing at 8:00 p.m. No members of the public were in attendance. All board members present voted to recommend a budget of \$7,926,179.

The board reviewed the warrant articles and voted in favor of all that contained monetary impact. It was noted that Approval 2, 2012 the School Committee has withdrawn its article requesting a Stabilization Account, so we did not yote on that item. Sould Harry

We adjourned at 8:10 p.m.