

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

Advisory board meeting 3 Jan 2012 7PM

Attendance: Harold Simmons, Dana Metzler, Dan St Jean, Ron Mikol, Joe Dean

Absent: Christine Muir

Also present were members of Parks and Recreation - Dave Irattie, Bernard, Jim Tully, Ron Bussler, Brian Locapo, and 2 others

Dana noted that the approval of the minutes will be postponed until next meeting.

Dana stated that there were no transfers requested.

He also stated that he talked with the Fire Chief and he noted that the Fire department will not need additional funding outside of the original estimate.

Burn Sheet review:

We looked at the burn sheet and we had some questions concerning the expenses for the Police vehicles.

Dana said that the Highway department is not sure the town we will be getting any money from FEMA and we are still cleaning up from the 30 Oct Storm.

Council on Aging account is overrunning.

Larter field energy already spent \$1,000 which is what was allocated for the entire year. They indicated that they will take the rest out of their Maintenance fund.

Free Cash - \$170,000 was certified by the state. However, \$61,000 was mistakenly allocated to an expenditure even though the vote at Town Meeting was to take no action. This \$61,000 should have been left to roll into free cash. We cannot spend that money until next year, when our next free cash total is certified. The current free cash balance is \$103,000.

Our revenue was also \$61,000 off from what we anticipated from last year. This year we are ahead by about \$33000 so far and it will roll into free cash next September.

Town Accountant update - Bonnie, Walter, and Dana have picked 4 finalists and will interview tomorrow morning.

Parks and Recreation -

The representatives noted that right now they are looking at funding shortfalls, however they are actively looking for ways to generate more income. They handed out their current expenses and proposed budget for future use. This includes Larter Field and the Town Common. There was some discussion on the approved budget and they currently have

\$20,300 from the town budget. Additional discussion was how they might be able to generate income. David handed out an example of one activity of "Circus Smirkus". There was also discussion to develop a revolving account so they could better utilize their funds.

The budget input sheets have all been sent out.

Police Department - Dana noted that the police department is changing their budget inputs as directed by the board of selectmen and we will be receiving a resubmittal shortly.

Fire Department - The fire chief will retire in March and he noted that to get a replacement Fire Chief would probably cost the town about \$50,000. It was noted that this is only a part time position and that seems to be quite high.

Town Administrator - We discussed that the town really needs to fund a Town Administrator. Dana noted that the Governance committee met today and should have something for the town soon.

Meeting adjourned 8:29PM