

**TOWN OF HULL  
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES**

Date of Meeting: 3/8/2008 Meeting Start: 8:30 am Meeting Adjourned: 12:00 pm

Attendance:

Member	Present	Absent	Others Attending
Charleen Tyson		X with notice	Dennis Blackhall
Joan Senatore	X		Dr. John Silva
Charlie Ryder	X		Chief Richard Billings
Jim Tobin	X		Capt. Sawtelle
John Schmid	X left at 11:30am		Lt. Dale Shea
Dick Kenney	X		Sgt Reilly
Jim O'Brien	X		Off. Sean Fahey
David Clinton	X		Sgt. Neil Reilly
Dennis Zaia		X with notice	Bonnie Walsh
Jay Polito	X		Off. Dan Dunn
Harry Hibbard	X		Off. Sean Conneely
			Off. James Sutherland
			Off. John Coggins
			Sgt. Greg Shea
			Off. Jon Mahoney
			Phil Lemnios

**Minutes of 2/25/2008**

Motion: motion to accept.

Vote:

Member	Made by	Seconded by	In Favor	In Opposition	Abstained
Charleen Tyson					
Joan Senatore			X		
Charlie Ryder			X		
Jim Tobin			X		
Dick Kenney			X		
Jim O'Brien	X		X		
David Clinton			X		
John Schmid			X		
Dennis Zaia					
Jay Polito			X		
Harry Hibbard		X	X		

Comments:

**Warrant Articles**

Cursory look at the Warrant articles draft.

Article 5 should have dollar amounts attached

Article 11 is a non action, sense of the meeting.

Article 16 is same as article 38 last year.

Article 18 is an anticipated discussion item. Town would get beach lot and the property owner would get an abutting land area currently held by town. This will provide relief from prior zoning issues. This is a town sponsored article.

Jim O'Brien asked if we need a handicapped access point there.

Jim Tobin asked if the con com will address illegal openings.

Dave Clinton asked if we would schedule this article for discussion with abutters.

- This will be done.

How does this give the owner relief? TM answered that this will give him the lot coverage, they need.

We should invite Abutters, Town Counsel, and Owner of Property involved.

## **Budget Presentations Presented by Town Manager:**

### **Police Department**

Increase of \$50,586 from FY08

The difference in the Town Mgr. proposal and department request is \$52,039.

Town Manager gave a brief overview of the Police department's budget. No one is really happy with the budget, but recognize the reality of where we stand.

This is the last year we can hang on by fingertips before we have to make cuts that will effect the safety and effectiveness of his personnel.

Chief Billings gave a handout to help explain his presentation.

This presentation lists various statistics for call answering, resident size, etc.

Chief feels strongly that he does not wish to tie his budget to fees. Whether it occurs or not is up to the Board of Selectmen.

Town Manager explained there is a proposal to change the parking permit fees currently being considered by the BOS. This idea is for better regulatory control and to take a fees structure that is more consistent to other towns.

Police officers are worried about positions due to impending budget deficits and some officers are looking lateral transfers already. This can be detrimental to the morale of the work force. The chief explained that he will not lose a police officer due to budget constraints but would instead reduce force through dispatchers or animal control officers.

John Schmid asked about calls being increased. Capt. Answered as economic times are hard, crime increased.

Mutual Aid for Police does not happen unless there is an extreme measure.

Town Manager talks with the state (DCR) to try receive increased coverage by state police in town. Hull Police must respond if call come in from the state reservation.

14 % of police budget is considered for DCR properties. This does not mean that there is 14% to decrease if the state fully staffed the DCR properties.

Jim O'Brien spoke of keeping public informed of these statistics as potential discussions are held for overrides. Jim O. asks for leadership to identify the value for override needs before the discussions begin.

Dennis Blackhall asked why we would be looking to ask for override next year instead of this year.

Town Manager explained that the financial committee determined next year to be better due to order of magnitude.

Overtime hours have consistently decreased which affect man hours that can be used for training, injuries, vacation, and leave that can be used to keep the staff on the street at the same levels.

Fire calls have remained Steady while Police has increased. So the loss of an officer is going to affect the level of service in town.

Harry Hibbard asked what is being lost as staffing has gone down and calls are going up.  
Chief explained that police safety to the department is the answer.

Jay Polito asked if we have reached a point where response times are unacceptable.  
We have not because of the geography but time off street is affected and thus police and public safety.

Chief reiterated that 18 officers is the bottom number of officers that the town can safely afford.

### **Dispatch/Public Safety**

Increase of \$27,308 from FY08.

Increase mostly due to Salaries and service to technology running the dispatch center.

Hull is involved with a 4 town proposal where the federal gov't will provide monies to upgrade Equipment for not only police, but fire and public works

Town manager explained the brief history of how the Public Safety Department was created.

### **Animal Control**

Increase of \$1,196 from FY08.

Budget is from salaries increase from contract.  
Chief praised the ACO from her dedication and work.

### **Department of Public Works**

#### *Highway*

Decrease of \$41,501 from FY08.

This is mostly due to purchase of services and Supplies.

Jim O. asked how long TM will run the department.

TM believes possibly a couple of months.

TM is still looking at changes in structure and possible consolidation with sewer department. TM would be looking to bring a director with and engineering background that we have traditionally been lacking.

#### *Snow and Ice*

Level funded.

*Landfill*

Increase of \$24,173 from FY08.

Increase due to studies that are needed to the final capping.

Fees for recycling sticker may be increased.

Discussion of TM experience with “Pay As You Throw” systems was held.

*Ground Maintenance*

Decrease of \$33,509 from FY08.

Consolidated into one budget the following:

Beach

Cemetery

Litter

Carry in carry out component for beach will be implemented. This means there will be no barrels put on beach. This ease overtime costs and diminishes the horizon for the closure to some measure. This is a cost avoidance issue.

*Watershed Management*

Level funded.

This is the Strait’s Pond tidal gate.

*Park Maintenance*

Decrease of \$4,000 from FY08.

This is due to decrease in supplies.

Due to supplies decreased.

*Capital Expenditures*

Two items are listed:

Sidewalk Plow \$50,000

The current vehicle is 12 year old and not specific to need. It is too wide for most sidewalks.

DPW – Fleet \$20,000 repairs to keep fleet running. Our mechanic has proven to be very creative and accomplished.

## Motion: Adjourn

Vote:

Member	Made by	Seconded by	In Favor	In Opposition	Abstained
Charleen Tyson					
Joan Senatore			X		
Charlie Ryder			X		
Jim Tobin			X		
Dick Kenney			X		
Jim O'Brien			X		
David Clinton			X		
John Schmid					
Dennis Zaia					
Jay Polito	X		X		
Harry Hibbard		X	X		

Comments:

Respectfully submitted;  
David Clinton  
Secretary/Clerk