

AMENDED 2/19/09

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

February 12, 2009

Present: Chairman Elaine Kelly
Janice Hight
Rick Nieber
Dan McInnis
Lynne Winter
Bob D'Amico

Also Present: Town Administrator John W. Coderre
Assistant Town Administrator Kimberly Hood

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman at 7:30 p.m. in Conference Room B.

Approval of minutes

Rick Nieber moved the minutes of the June 5, 2008 meeting be approved; Janice Hight seconded; approved unanimously.

Rick Niber moved the minutes of the October 16, 2008 meeting be approved; Janice Hight seconded; approved unanimously.

Review of Draft CIP

The Town Administrator reviewed the draft FY10 – FY15 CIP in the new format.

Budget Update

The Town Administrator provided an update on the FY09 mid-year State Aid cuts of approximately \$135,000, as well as a \$300,000 projected shortfall in Local Receipts. Capital expenditures were frozen back in October 2008 and departments are currently identifying all areas that can be turned back at year-end. The Town is also pursuing auction of tax title property at 3 East Main Street and 38 King Street.

The Town Administrator reviewed the \$300,000 State Aid cut projected under the Governor's proposed budget for FY10. Local Receipt shortfalls are not anticipated to improve in FY10. In order to maintain level services in FY10, the General Government budget would need approximately a 7% increase. Current projections indicate only a 2.3% increase will be possible.

By consensus, the Appropriations Committee agreed to receive budget summary information at their next meeting to identify what departments should be brought in.

FY'09 Snow & Ice Update

The Town Administrator reviewed the recent opinion article by the Department of Revenue that requires the Appropriations Committee to acknowledge the deficit spending needed in FY09 due to the extreme winter conditions.

Janice Hight moved to authorize deficit spending in the FY09 Snow and Ice budget; Lynne Winter seconded; approved unanimously.

Schedule of Department presentations

Elaine Kelly indicated that a Saturday meeting to review the School budget was set for February 28th from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

By agreement, the Committee requested that the Town Administrator ask the Town's representative to Assabet Valley Regional School District to attend the February 19th meeting to review the FY10 Assessment and Capital needs.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be on Thursday, February 19, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. in the Selectmen's Meeting Room.

Adjournment

Janice Hight moved the meeting be adjourned; Rick Nieber seconded the motion; approved unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John W. Coderre

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