

**Town of Norwell
Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2014**

The Advisory Board was called to order by Tim Greene at 7:30 p.m. Present were: Skip Joseph, George Jamieson, Jacky McClean, Mark Maiellano, Mary Ellen Coffey and Chad Forman. Town Administrator Jim Boudreau was also present.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Acceptance of Minutes: The following minutes were accepted by the AB:

10/3/13 (5-0-2)
12/12/13 (7-0)
1/9/14 (5-0-2)
2/18/14 (3-0-4)
3/6/14 (5-0-2)

Bills: none

Transfer Requests: none

Correspondence/Notices: The AB is in receipt of two memos from Town Administrator Jim Boudreau. One is regarding a Town Meeting Forum hosted by the Norwell Board of Selectmen on Wednesday, April 30, 2014 at 7:00 at the Osborn Room. The second memo is regarding Norwell Cable and asks that agendas be sent to Jonathan Grabowski.

NEW BUSINESS

Budget Hearing – School Department – Superintendent Matt Keegan and Chairperson of the School Committee Kiersten Warendorf presented the school's budget. The Town and Schools had agreed prior to the override that the Schools would request a 3% increase this year so the presentation was brief. The superintendent informed the AB of some recently completed projects and some future concerns. The bus contract has been settled with only a 4% increase, which pleased the Schools as they were anticipating a higher increase. Textbook adoption is completed for Math and English. Other subject areas are next in line. Technology adoption is almost complete, with one more (smaller) phase next year. Future concerns discussed were contract negotiations, which will coordinate with the Town side of government to meet the needs of all. Special education tuitions are an unknown and Matt referred to unanticipated outside placements, which can be very costly.

Article Hearings – School Department – The School Department has three articles they are presenting to the Town for consideration. Article 16 in the ATM is the parking revolving account, which is a housekeeping article that appears annually to transfer money paid for student parking passes. STM articles 2 and 3 refer to the septic system at the middle school, which is failing regularly. Article 2 requests money for the engineering and Article 3 is for the actual repair/replacement.

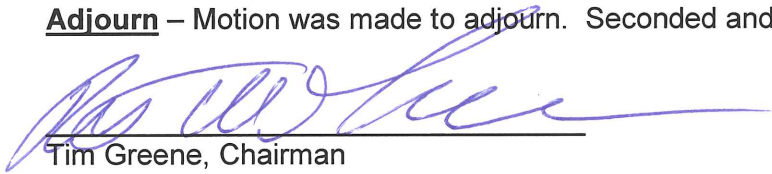
Capital concerns were briefly discussed and include rooftop units for the high school, a generator for the Sparrell Building and tile flooring at the Vinal School. The AB will hear from

the Capital Budget Committee soon and make decisions regarding capital requests at a later date.

OLD BUSINESS

Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator answered some questions from the AB regarding the budget. Currently, there is \$800,000 in the Capital Stabilization Fund. We have the capacity to issue more debt and approximately \$200,000 in debt frees up next year. Jim is researching the idea of how to finance the Main Street project. With approximately \$2,100,000 in free cash and about \$400,000 necessary to fund the snow and ice deficit, the AB requested Jim's spreadsheet to work through the money articles. The AB still needs to discuss any changes it will propose in the Town Administrator's budget. Jim will send the spreadsheet for the articles via email but requested the AB not share it as personnel contracts haven't been settled and his numbers in those lines are merely estimates.

Adjourn – Motion was made to adjourn. Seconded and unanimously passed.



Tim Greene, Chairman
mec