

**ADVISORY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES
of
February 12, 2014**

A meeting of the Advisory & Finance Committee was held on Wednesday, February 12, 2014. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, John Moody at 7:00 p.m. and was conducted at the Plymouth Town Hall, in the Mayflower II Meeting Room, 11 Lincoln Street, Plymouth, Massachusetts.

PRESENT

Thirteen members of the Committee were present:

John Moody, Michael Hanlon, Linda Benezra, Michael Hourahan, Marc Sirrico, Christopher Merrill, Nancy McSpadden, Harry Salerno, Charles Stevens, Cornelius Bakker, Ethan Kusmin, Shelagh Joyce and Richard Gladdy

ABSENT

Two members of the Committee were absent:

Robert Morgan and Michael Duffley

AGENDA ITEMS

ATM Article 29 – Amend Zoning Bylaw, Section 205-6 Public Hearing Notices

David Peck presented ATM Article 29 Amend Zoning Bylaw, Section 205-6 Public Hearing Notices. Mr. Peck indicated the amendment requires applicants to post signage, visible from a public way, that alerts the public of the pending request and that public hearings are upcoming to review the application.

In addition to the hearing notice placed in the newspaper, only abutters within 300 feet of a request are notified of the hearing. Too often, the Zoning Board of Appeals hears neighbor say that they did not know about the request. The signage would complement the existing public notices and provide a greater opportunity for community participation in the zoning appeal process.

Michael Hanlon moved to approve as presented.

Charles Stevens, second. The motion carries unanimously.

ATM Article 16A–CPC – 1820/1857 Court House & Establish Revolving Fund, G.L. c.44, §53E ½

Bill Keohan Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee presented information regarding Article 16A for the 1820/1857 Court House and to establish a revolving fund, under G.L. c.44, §53E ½. Mr. Keohan said the article is to ask town meeting to appropriate \$5,000,000 from Community Preservation Fund to create, restore and/or rehabilitate 1820 Court House for municipal use and establish the revolving fund. Mr. Keohan also indicated this article is contingent with the passage of Article 10 at the Annual Spring Town Meeting 2014, which will appropriate funds necessary to build a Town Hall, attached to the 1820 Court House and the preservation of and reuse of the 1857 Vermont Mable Staircase in the attaching atrium and the creation of a attaching to house the staircase.

In addition, this request will authorize a Revolving Fund under MGL c.44, 53E ½ for the 1820 Court House Maintenance. Mr. Keohan also stated the revenue source would come from lease proceeds, collected with respect to use 1820 Court House and Court House Green and would be used for the maintenance of the Court House façade, roof, and cupola and court room. The requested spending authorization is for the revolving fund is \$20,000.

Michael Hanlon moved to approve as presented.
Nancy McSpadden, second. The motion carries unanimously.

ATM Article 16C –CPC- Administrative Budget & Annual Reserves

Bill Keohan Chairman of the Community Preservation Committee presented information regarding Article 16C for the annual administrative budget and reserves, as follows:

Open Space	10%	\$249,015
Historic Resources	10%	\$249,015
Community Housing	10%	\$249,015
CPA Operating Budget	4%	\$99,606

Available for all 4 CPA Purposes (If not used during FY2015 it will close out to Unreserved Fund Balance at June 30, 2015)
\$1,643,500

Linda Benezra moved to approve as presented.
Christopher Merrill, second. The motion carries unanimously.

ATM Article 30- Aquaculture Seat - Plymouth Harbor Committee

Phil Chandler Chairman of the Plymouth Harbor Committee said the Plymouth Harbor Committee would like to add an additional seat to the Harbor Committee as well as the definition on seat requirements for an existing seat. The purpose of the re-characterization of the Boat Yard seat is to make the requirements in-line with the towns' present needs. The Aquaculture seat is an addition to the committee to further our commitment to the aquaculture industry.

Aquaculture Seat:

The PHC is requesting the addition of a dedicated Aquaculture Seat. For the past two years the PHC has had an aquaculture expert Bill Doyle sit on an at-large seat to fulfill our needs in support of the Aquaculture Industry in Plymouth. We would like to regain the seat as an at-large seat while making the Aquaculture Seat permanent. This change would also give the PHC an eleven person committee as opposed to 10.

Boatyard Owner:

This seat was created to be filled by a yard owner in Plymouth and has most recently been held by an owner of a launch service. The PHC is in support of this seat being held by a person who is a representative of all boatyards in Plymouth and should be sponsored by at least one. This will give the PHC potential input from all yards large or small with in town or out of town ownership.

Linda Benezra moved to approve as presented.

Richard Gladdys, second. The motion carries unanimously.

ATM Article 32 - Limit Storage of Nuclear Waste, Petitioned: Heather Lightner, et al

Heather Lightner, Petitioner requests no action to be taken on ATM Article 32.

ATM Article 33 - Ensure Nuclear Waste is removed from Wet Pool Storage. Petitioned: Heather Lightner, et al

Ms. Lightner indicated the article is non-binding and has no cost impact to the Town and presented the following information:

FACT SHEET

TOWN MEETING ARTICLE 33:

ENSURE NUCLEAR WASTE IS REMOVED FROM WET POOL STORAGE

Contact: Heather Lightner, heather@concernedneighborsofpilgrim.org; 401-578-4189

- Article is advisory only; no cost to Town.
- Recommends that town officials seek to ensure that nuclear waste is moved from wet pool storage to dry cask storage as soon as technologically possible. Assemblies more than five years out of reactor can, and should be, moved to dry casks.
- Having a vote on this Article gives the community a chance to have their voices heard regarding Entergy plans to store nuclear waste at Pilgrim.
- Recent poll shows 4 out of 6 people interviewed listed Entergy's nuclear waste storage as a top issue in 2014; 33% of people polled said it was the top issue in 2013.
- Advantages of dry casks :
 - Do not require mechanical parts, offsite electrical power, or human intervention to function properly; not as vulnerable to acts of terrorism; safer than wet pool storage.
 - When built in 1967, Pilgrim's wet pool was meant as temporary storage.
 - Reducing the amount of spent fuel in the pool means there will be fewer releases of radioactivity in the event of an accident
- Pilgrim's wet pool was originally licensed by the U.S. NRC for 880 spent fuel assemblies (nuclear waste) but they increased the amount allowed to be stored by the license to 3,859. Currently Pilgrim's spent fuel pool is almost full to capacity and is storing 3x the amount originally allowed.
- Entergy only plans to move the minimum number of spent fuel assemblies from the wet pool to dry casks needed to keep operating. This means the wet pool storage will continue to be dangerous.

Ms. Lightner said the Nuclear Matters Committee and the Board of Selectmen are in support of the

article. Attorney, Meg Ryan, said the NRC will require the safe storage of the spent fuel rods in 2092. Ms. Ryan said there are two funds which can be utilized since Yucca Mountain has not been built; one requires Entergy to maintain funds to de-commission the plant and the second fund is the Nuclear Waste fund. However, Ms. Ryan indicated that Entergy has sued to get some of the funding back since it will not be used for Yucca Mountain.

Ethan Kusmin inquired about closed plants and whether they have moved spent fuel rods to dry cask storage. Ms. Ryan said most plants in the country that are still in operation have wet pool storage and the plants that have closed can still have wet pool storage even though they are not in operation they are not required to move to dry storage until 2092.

Harry Salerno inquired about the two funds mentioned previously by Ms. Ryan. Ms. Ryan indicated the Federal Government requires Entergy to maintain a bank account to insure that there are enough funds to cover the de-commissioning and the other is not an actual account.

Nancy McSpadden inquired about the NRC's opinion regarding dry cask storage. Ms. Ryan said the NRC feel both wet pool storage and dry cask are both safe. However, scientists have indicated that dry cask storage is safer.

Michael Hanlon asked regarding the Town's regulatory authority over Entergy, and asked if the passage of the article is designed to "send a message" Meg Ryan said it is not correct to state that the town has no authority since the town granted a special permit to Entergy.

Richard Gladdys inquired about the amount of fuel rods currently in the pool. Ms. Ryan said originally was designed to accommodate 880, because there was no place to put spent fuel rods they have been allowed add to the pool and there is approximately 3,200 rods.

John Moody inquired about town counsel's questions regarding the legality of the language. Ms. Ryan said the Moderator has not allowed non-binding questions be voted on by town meeting.

Richard Gladdys moved to approve as presented.
Michael Hanlon, second. The motion carries unanimously.

Report of Budget Sub-Committee E – Planning & Development / Community Resources / Inspectional Services

Linda Benezra provided an overview of the report of Budget Sub-Committee E – Planning & Development / Community Resources / Inspectional Services.

#175 - Community Planning \$675,243

Cornelius Bakker moved to approve as presented.
Christopher Merrill, second. The motion carries unanimously.

#189 - Redevelopment Authority \$41,340

Cornelius Bakker moved to approve as presented.

Harry Salerno, second. The motion carries unanimously.

#241 - Building/Zoning \$574,262

The sub-committee recommends an increase in "salary & wages temporary" of \$7,000 and in overtime of \$5,998 to the levels requested by the Department Head. As this department generates significant income it is important that it be as efficient as possible. Use of personnel from these two line items will provide the services needed without adding additional expenses to the benefit categories. Additionally, these efficiencies would add value to expediting the permitting process another goal often discussed. We recommend a budget of **\$574,262**.

Ethan Kusmin moved to approve as presented.

Marc Sirrico, second. The motion carries. (11-1-0) Nancy McSpadden voting in opposition.

#510 - Board of Health \$262,502

Ethan Kusmin moved to approve as presented.

Marc Sirrico, second. The motion carries (11-1-0) Cornelius Bakker voting in opposition.

#541 - Council on Aging \$362,662

Michael Hanlon moved to approve as presented.

Christopher Merrill, second. The motion carries unanimously.

#543 - Veterans Services \$962,862

The sub-committee recommends a reduction of \$800 in the mileage line based on the previous two fiscal years of \$496 and \$565 as well as a current to date of \$377. Therefore, we recommend **\$962,862**.

Richard Gladdys moved to approve as presented.

Michael Hanlon, second. The motion carries unanimously.

#549 - Comm. on Disabilities \$200

Christopher Merrill moved to approve as presented.

Nancy McSpadden, second. The motion carries unanimously.

#610 – Library \$1,593,919

Michael Hanlon moved to approve as presented.

Richard Gladdys, second. The motion carries unanimously.

#695 - 1749 Court House \$13,744

Christopher Merrill moved to approve as presented.

Michael Hanlon, second. The motion carries (11-1-0) Michael Hanlon voting in opposition.

Total approved for Sub-Committee E, as presented for \$4,486,734.

ATM Article 4 - Town Meeting Committees -Form, Reform, Organize, Continue or Discharge

This is an Annual request for town meeting committees and with a positive recommendation will be allowed to continue for another three years. Data sheets corresponding to the Town Meeting Committees scheduled for review at this 2014 Annual Town Meeting under Article 4 have been reviewed by each of the Chairpersons and at their request will be reviewed at the 2017 Annual Town Meeting.

Committees requesting continuance are as follows:

- **North Plymouth Steering Committee**
- **1749 Court House Committee**
- **Plymouth Energy Committee**

Linda Benezra moved to approve as presented.

Nancy McSpadden, second. The motion carries unanimously.

Old/New/Other Business

Charles Stevens inquired regarding the Special Town Meeting article for the local option meals tax. Mr. Moody provided an update indicated the petition signatures have been verified and an article will be moving forward.

Ethan Kusmin inquired regarding voting the Meals Tax prior to a vote of ATM Article 10 – 1820 Court House.

Linda Benezra asked Mr. Moody to provide an update regarding next weeks meeting agenda. Mr. Moody provided an update regarding scheduling of items and a possible continuance to Thursday evening to finish business.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

November 20, 2013 - Linda Benezra moved to approve as presented. Michael Hourahan, second. The motion carries. Marc Sirrico, Richard Gladdys and Cornelius Bakker, Ethan Kusmin, and Shelagh Joyce abstained.

ADJOURNMENT

Linda Benezra moved for adjournment.

Christopher Merrill, second. The motion for adjournment carries unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Pamela L. Borgatti