

TOWN OF PRINCETON, MA
Princeton Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
10 March 2014

BOS Stan Moss called the joint BOS/AB meeting to order, called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

AB members in attendance were: Jim O'Coin, Joe Lotuff, Dave Cruise, and Wayne Adams.

Absent: John Shipman, George Handy

BOS members in attendance were: Stan Moss, Neil Sulmasy, Edith Morgan, and John LeBeaux

Agenda with BOS & AB

- Princeton Police Department Budget Review
- Review 2015 Draft Town Budget

Agenda AB only

- Approve 24 Feb 2013 AB Minutes
- Discuss possible candidates to fill vacancy

2015 Police Department Budget

Chief of Police Michele Powers led a discussion to review the submitted 2015 Budget and review key 2014 initiatives detailed in the Police Report.

Highlights of the discussion were:

- Police contracts for 2015 are not finalized, which may affect the salary line items
- Dispatcher salary line items for 2015 will be less than indicated, based on when the Holden regional dispatch center goes live. Estimated budget line item change can be 50% based on current schedule.
- Request to increase the over time line item to be consistent with year-over-year salary increases. with no increase in this line item, the net hours is going down year-over-year. While there is a trend for more hours due to court appearances. Suggested increase be 14% to catch up past years.

Reference documents handed out by BOS to AB members:

- Police Department 2015 Budget and Letter Report of Police Department
- Draft 2015 Budget- expenses by department
- Draft 2015 Budget - revenue by sources

AB continued to meet after joint BOS/AB session with BOS, 7.45PM

Minutes

24 Feb 2014 Advisory Board minutes motioned for approval by Wayne Adams, seconded by Jim O'Coin and approved by all AB members in attendance.

Candidates to fill vacancy

- Draft list of names was captured. Wayne to share the list with John Shipman and John LeBeaux.

2015 Budget Discussion

- AB recognizes there is a continued trend upwards with several of the larger budgets and is concerned the future ability to raise funds and meet correlated obligations such as pension requirements due to increased salaries can be unsustainable. AB recommends we convey this concern ASAP to BOS given several contracts are up for renewal and in negotiation now. Additionally, Princeton will want to continue to save for its future as in its past with replenishing funds used for special projects.

Motion to Adjourn

Jim O'Coin, moved to adjourn the 10 March 2014 AB board meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Resume joint meeting AB and BOS specific for 2015 Budget Planning

9:35-10:30, AB rejoined BOS to review Town Administrator agenda items.

-Reappointment and contract extension with key contract terms were discussed as they related to the budget. BOS agreed to defer action on the requests to a future BOS meeting.

- AB led a general discussion on the trend of spend growing faster than revenue generation and a need for a budget-wide strategy instead of a department-by-department approach. AB and BOS agreed to discuss this in more depth in a future scheduled joint meeting.

10:30, AB left BOS meeting, BOS continued to meet for the balance of the scheduled town business on March 10 BOS agenda.

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne M. Adams, AB Member