

TOWN OF PRINCETON MA  
Princeton Advisory Committee  
Meeting Minutes  
Dec 12, 2016

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AB members in attendance: John Shipman, Wayne Adams, Bill Lawton, Jimmy O'Coin ,  
George Handy, Don Schoeny  
BOS members in attendance: Edie Morgan, Stan Moss, Jon Fudeman, Nina Nazarian

**BOS/Advisory Committee Agenda**

- 2018 Budget Review
  - Police, Fire, Emergency
    - Operating Expenses
    - Capital Requests
    - Revolving Funds and other Sources of Revenue

Meeting started at 5:30 PM

**Meeting Minutes**

- Police
  - Police Chief led discussion to review operating budget and capital budget.
    - AC requested TA to provide FY17YTD best estimate info for the spreadsheets
    - No above normal over-time expected in coming fiscal year due to unsolved major crime, still under investigation (led by state police)
    - Reviewed the schedule of capital requests. AC requested a detailed car breakdown, like last year, with year, mileage, hours on engine, and repair bills.
    - AC inquired about department pursuing state and federal grants. Dept does fine with state grants, since chief receive notices of their availability. TBD is a better strategy to look into federal grants
    - Jon F. discussed his initial baseline benchmarking of similar towns and reflected on Princeton's cost of Police operations. Police chief explained several rural towns run a 7x16 hour operation, backed up by state police for the 7x8 hr gap. Princeton runs a 7x24 operation. Also smaller towns have part-time police chiefs due to lower volume of work; Princeton is full-time
- Fire
  - Fire Chief led discussion to review operating budget and capital budget
    - Discussed training costs and increased staff levels
    - Discussed revolving funds and corrections, non-collectables for ambulatory services
    - Fire dept doing good with state and federal grants for equipment
- Other Budget
  - Jon F discussed the plan to publish a town fiscal health report, based on baseline comparisons using the state's DLS database.

- Some initial observations included that the town does not receive many state grants, the town is not aware of debt obligations for WRSD and PMLD.
- Jon to ask PMLD to present in 2017 to BOS/AC their fiscal plans such as balance sheet, debt, operating budget, and market conditions.

Meeting Adjourned 7:15PM

**Handouts**

- Reference Budget Handbook sections per the scheduled departments

Wayne M. Adams, AB Member