

TOWN OF PRINCETON MA
Princeton Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
May 31, 2016

AB members in attendance: John Shipman, Bill Lawton, Jimmy O'Coin, Wayne Adams, Don Schoeny, George Handy, Dave Cruise
BOS members in attendance: Jon Fudeman, Edith Morgan, Stan Moss, and Town Administrator Nina Nazarian
Guest: Princeton Land Trust representative

Joint Agenda BOS AB

- Fieldstone Farm – Additional Land for Future Municipal Purposes
- Long Term Infrastructure/Buildings Plan
- Chapter 70 funding update

Meeting started at 6:15 PM May 31

Field Stone Farm

- BOS solicited AB opinion that whether the town should continue to pursue a purchase of 10 acre parcel of land earmarked for future municipal use. Plan would involve more public awareness sessions and long-term planning in prep for a ATM/STM whereby an article would be voted on.
- AB recounted the May 2016 ATM recommendation and AB reasons for their position
 - AB had a split vote, recommending the town not approve the purchase of the 10 acres
 - Some AB members responded to town resident concerns about acquiring land without a plan
 - Some AB members responded that buying land that is attractively priced is prudent; whereas in the future, should land be required to be purchased, smaller parcels for at higher prices per acre are likely
 - Some AB members do not have enough facts or information in a timely manner about the parcel with respect to its buildability, planned use and whether that is the best option given other town property in use.
- AB expressed concern that going back for another ATM vote may reflect the town leaders are not listening to the residents wishes and desires, given the town voted the article down/not passed.

Long Term Infrastructure/Building Plan

- Town administrator described a plan to assemble a small cross-section of town

leadership and residents to outline a process for town boards and committees to become involved in to build out a longer term building and infrastructure plan

- The process would be able to accommodate work to date by the facilities committee, prior public safety committees, and the 2017 planned assessment of Bagg Hall.
- AB members Dave Cruise and Bill Lawton agreed to observe and advise the assembled group on formulating a process.

Chapter 70 funding update

- John Shipman advised BOS that letters summarizing the Princeton Chapter 70 history were provided to Senator Harriette Chandler and Representative Kim Ferguson. Both submitted amendments to the budget process to enable Chapter 70 harmed towns to appeal for relief above and beyond the Pothole fund. Their amendments were not accepted by either the House or Senate.
- Sen. Chandler also filed an amendment which was accepted for a budget review commission for regional school district funding.
- AB will follow-up with our reps to see how we can assist the commission. The commission work will review all regional districts, WRSD is only one of the districts.

Handouts

- none

Respectfully submitted,

Wayne M. Adams, AB Member