

TOWN OF PRINCETON MA
Princeton Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
April 23, 2018

AC members in attendance: Jimmy O'Coin, John Shipman, George Handy, Judy Dino, Bill Lawton, Don Schoeny, Wayne Adams

AC members absent: none

Princeton Fire Dept: William Dino

Facilities Steering Committee: Karen Cruise

Advisory Committee (AC) Agenda

- Updates on Firetruck, Ambulance ALS/BLS, Police Cruiser
- Approve Minutes
- Review AC member George Handy Budget Analysis
- Review draft town warrant article for Facilities articles and order

Meeting Minutes

Meeting Started at 6:00 PM

AC Minutes for 4/7, 4/11 and 4/17 approved

Jimmy O'Coin led a discussion for the Police department request for a new cruiser. Department to downsize fleet from 5 to 4 vehicles. Of the 4, 1 is dedicated to the Police Chief, the other 3 are fleet for officers performing duties. 2 of the 4 have >100,000 miles and high idle hours. Request is to replace one of the two vehicles with >100,000 miles. Maintenance and repair bills for each vehicle are less than \$3000 / year. Cost of a replacement cruiser estimated at \$48,000

Judy Dino introduced William Dino from the Princeton Fire Department Ambulance Service. William led a discussion on the differences of Advanced Life Support and Basic Life Support, how Princeton services ALS/BLS calls. William relayed a summary statement that, for improving the chance of surviving the most serious emergency incidents, community CPR and stroke education would be most effective and least costly first step, before considering adding weekend ALS staffing. He did feel that weekend BLS staffing would serve to improve weekend response to calls.

John Shipman relayed information that Fire Chief is reviewing available options to reduce total spend for two replacement fire-trucks. Some used inventory has recently come to market that appears to be a very good fit.

George Handy led a discussion on the current version of the town budget (operating budget, capital budget, revenue/levy). George's analysis has shown high growth in town operating budget, while school budget has been inline with the economy. George provided an alternative recommendation of the budget, which is a reduction of \$346K that would benefit the town to borrow funds with less impact to taxpayers for the forthcoming facilities

improvements the town needs to address. AC will reconvene on April 26th to decide on George's recommendations.

AC took up the vote for the 5 Facilities articles in the draft v8 of the warrant. SB asked AC to vote on the order as currently listed. FSC chair Karen Cruise answered several questions about the amounts in the articles, what is included in the amounts, and preferences of the FSC for articles on the warrant. AC voted 1-Y, 5-N, 1-A for the current order (1,2,3,4,5). AC suggested re-ordering the articles 1,4,2,5,3 ; AC voted 6-Y, 1-N, 0-A.

[1= \$1.25M Bagg Hall, 2=\$6.5M new public safety, 3=\$6.1 renovate Bagg Hall, 4= \$300K Town Hall annex, 5=\$100K current public safety – refer to town warrant for details of each article]. Action, Wayne to summarize the vote and communicate to SB/TA.

AC meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

Upcoming AC meetings

- Upcoming SB meetings, tbd whether there will be additional budget discussions and decisions: April 30th, 7:30PM
- AC meeting April 26th, 10:00 AM
- AC public hearing for ATM Warrant, May 7th
- ATM May 15th

Handouts and Referenced Documents

- TA Provided Revised FY19 Operating Budget, 4/21/2018
- TA Provided Revised FY19 Capital Budget, 4/17/2018
- TA Provided Revised Draft Warrant Article (version 8), 4/13/2018
- George Handy Handouts 4/23
 - Summary Observations of TA Provided Operating Budget, Revenue, and Capital Budget
 - Narrative for reducing TA Provided Operating Budget by \$346K
 - Tax Levy and Revenue worksheet FY14-FY19 w/ GH adjusted Tax Levy at 2.5% that ties to GH FY14-19 Recommended Operating Budget
 - FY 14-19 Operating Budget with 2.5% Analysis, GH recommended budget columns
- Ambulance Service Discussion
 - 2/16/2012 News Article "Ambulance Response Time Debate Continues"
 - Princeton FD Ambulance Service Call Log and Analysis, 10/28/17-4/21/18
 - Princeton FD Backgrounder on ALS and BLS calls and community recommendation

Minutes recorded by Wayne M. Adams, AC Member