

TOWN OF PRINCETON MA
Princeton Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
May 8, 2019

AC members in attendance: Wayne Adams, Judy Dino, Bill Lawton, George Handy, Helga Lyons and Mary Jo Wojtusik

Absent: Krista Penning

Advisory Committee (AC) Agenda

Review warrant Articles 3, 18, 20 – 22

One-page information sheet for Annual Town Meeting

Approve Minutes

Meeting Minutes

Meeting started at 6:02 PM

Review Warrant Articles

Article 3 (operating budget)

The most recent changes were highlighted and discussed. The Town Building Operations item was reduced by \$8k. The \$8k was moved to Article 18 (Temporary Office Space/Bagg Hall project). A concern was raised regarding the \$40k addition to the Town Administrator Expenses. The intent is to provide money to engage contractual project management resources as needed to move along individual projects. It was pointed out that the \$40k was added in expenses and not for salary for a town position, however additional funds were added to benefits line item should they be needed. A concern was raised that the money could be used in other ways with Select Board approval.

VOTE: All items in Article except Town Administration Expense and Fire Department
Y-6, N-0, A-0 (AC recommends approval)

VOTE: Fire Department budget items
Y-5, N-0, A-1 (AC recommends approval)

VOTE: Town Administrator expense
Y-3, N-3, A-0 (TBD until the Annual Town Meeting when all 7 members of the AC are present.)

Article 18 (Temporary office space lease, renovation, and moving expenses)

The article is a request for \$158k for leasing, renovation, and moving expenses to relocate town offices during the Bagg Hall stabilization project. Comparative budget information from a similar projects in Upton and Hopkinton was presented.

VOTE: Y-4, N-1, A-1 (AC recommends approval)

Article 20 (Infrastructure Stabilization Account)

The article is a to transfer \$130k from free cash to the Infrastructure Stabilization account and to raise and appropriate \$100k to be put into the Infrastructure Stabilization account. While there were no objections to transferring the \$130k from free cash, concerns were raised about the additional \$100k in spending when the funds would not be appropriated for use until some future date.

VOTE: Y-4, N-2, A-0 (AC recommends approval)

Articles 21, 22 (Citizens' Petition to change bylaws)

The article is a request to change the Town Bylaws to change the Advisory Committee to a Finance Committee with expanded responsibilities and authority. After comments made during the May 1st Public Hearing, it is likely that there will be motions on the floor at Annual Town Meeting to amend the Articles as written in the warrant.

VOTE: To hold voting on the article until next meeting (prior to ATM)

Y-5, N-1, A-0 (TBD)

Approve of meeting minutes from May 1st

Minutes approved: Y-6, N-0, A-0

One-page Information Sheet

The AC reviewed the budget summary information put together by Helga Lyons. There was discussion about including trend analysis. Helga, Wayne, and Judy will work together on a document that will be presented to the full AC at the next meeting.

Next AC meeting: prior to ATM, at TPS at 6:15

Meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Minutes recorded by Mary Jo Wojtusik, AC Member