

Members Present: Ed Behn, Chair, Gary Wells, Lisa Blazejewski, Peter Allen, Hank Rauch, John E. Arnold, Sharon Kaiser, Kathy Rosenblum Senie (in attendance for afternoon session). Absent: Jim Tepper.

At 12:10 p.m. Mr. Behn called the meeting to order in the Auditorium at Westborough High School.

Call to Order/Open Forum

There were no requests to address the Committee.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Behn decided to postpone voting on approval of the minutes from 2-24-14, 2-27-14, 3-3-14, and 3-6-14 until the next AFC meeting to give Committee members a chance to review.

AFC Preparations for Annual Town Meeting

Discussion, deliberation, voting of recommendations to Town Meeting

Historical Commission's FY15 Budget - Mr. Behn wanted to review the AFC's vote on the Historical Commission's budget regarding the reduction in hours to their Administrative Assistant's schedule. It was noted that the Selectmen voted for the proposal by Selectman, Tim Dodd, for 15 hours per month rather than what was originally proposed by Town Manager, Jim Malloy, of 10 hours per month. The AFC then proposed a 9 hour per week budget for fiscal year 2015 (approximately 36 hours per month) so the Commission has a year to make changes to their budget and this was voted 3-2-2 by the AFC. Mr. Behn suggested that he could have someone speak for and someone speak against the position taken by the AFC. It was noted that the AFC's process was almost identical to that of the Selectmen's except that the AFC reached a different number of hours per week for the Administrative Assistant's schedule. Mr. Behn said he was comfortable with getting up at Town Meeting and explaining how the AFC arrived at their number of hours per week for the Historical Commission's Administrative Assistant. Ms. Rosenblum Senie suggested pointing out that the Historical Commission also recommended a reduction in hours for their Administrative Assistant and she thought it was only appropriate to give the AFC's point of view if asked.

Article 19 – Lease Authorization at Hocomonco Pond – Mr. Behn said that the current motion is what will be voted on, though there could be another version that could limit the lease to “no more than 6 acres”. Mr. Behn asked if there should be a new vote by the AFC since the motion has been revised. Mr. Rauch said he didn't feel the motion had changed substantially enough to change his vote. Mr. Wells said he felt the same and thought there may be more information that comes out on Town Meeting floor. Ms. Rosenblum Senie said her vote would remain the same and she is still against this article. Mr. Allen said he felt the same way and that if the motion is in such a state of influx that he feels he wouldn't vote for this article. Ms. Rosenblum Senie suggested that the Committee could take a vote on what we have now if people feel they'd vote differently. Mr. Wells thought the Committee should wait and vote on Town Meeting floor. Mr. Behn agreed and decided to wait and not re-vote.

Mr. Behn asked if there were any budgets or articles that Committee members felt should be re-voted or discussed and there didn't seem to be anything. Mr. Behn mentioned that cash reserves are up along with home values and taxes were held level. Mr. Allen pointed out – with one caveat – that fire and teacher contract negotiations aren't complete.

The Committee called a brief recess at 12:30 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 1:00 p.m. for the Annual Town Meeting (ATM).

The Committee recessed at 5:08 p.m. when the ATM recessed.

The Committee reconvened at 7:00 p.m. when the ATM reconvened.

Adjournment

When the ATM concluded at 9:48 p.m., Mr. Wells made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The vote to adjourn was 7 in favor, with 7 being present.

Document List

ATM 2014 AFC Report and Recommendations – Final.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Thomas

AFC Administrative Assistant