

Dover Warrant Committee
Minutes of the January 5, 2011 meeting

Members in attendance: Peter Smith- Chairman, Andrew Waugh, Jane Wemyss, Maureen Arkle, James Stuart, Kate Bush, Rich Forte, David Stapleton

Location: Fireside Room, Dover Town House

Mr. Smith called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM

Barrie Clough, Town Clerk presented his 2012 budget proposal. Mr. Clough advised the committee that most of his budget is pushed by State and Federal mandates. He outlined the additional workload of the Town Clerk's Office since 1999. Based on the increased workload, he is adding three hours per week (23% increase) to his assistant. The total budget increase over 2011 totals 5.25% to \$114K.

Janet Claypool, Director Council on Aging presented her budget. The senior population (age 60 and over) represents 22% of the Town population, with 180 over age 80 and 31 over age 90. The largest change to the budget is an increase in the cost for professional services. It is a \$1,000 increase (22%) over 2011. This is due to an expected decrease in the formula grant from the State from \$7/elder to \$5.50/elder. Elders do pay a fee for services, but the fees do not cover all the costs. It was asked if the COA could increase the fees to seniors that participate. That was tried last year with a \$1 increase in the monthly lunch to \$5. There was a dramatic decrease in participation and COA reverted to the original \$4 lunch. Transportation is still an issue. Currently Friends of the COA are helping to raise funds for the purchase of a van. There may be a capital request for 2013. Total increase to the budget over 2011 is 3.8% to \$112K.

The committee reviewed a first draft of the report of the committee composed by Peter. There was some discussion and we expect to have a final draft for the next meeting.

There was a request for a Reserve Fund Transfer by the Board of Health for \$1,135 for signage and cards for awareness of Lyme disease. It was noted that there was no prior notice to this request and that the Board of Health should contact the Warrant Committee if they plan to spend money outside their budget. Mr. Smith motioned that the request be approved, second by Mr. Stapleton. Approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

The Warrant Committee plans to attend a presentation by Ford Spaulding on funding for Minuteman Tech at the February 2 Selectman's meeting at 6:30 PM.

There will be a change to the dates for two of the budget presentations. The Selectman's budget will be January 26 and the Capital Budget Committee will present on February 2. At the next meeting we will hear budgets from the Library, Fire and Ambulance committees.

Liaison Reports:

Mr. Stapleton said there would be no increase in the Historical Commission budget.

The Board of Fire Engineers will present a flat funded budget.

Being no more business before the committee, Kate Bush moved that we adjourn, second by Maureen Arkle, vote 8-0. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 12 at 7 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Richard Forte, Jr.