

Dover Warrant Committee Minutes of the October 5, 2011 meeting

Members in attendance: David Melville- Chairman Andrew Waugh, James Stuart, Rich Forte, John Cone, Kathy Gill Body, Bob Cocks , Maureen Arkle

Location: Dover Town House

David Melville called the meeting to order at 7:09 PM.

Mr. Waugh made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 21, 2011 meeting, second by Ms. Arkle. Approved 5-0-0.

Mr. Melville introduced past Warrant Committee Chairman, Peter Smith to address the Committee regarding the production of the Blue Book, department budgets and an overview of municipal finance. Mr. Smith reviewed Article 4, the department budgets which are separated into salary and expense categories, except for the schools. Article 5, the capital budget and the committee's responsibilities regarding reserve fund transfers and the Snow & Ice Budget.

Free Cash rolls from year-to-year and stood at \$4.4 million as of July 1, 2011 of which \$1.375 million will be used to fund the 2012 deficit. Free cash target is between 10 – 15% of total Town budget.

Mr. Smith went on to explain the various funds (Stabilization, Revolving, Overlay) and the purpose of each and the Special Education Circuit Breaker (reimbursement from the State at a rate of between 40-70% of the amount above the Foundation Budget (4 x State Pupil Expense).

Mr. Smith discussed GASBE 45

Mr. Melville and the Committee thanked Mr. Smith for his service, time and thoughtful explanation of municipal finance.

The Committee received a Prior Notice for \$37,810 from the Tree Department for tree removal from Tropical Storm Irene.

Liaison reports:

- Middle School Report from Kathy Gill Body
 - Middle School heating problem- capital budget item of potentially \$681K
 - OPED consultant to get a handle on health benefits for teachers
- Long Range Planning Report from Rich Forte
 - The Town survey results have been tabulated and will be presented by the Planning Board to Selectmen on October 13
- Firefighter Report from John Cone
 - Discussion on a new ladder truck
- Selectmen update from Jim Dawley

- The Caryl Center oil tank repair will require the installation of two temporary tanks at a cost of \$6,500
- Chickering School Report from Bob Cocks
 - Talk of a generator for the school to provide emergency power in its use a potential emergency shelter

Mr. Cocks made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Cone. Meeting adjourned at 8:25

Next meeting is scheduled for October 12 at 7 PM in the Dover Town House.

Respectfully submitted,
W. Richard Forte, Jr.