

**Dover Warrant Committee**  
**Minutes of the February 15, 2012 meeting**

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

**Non-members in attendance:** Jim Dawley (Dover Selectmen), Cheryl Abdullah (Director, Dover Town Library), Joan King (Trustee, Dover Town Library), Jay Hughes (Chief, Dover Fire Department)

**Location:** Dover Town House

David Melville called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Ms. Bush made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2012 meeting. Second by Mr. Waugh. Approved 8-0-0

Ms. Bush made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2012 meeting. Second by Mr. Waugh. Approved 8-0-0

Ms. Bush made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 18, 2012 meeting. Second by Mr. Waugh. Approved 8-0-0

Ms. Cheryl Abdullah, Director of the Dover Town Library, presented the Library operating budget. Ms. Abdullah discussed changes in the classification of some employees from “permanent part-time” to “temporary part-time”. Calm was restored after determining that the headcount would remain the same and that the total salary costs was only increasing by the Personnel Board approved 2.5% plus the longevity adjustment. Ms. Abdullah responded to questions throughout her presentation.

Chief Jay Hughes presented the Fire and Ambulance Department operating budget. The total salary costs are increasing by the Personnel Board approved 2.5% plus a longevity adjustment. All other operating budget expenses are level funded from the previous year. At the Warrant Committee’s request Chief Hughes discussed in broad and historical terms the nature of a “call” fire department structure versus a pure volunteer or all-professional department. Chief Hughes stressed that our fire department personnel receive the same training, from the same Commonwealth of Massachusetts facilities, as full-time “professional” firefighters. Chief Hughes responded to questions throughout his presentation.

Ms. Bush presented the town Cemetery operating budget and responded to questions from the committee.

Ms. Bush also updated the Warrant Committee on the Town of Dover’s commitment to the Minutemen Regional School and responded to questions.

Various Warrant Committee members gave liaison updates. Ms. Arkle updated the committee on her discussion with the Planning Board regarding the Warrant Article on updating the FEMA flood maps for Dover. Mr. Stuart gave an update on the Capital Budget Committee progress and remaining issues to be discussed and voted. Mr. Waugh gave an update on issues at the Park & Recreation Department. Ms. Bush, with Ms. Gill-Body and Mr. Stuart, gave an update on issues at the Regional School Committee and reminded all of the joint meeting, with the Sherborn Finance Committee, to be held on February 16 at 6:00p at the Middle School library. Mr. Melville gave an update on the Personnel Board's Warrant Article regarding job descriptions and titles. Mr. Stuart and Mr. Cocks gave an update on the Chickering school budget including the reduction of one second-grade class, the proposal for fulltime kindergarten, and the policy and implications on using aides to supplement teachers.

Mr. Melville discussed Blue Book assignments, write-ups, and the current timeline and deadlines necessary to accurately complete, print, and distribute the Blue Book in time for Town Meeting.

Being no other reports or business before the Committee, Mr. Waugh made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Cocks. Meeting adjourned at 8:21 PM.

Next meeting is scheduled for February 29, 2012 at 7 PM in the Dover Town House.

Respectfully submitted,  
John S. Cone