

Dover Warrant Committee

Minutes of the February 13, 2013 meeting

Members in attendance: Andrew Waugh, John Cone, Robert Cocks, Rich Forte, Kathy Gill-Body, Douglas Lawrence, Brooks Gerner, James Stuart

Non-members in attendance:

Mr. Jim Dawley (Selectmen)

Mr. Mike Aceti (Capital Budget)

Location: Dover Town House

Mr. Waugh called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Mr. Cocks made a motion to approve the minutes of February 6, 2013. Second by Ms. Gill-Body. Approved 7-0-1.

Mr. Aceti presented the Capital Budget for FY 2014. He explained the process the Committee uses when evaluating capital budget items:

- Is there a NEED
- What OPTIONS have been considered and why is the one presented optimal
- COST

There are twenty-two requests totaling approximately \$700K, of which six are still open for vote by the Committee.

The Street Sweeper dates to 1997 and has gone beyond its projected useful life.

The Squad 2 Truck request by the Fire Department is pending additional information on the itemization of work to be performed on the vehicle. The Fire Department prefers to extend the life of the Squad 2 Truck because of its 1,000 gallon water capacity which is not available on new trucks today.

The Library is waiting for a final quote.

Park & Recreation recommends refurbishing the Caryl Community Center gymnasium floor rather than replace it. Awaiting final quote.

The Animal Control Vehicle is old and in need of replacement. The vehicle is responding to more than 500 calls annually during the 20-hour work week.

The fire road around Chickering needs to be widened to accommodate the turning radius of emergency vehicles, particularly when there is snow on the ground. Mr. Dawley asked if Chapter 90 State Funds would be available for the repairs. Mr. Aceti stated that the Committee would explore if the project is eligible for the Chapter 90 State Funds.

There were questions raised on the technology and device implementation at Chickering School. Is this an early initiative at \$14,000 (for the purchase of iPads for grades 2 & 3)

that if successful will require the additional appropriation of \$56,000 annually for at least the next four years? Mr. Aceti will confer with the School Committee and Administration to have them articulate the need, the long-term plan for this pilot program (does it include a multi-year software licensing agreement), and what effect a successful implementation would have on future year capital requests and expenses.

Mr. Aceti expected the Capital Budget Committee to finalize the Capital Budget at their February 26 meeting.

Mr. Waugh thanked Mr. Aceti for his presentation of the budget.

Liaison Reports:

Ms. Gill-Body and Ms. Gernerd provided an update on the Regional Budget discussion. Communication continues to be very good, but the Regional School Committee is not prepared for the scheduled February 27 joint meeting. There remains a \$600,000 budget gap between the Committee and what Sherborn wants for a Regional budget. It was brought up at the last Regional meeting that there may be Circuit Breaker funds available to Sherborn to bridge the gap. It was unclear if that was a viable option. In light of the above, Mr. Waugh proposed that the February joint meeting be rescheduled to a later date, preferably the first week in March and before the Regional Open Hearing.

Mr. Waugh reminded the Committee that Dover's Open Hearing is scheduled for March 18.

The Rail Trail initiative is continuing, with that committee trying to get more detailed contract information from Iron Horse on the scope of the work to be performed in order to include the initiative on the Town Warrant.

Ms. Gernerd informed the Committee that Dover's share of the Minuteman budget increased by \$441 from the budget presented last week.

Next meeting is scheduled for March 6, 2013.

Being no other business, Mr. Forte made a motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Cocks. Meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Forte