

Dover Warrant Committee

Minutes of the January 6, 2016 meeting

Members in attendance: Kate Cannie (acting chairperson), Brooks Gerner, Geoffrey Merrill, Kathy Gill-Body, James Stuart, Rich Forte, John Cone

Non-members in attendance: Candice McCann (Selectmen), Felicia Hoffman (Town Clerk), Janet Claypoole (Director, Council on Aging), Karen Hayett (administrative assistant Board of Health), Dr. Harvey George (member Board of Health)

Location: Dover Town Hall

Ms. Cannie informed the Committee of a Special Town meeting called by the Selectmen to vote on two articles on Minuteman Vocational School – to accept an amended agreement and vote to leave the district. Important dates:

January 13 – discuss and approve language for Pink Sheet

January 15 – pink book to printer

January 21 – pink book mailed to residents

January 25 – Open Hearing

February 8 – Town Meeting

Ms. Cannie introduced Ms Hoffman, Town Clerk to present her budget. Ms. Hoffman informed the committee of an increase in salaries as part of the non-union contract, with expenses up due to increase in printing and supplies. Salaries are up 4.61% to \$54,450. Expenses are up 0.55% to \$10,985 for a total Town Clerk budget increase of 4.23% to \$65,635.

Ms. Hoffman presented the Elections/Registrations budget, up significantly due to the need for a new voting machine and increased costs to cover 5 elections in FY 17. Salaries (part- time) are up 11.53% to \$43,352. Election/Registration expenses are up 26.08% to \$14,020. Total Elections budget is up 14.77% to \$57,372.

The Committee thanked Ms. Hoffman for her presentations.

Ms. Cannie invited Ms. Claypoole to present the Council on Aging Budget. Ms. Claypoole presented her budget (approved by the Selectmen). Wages are down due to a reduction in wages paid to the new outreach worker and instructors. Expenses are up to purchase additional chairs with arms, tables, bookcases and fitness equipment. Salaries are down 1.42% to \$105,449. Expenses are up 8.47% to \$32,650. Total budget is up 0.75% to \$138,099. Ms Claypoole noted that the COA is looking for a new van driver. They have only had a driver for the past 7 months, for a maximum of 14 hours per week to drive folks to doctor appointments, shopping and COA events. Ridership was 181 rides during that time period.

Ms. Cannie thanked Ms. Claypoole for her presentation.

Ms. Cannie invited Ms. Hayett to present the Board of Health (BoH) budget. Ms. Hayett informed the Committee of the BoH search for an additional board member to fill the vacancy left by former chairwomen Dr. Barbara Roth-Schechter who passed away on October 14. Salaries are up 1.73% to \$43,746. Expenses are flat at \$35,048. Total increase of 0.95% to \$78,794.

Ms. Cannie thanked Ms. Hayett for her presentation.

The Committee reviewed The Warrant Committee budget of \$7,680, unchanged from the prior year (\$7,500 for printing and \$180 for membership dues).

Ms. Cannie asked Ms. McCann for an update on the Caryl Community Center. Ms. McCann informed the Committee of the potential of triggering ADA requirements with the planned renovations of the bathrooms and further repairs/replacement of the boiler, controls and sprinkler system. This could potentially force the installation of a new elevator at the Center. It was agreed that Don Mills (architect) should present at a future meeting to explain the scope, costs and ADA triggers.

Mr. Merrill informed the Committee that the Free Cash certification was out and the turn-back numbers should be available. He will get those numbers out to the Committee for discussion at a future meeting.

Ms. Gerner updated the Committee on the Regional School budget. Sherborn is looking for cuts compared to last year's budget. Requests have been made to the Regional Committee to separate new initiatives from the budget and present the individual costs of each new initiative. There are still unanswered questions to be addressed.

Ms. Cannie thanked Mr. Merrill and Ms. Gerner for the updates.

Being no further business, meeting was adjourned at 9:02 pm.

Next meeting is scheduled for January 13.

Respectfully submitted,
Richard Forte