

TOWN OF FOXBOROUGH

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

MINUTES

October 4th, 2017

Committee Members Present: , Bernard Dumont, Thom Freeman, Seth Ferguson, Rob Canfield, Stephanie McGowan, Sue Dring, Jen Frank, Larry Ooi, Brent Ruter.

Members Absent: Michelle Raymond, Sharon Weiskerger, Sean McCarthy.

Others Present: Randy Scollins, Frank Spillane, Paige Duncan.

The meeting was brought to order at 7:10 by Bernard Dumont.

7:11 PM Introductions. New members were welcomed to the Advisory Committee (ADCOM).

7:12 PM The Town Moderator, Frank Spillane, presented on Advisory Committee responsibilities for the coming year. Frank welcomed everyone and thanked them for their service to the community. Furthermore he briefed the ADCOM on their duties, responsibilities, and cautioned against areas where a breach of conflict of interest rules may occur. He stated how the meetings were public meetings, but they were not public hearings and the difference between the two. Frank suggested a ruling for the ADCOM to vote on, specifically that no article when first presented to the ADCOM be voted upon to allow for greater deliberation, research and reflection. Frank suggested meeting face to face with departments to better understand their needs. Additionally he reminded the committee the importance of regular attendance to meetings.

Bernard and Frank spoke about coordinating with the administration to produce better results in preparation for town meeting in regards to articles and budgets. Frank suggested that the ADCOM vote down any articles that the committee did not have time to review comfortably. Frank, Seth, and Randy discussed on which issues the ADCOM may have prevue over, and which ones are exempt. Bernard asked how the ADCOM should respond to another municipal organization in a situation where the ADCOM disagrees with it in regards to a budget. Frank explained that the ADCOM can present an amended budget that it can accept. Furthermore the operating budget presented to the ADCOM is the ADCOM's budget to review. Frank touched briefly on public meeting laws.

7:45 Town Planner Paige Duncan presented on street acceptance and zoning housekeeping articles. Paige presented on Article VI, otherwise known as Accept Annette Road as a public way in the Town of Foxborough. Bernard asked about cost to town. Paige and Randy stated that there would be an impact in incremental plowing and chapter 90 funds. Randy stated it was rare for a department budget to increase for street acceptances. Paige then presented on Article VII or the Amend Table 3-1, Table of Uses, by changing the following uses to Not Permitted (N) in the GB (General Business) zoning district column of the Table of Uses. Thom asked if there was any impact due to the train track proximity to which he was referred to current standing setback observances in the town. Sue asked what was considered downtown, to which Paige produced maps detailing the downtown area. Paige and Seth discussed the similarities and differences between the Foxborough Center Overlay District and General Business area.

8:00 PM Town Finance Director Randy Scollins gave an orientation on municipal finances to the ADCOM. Randy welcomed everyone to the ADCOM and stated the importance of the committee as it serves as the vanguard for the community. He stated that the people of the town look to the ADCOM for guidance at town meeting in regards to voting at town meeting. Randy briefed on how the town did in regards to keeping to what was appropriated. Randy explained the breakdown of the budget, snow and ice variances, and clarified that the school system has its own autonomy, however he provided a basic overview for the ADCOM's review. Randy reported that there was one instance of an illegal deficit for the first time in thirteen years due to a termination and subsequent settlement. Larry asked Randy what the repercussion of an illegal deficit was, to which Randy stated there will be a balancing from the taxes at the start of the next fiscal year to make up for the deficit.

Randy then covered the capital budget, water and sewer enterprise funds. He explained what indirect costs were and how they came from the General Fund to support these endeavors. Randy fielded questions from the ADCOM regarding the General Fund, terminology, and methodology.

Randy briefed the ADCOM on the Reserve Fund, which the ADCOM has direct operational control over, by providing a cumulative twenty year history. He followed up by explaining the Meals Tax, how it funds OPEB and ROAD, and Payment In Lieu Of Taxes (PILOT) program from Gillette Stadium.

9:14 PM ADCOM voted on previous session minutes. Bernard motioned to accept the June 21st minutes as written, seconded by Rob.

Vote: 6/0/1

9:15 Bernard discussed goals for the ADCOM to strive towards during this season. He stated his interest in trimming excess where the ADCOM could find it and engage with the administration in a healthy discourse to come to an ideal and equitable budget for the community. Rob, Thom and Bernard discussed this and offered their input regarding areas of excess or in defense of current budgeting methodologies used by the town.

9:25 PM Bernard motioned to adjourn by, seconded by Rob.

Vote: 9/0/0

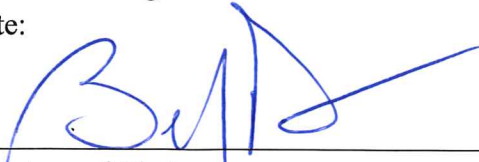
Next meeting to be held and located at the McGinty Meeting Room on October 11th 2017, at 7:00 PM.

Minutes Taken by Matthew Mackenzie

Minutes approved by Vote of the Advisory Committee.

Date of Meeting:

Vote:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'B. M. D.', written over a horizontal line.

Signature of Chairperson

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Susan D.', written over a horizontal line.

Signature of Vice Chairperson