

BELMONT WARRANT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

FINAL

JUNE 3, 2013, 5:30 P.M.

CHENERY COMMUNITY ROOM

RECEIVED
TOWN CLERK
BELMONT, MA.
Jun 17 9 56 AM '13

Present: Chair Lynch; Members Allison, Baghdady, Brusch, Dash, Gammill, Grob, Helgen, Libenson, Manjikian, McLaughlin, Millane, Sarno; BOS Chair Paolillo; School Committee Representative Slap

Members Absent: Epstein and Libenson

The meeting was called to order at 5:42 pm by Chair Lynch.

Chair Lynch began by asking Member Brusch to provide an update on the change to the Capital Budget Committee (CBC) budget. She informed the WC that an anonymous citizen offered to donate the \$ 19.5K cost of the electronic clickers. The CBC is recommending that the \$19.5K be put into the school building envelope fund.

Chair Lynch then noted the outstanding articles that the WC will need to vote on. He said that the WC meeting for Wednesday is posted at 5:30 p.m., should a meeting be needed.

Annual Town Meeting (ATM) Warrant Articles

Article 6 – Revolving Funds, and the Amendment to Increase the Revolving Fund for the COA to \$80K

Mr. Kale said that he received the suggestions regarding Article 6. He said he intends to meet with the Department Heads to ensure that they know how to proceed with revolving accounts. Going forward, he said, account balances will be reviewed mid-year. The WC discussed.

Member Helgen asked about the program increases for the COA. She noted that the revenue has decreased from FY12 to FY13. Mr. Kale outlined the program offerings and how they are funded.

Member Gammill asked if revolving funds were a good management tool. Mr. Kale said that it depends, but for the COA budget, a revolving fund does make sense given the way various programs are funded. If revenue controls are in place to cover the expenses, it makes sense to use revolving funds.

Member Helgen followed up with a question on the similarities between the COA and the Recreation Department. Member Brusch said that it appears that the COA was allowed to overspend its budget. She said that the problem is the check and balance, as it does not seem to have been met here. Mr. Kale said that this will be watched more closely.

Member Allison suggested that new revolving funds should not be created unless there is a very good reason to do so. Member Gammill agreed.

Member Gammill moved: Favorable action on the amendment to Article 6, which raises the COA revolving fund to \$80K.

The motion passed unanimously.

Member Grob moved: Favorable action on Article 6, as amended.

The motion passed unanimously.

Article 7 – Up-Front Funds for Highway Improvements, and the Amendment to Allocate \$120K of Those Funds Specifically to Sidewalks

Chair Lynch said that the citizen's amendment concerns appropriating \$120K from Chapter 90 funds to sidewalks. Member Allison said she would like to hear what Mr. Clancy has to say on this amendment. Member Bruschi noted that only 50% of the Chapter 90 money has been released, as of now. CBC Chair Mahoney said that the CBC opposed this amendment. Mr. Clancy approached the WC table and answered questions.

Member McLaughlin moved: Unfavorable action on the amendment to Article 7.

The motion passed unanimously.

Article 21 – Demolition Delay

Chair Lynch stated that the WC will begin the Demolition Delay conversation, but that it will probably need to continue the discussion on Wednesday, June 5 at 5:30 p.m.

The WC paused to allow members to sign in to TM and to seek the input of Member Baghdady, who left the WC meeting to discuss Article 21 with the Board of Selectmen.

Chair Paolillo approached the WC and informed them that the Board just voted to dismiss Article 21. He indicated that the article will be re-written and reintroduced in the fall at a Special TM. Mr. Paolillo stated that he hoped that the re-written article is one that can be supported by all.

Member McLaughlin said that the original motion could be voted on, as it has been available for weeks. Chair Paolillo said that the article remains unclear to TM members. Member Millane said that the Historic District Commission (HDC), as a non-elected body, had too much control over the list. Member Dash asked if three months is going to change anything. HDC Chair Smith said there was consensus on the original article and that it should be voted on.

The WC will stay in session for TM.

Adjournment

Member McLaughlin moved to adjourn at 11:30 pm.

Submitted by Lisa Gibalerio
WC Recording Secretary