

Warrant Committee FY06 Meeting Minutes November 9, 2005

Handout(s) distributed tonight are:

1. TOB Comparative Operating Statement for Three Months Ending 9/30/06, 9/30/05, 9/30/04
2. FY07 Level Service Projection Assumptions

Member(s) absent: Oates, Paolillo, Solomon, and Tillotson

Also present: Selectman Angelo Firenze, Town Administrator Tom Younger, Town Accountant Barbara Hagg, Assessing Administrator Dick Simmons, and Town Treasurer Floyd Carman

Chair Jones called the meeting to order at 7:34 PM.

Acceptance of Minutes

The Committee discussed the minutes of the November 2, 2005 meeting.

- *Member Heigham made a motion, Member Hofmann seconded said motion, and the Committee voted to accept the minutes as amended of the November 2, 2005 meeting.*

Economic Analysis of Future Capital Expenditures

Vice Chair White recapped there is another subcommittee which includes some members of the Warrant Committee. Mike Speidel, Penny Schafer, Liz Allison, and John Bowe (Capital Budget Committee) will be on this group. Joel Mooney (Permanent Building Committee) and Mark Clark (Capital Budget Committee) will be involved as well.

Continued Reports on Project Committees

Town Accountant Hagg pointed out on *Handout 1* that quarterly taxes have significantly helped the Town's cash flow.

Vice Chair White introduced the FY07 Level Service Projection Assumptions (*Handout 2*). He reviewed the initial summary page and detailed revenues and expenses with the Committee. A few items not listed are the funding of future of retiree health benefits and any road/sewer catch up costs. This spreadsheet is focusing on level service.

Selectman Firenze updated the Committee on the roads situation. The estimated total cost to get us from where we are to where we need to be is \$5 million/year for the next 20 years. We are currently funding about \$1.2 million/year (according to Community Development Director Glenn Clancy). Selectman Firenze believes there is about \$2.3 million allocated this year. This

includes some brought money forward from FY05. The November 28 Board of Selectmen meeting will include a discussion on roads with Community Development Director Clancy.

Member Widmer added that we need to reach a bottom line number that the Schools and Town will budget to without an override. The Warrant Committee subcommittees would then be able to understand and work with department heads to discover what would be impacted in the level funded budget.

Vice Chair White will allocate some of the \$2.9 million gap that needs to be cut in time for the next meeting. Chair Jones pointed out solid waste collection as an option. Health insurance and outside contracting may produce savings in subsequent years.

Selectman Firenze would like to have department heads think about how they spend money and what their activities are costing them in the long-term. Chair Jones answered that we are already working with some departments on this topic, which is a nice stepping-stone to Selectman Firenze's request.

Member Bruschi pointed out we will have both budgets available before an override so the voter will have both budgets in hand before they vote.

The November 30 meeting will start at 7 pm (with no television) to discuss an introduction on the role of Subcommittees. The regular meeting will begin subsequent to that time. Subcommittees should then be meeting, after November 30 and no later than the week of December 5, with department heads to discuss their budgets.

Member Bruschi requested the departmental budgets for the November 30 meeting. It is understood they do not include Town Administrator Younger's recommendation.

Member Allison should have a cost of employee report for the November 30 meeting.

Other

Member Heigham made a motion and it was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:19 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kristina Frizzell, Recording Clerk

Next Meeting: November 30 at 7 PM

Future Meeting(s): December 7 at 7:30 PM