

## Human Services Subcommittee of the Warrant Committee

### Minutes of Meeting held on April 3, 2014:

Present: Elizabeth Grob, Bob McLaughlin, Liz Allison

Absent: Greg Mennis

The subcommittee reviewed the previous year's Warrant Committee report write-ups for the three departments now contained in Human Services (Council of Aging, Library Public Health) against the narratives and budgets submitted for the FY2015 budget document to identify items that should be the focus of the reviews.

COA issues remain largely unchanged: 1) the largest fraction of the budget related to transportation, 2) the ability to track usage of the Senior Center Facility and the services offered therein, and 3) the extent to which a relatively small core of senior account for a large fraction of the services provided.

The subcommittee discussed the fact that the most important financial issue facing the Library - its plan for moving forward after the unsuccessful pursuit of a school property site - does not flow through the operating budget. The issues within the operating budget continue to be 1) the use of fully benefitted part time employees 2) the proportion of the budget that is absorbed by office and routine clerical (checkout of books) services, and 3) the impact on maintenance quality and costs of the decision not to join the facilities management consolidation.

As in FY 2014, the Public Health Department poses few issues. It was agreed that we should understand the change in the animal control position, particularly in light of the new state regulation and increased training requirement for this role. It was also noted that the major issues (size, efficient delivery of social work type services) can only be solved by reorganization at the town level and that this is not a priority for FY2015.

Approved April 17, 2014

Submitted by Liz Allison, member Human Services Subcommittee (Elizabeth Grob, chair) of the Warrant Committee