

**Town of Hanover**  
**Advisory Committee**  
**550 Hanover Street**  
**Hanover, MA 02339**

Meeting Minutes

February 4, 2015 7:00pm

**Opening:**

The meeting was opened at 7:06 pm after the Committee attended the Board of Selectman budget meeting.

**Committee Attendees:**

Chris Martin, Donald White, Angela Blanchard, Jerry O’Hearn, Wayne Moores, Joan Port Farwell, Helen Grave, Ed Hickey

**Absent:**

**Other Attendees:** Jeffery Blanchard, Fire Chief

Chris Martin asked for the Committee member’s thoughts on how to schedule the Advisory Committee meeting going forward until Town Meeting. Dow White made the suggestion that more meeting would equate to less time spent at each meeting. The Committee was in agreement. Chris brought forward the idea of having time dedicated at each meeting to some budget discussion, reviewing some articles, and meeting with one or more Department head as time would allow. The Committee was in agreement with this. There was a brief discussion with each member describing what they would like to get out of the upcoming Department Head meetings.

Chris Martin as Ted Hickey to speak about his opinion after attending the latest CPC meeting. Ted presented the Committee with information he had researched regarding the legislation for CPC rules and regulation. At this point in the discussion Chris Martin asked they let Chief Blanchard present as he was on the agenda for this time and table the CPC discussion until after the chief’s meeting.

### **Meeting with Fire Chief Jeffery Blanchard:**

Fire chief Jeffery Blanchard presented his FY2016 budget to the Committee. He detailed the volume of calls the Fire Department has averaged of the last few years. He indicated that there would be no increase in personnel for the Fire Department in FY2016. He reviewed the needs for salary increases within the Fire Department as they pertain to contractual obligations. Chief Blanchard explained that the Fire Department does a zero based budget and will continue to try and do so.

Chief Blanchard presented his 2 capital item for FY2016 to the Committee. The first being a Pump Engine and the second being a new ambulance. The chief detailed the model ambulance the department is hoping to purchase and explained that the use if Ambulance receipts would be used toward purchasing this vehicle. There was a brief discussion regarding the capital item request for a pump engine. Don White inquired if this was the engine that was in an accident. The chief indicated that it was.

Jerry O'Hearn inquired as to the status of the kitchen project. Chief Blanchard informed him that the project was nearing completion however they were currently waiting for sprinklers to be installed.

The Committee asked the Chief to speak on the proposed site for the new fire station, in particular his opinion for the smallest and most ideal location. Chief Blanchard referred to the time spent in 2006 and 2007 researching the need for this fire station. He explained the need to have the correct size fire station in order for the Town of Hanover to keep their class 3 status that directly effects the towns insurance rates. Chief Blanchard spoke in detail about the need for appropriate size bays as well as correct location to make the new station most beneficial.

Chief Blanchard also demonstrated the new radios that were upgraded in FY2015. He spoke of how beneficial they were to the Department and invited the Committee to come view the other updates that had been done to the station per FY2015.

The Committee thanked Chief Blanchard for his time and detailed explanation for both his budget and Capital requests.

The Committee discussed the meeting schedule for the next month. Meetings were tentatively set for 2/25/15, 3/4/15, 3/21/15, and 3/28/15.

Joan Port-Farwell motioned to adjourn at 9:24. Don White seconded and it was so voted.