

TOWN OF HANOVER 550 HANOVER STREET HANOVER, MASSACHUSETTS 02339

Advisory Committee

Hanover Advisory Committee 550 Hanover Street Hanover, MA 02339

Meeting Minutes - Amended Wednesday, April 22, 2020 - 7:00 pm Via Video Conference Call

Committee Attendees

Ted Hickey, ChairGavin Little-GillJoan Port-FarwellSandra HayesJim HoyesSteve KmitoSteven FreedmanNick MorwoodJerry O'Hearn

Other Attendees

Joe Colangelo, Town Manager Lincoln Heineman, Director of Finance Chelsea Stevens, Town Accountant

Opening

The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm by Chair Ted Hickey. Chairman Hickey took roll-call. All members were present.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Sandra Hayes moved that the minutes for the March 11, 2020 meeting be accepted as written. The motion was seconded and approved by roll-call vote, with one abstention.

Sandra Hayes moved that the minutes for the March 25, 2020 meeting be accepted as written. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously by roll-call vote.

Updates to FY2021 Budget

Chairman Hickey began the meeting with a review of the recommended budget changes.

Town Manager Joe Colangelo stated there are \$850,000 in reductions from the originally-proposed budget. There are no "fake" cuts. There are position eliminations from hiring and 2 positions will be funded through other sources. Joe shared that the Library staff had been furloughed until 9/1/20. Joe also shared that no regular employees will lose their positions. The budget retains the use of \$750,000 from Free Cash and includes \$191,000 in transfers from unused funds from old capital projects. The town is looking to cut the current budgeted salary line expenses by 50%. Separately the town is in negotiations with 4 of the town's unions.

Lincoln shared that the Schools reduced their budget request by \$400,000. Lincoln shared that this is the highest percentage of Free Cash that would remain in the past 11 years after Town Meeting appropriations occurred.

The committee had questions around funding sources (Emergency Reserve Fund, Stabilization Fund). The committee was looking beyond FY21 into FY22 and issues that will exist for the next couple of years of budget planning. There were questions relating to where cuts came from and were there any other sources that could be available if required to reduce more.

Ted asked the Committee to think about ways the final budget will look different from the current version because we are still in the fog of COVID-19. He suggested the Committee re-evaluate our sources of revenue – taxes & state aid, etc.

<u>Adjournment</u>

Sandra Hayes made a motion to adjourn, and the motion was seconded. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm via a roll call vote.

Next Meeting

Nothing formal set, looking at the week of May $\mathbf{11}^{\text{th}}$.