

Hanover Advisory Committee
550 Hanover Street
Hanover, MA 02339
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 2, 2016 – 7:00 pm
Hanover Police Station

Opening:

The meeting was opened at 7:01 p.m. by Edward Hickey, Chairman.

Committee Attendees:

Edward Hickey
Angela Blanchard
Jerry O’Hearn

Wayne Moores
Joan Port-Farwell
Emmanuel Dockter

Absent

Sandra Hayes
Brandon Freeman
Gavin Little-Gill

Other Attendees:

Janine Smith, Director of Municipal Finance
Fire Chief Jeffrey Blanchard
Police Chief Walter Sweeney Jr.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to accept the minutes from October 20th, 2016 as written. This was seconded by Angela Blanchard. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Discussion with Fire Chief Jeffrey Blanchard

Fire Chief Blanchard spoke to the Committee about the two pending capital requests related to the Fire Department. The first request is the replacement of the 1989 aerial ladder. Chief Blanchard reported that the current ladder truck is at the end of its useful life and has been out of service for 150 days and had \$80,000 worth of repairs in the last 6 years. The Hanover Fire Department was recently awarded a grant of \$932,381 toward the cost of a new aerial ladder truck through the Aid to Firefighter’s Grant Program. Hanover Fire had applied several years previously for the Grant and had been denied up until this year. He further informed us that the Grant is an annual \$300 million program with \$60 million allotted to apparatus with \$10 million of that then allotted to ambulance purchases. The remaining \$50 million is awarded throughout the country for fire truck replacement. He stated the existing ladder truck would possibly have a scrap metal value but must be disposed of per terms of the Grant. The terms of the Grant prohibit the sale of the 1989 ladder truck to another community. The new aerial ladder to be purchased will provide significantly more safety to the firefighters and at this time, we do not have a final cost (including equipping the vehicle) and the final number would be determined in the near future. The second capital request from the Fire Department would be for 4 (the original number was 3 but it is now possibly being required that each community purchase a “spare unit”) IV Infusion Pumps for the ambulance service. Chief Blanchard explained that the statewide treatment protocols have changed and the new units will precisely meter out IV meds. He is working with the Office of Emergency Medical Services and South Shore Hospital and is hoping to have a more precise cost in January after the state mandated requirements are determined. He said the funding source would be the ambulance fund. Chief Blanchard told the committee that he is currently at a 90% collections rate

for the ambulance service. A very brief discussion was held on the possible storage addition to the fire headquarters on Center Street reducing the size of the fire station that will be required to be built in North Hanover. When asked about the sale of the remaining satellite Fire Stations in town, Chief Blanchard said that Station 1 in North Hanover and Station 2 in Four Corners could be sold immediately if the Board of Selectman chose to do so.

Discussion with Police Chief Walter Sweeney Jr.

Police Chief Sweeney began his discussion by informing the committee that his FY2018 request has been reduced by \$100,000 as the need for the hardware/software request was eliminated for the time being. He said 3-4 years from now, the request may re-appear but was able to remove it at this time.

Chief Sweeney is requesting the replacement of 3 police cruisers off the fiscal replacement schedule. He stated that over 12 years ago, the regular capital plan began calling for a regular replacement cycle on police cruisers and that the plan has served public safety well and urges our support.

He would be replacing the following:

1. 2014 Tahoe which is drive 24 hours per day and 7 days per week by the Shift Commander. The vehicle will have over 100,000 miles on it at the end of FY2018 and the current mileage is 68,608. It has been driven 31,000 miles in the last 11 months.
2. Front Line Cruiser #344 which is a 2014 marked Ford Interceptor with a utility style body. It is all wheel drive and has 69,000 current miles and will be well over 100,000 miles at the end of FY2018. It the last 11 months, it has been driven 28,000 miles.
3. 2008 Ford Crown Victoria – the oldest vehicle in the fleet with 90,000 miles on it.

Chief Sweeney concluded his discussion stating that he is very concerned that we could have serviceable front line emergency vehicles with 120,000 miles on them if we do not replace. The vehicles are relied on daily and Chief Sweeney urges the replacement.

General Discussions

Joan Port-Farwell reported she met with Dr. Tom Raab about Facilities Capital issues with concern to the school kitchens. Dr. Raab said that, from their own budget, a convection oven and a dishwasher were purchased for immediate use at the Sylvester School and will later be used at either the Cedar or Middle School. He reported the serving center at the middle school does not presently drain the water from it and that a temporary repair of the refrigerator at the Cedar School has been made – but does need to be replaced.

Liaisons to each department were agreed upon as follows:

Joan Port Farwell - School Department

Wayne Moores – Fire and Police

Angela Blanchard and Sandy Hayes – Community Services

Jerry O’Hearn – DPW/Water

Emmanuel Dockter – Facilities

Next Meetings

The Committee will meet on Tuesday, November 15th followed by an additional meeting on Wednesday, November 30th.

Adjournment

Joan Port-Farwell made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Jerry O’Hearn. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 8:46 pm.