

Hanover Advisory Committee
550 Hanover Street
Hanover, MA 02339
Meeting Minutes
Thursday January 18, 2018 – 7:00 pm
Advisory Committee Hearing Room
Hanover Town Hall

Committee Attendees

Edward Hickey
Steve Kmito
Gavin Little-Gill
Nick Morwood
Jerry O’Hearn
Joan Port-Farwell

Absent

Brandon Freeman
Sandra Hayes
Wayne Moores

Other Attendees

Lincoln Heineman, Director of Finance
Anthony Marino, Acting Town Manager
Chelsea Stevens, Town Accountant

Opening

The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm by Edward Hickey, Chairman.

Technology Costs

Mr. Little-Gill spoke about technology costs in the Hanover Schools’ budget and how these costs interface with the role of the Information Technology Study Committee. Discussion ensued on the IT Study Committee’s mission.

Mr. Marino discussed the Information Technology Study Committee’s presentation at its meeting with the Selectmen on 01/16/2018.

Review and Vote on Meeting Minutes

Ms. Port-Farwell made a motion to accept January 3rd’s meeting minutes as written. This was seconded by Mr. O’Hearn. The motion passed unanimously.

Budget Discussion

Discussion ensued on the possibility of departments having 0% budget increases from FY2018 to FY2019. Mr. Hickey has met with the Schools regarding this request. For the Schools, this type of budget freeze would mean the possibility of raising fees or cutting programs.

Ms. Port-Farwell discussed the possibility of having curbside trash pickup, rather than maintaining the transfer station.

Discussion followed on the debt load Hanover carries as compared to similarly-situated towns.

Discussion ensued from Ms. Port-Farwell on how the Assessor's Annual Overlay Reserve is reflected as an expense rather than a revenue in the budget.

Discussion followed regarding the proposal to transfer the maintenance of Forge Pond Park from the Parks and Recreation Department to the Department of Public Works.

Scheduling Departmental Budget Reviews

It was agreed that the Committee will meet on the following nights to review FY2019 departmental budget requests, with the School Department making its presentation on February 7 or 15:

February 7, 15, and 28

March 7, 14, 21, and 28

Adjournment

Ms. Port-Farwell made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Mr. O'Hearn. All were in favor, and the meeting adjourned at 8:03 pm.