

**Hanover Advisory Committee
550 Hanover Street
Hanover, MA 02339
Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday November 1, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

**Advisory Committee Hearing Room
Town Hall**

Opening:

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

Committee Attendees:

Edward Hickey – Chairman
Sandra Hayes – Vice Chairperson
Joan Port-Farwell
Jerry O’Hearn
Brandon Freeman
Gavin Little-Gill
Steven Kmito
Nick Morwood

Absent:

Wayne Moores

Attending Guests:

Tony Marino

Review of Meeting Minutes:

The motion to accept the minutes from the October 10th Advisory Committee Meeting was made by Sandy Hayes. The members voted and unanimously accepted the meeting minutes as written.

Discussion of Proposed Special Town Meeting regarding By-Law Changes to Marijuana Establishments:

The Committee had a general discussion on the rationale for the proposed amendments to the By-Laws relative to marijuana establishments. Mr. Marino explained that Hanover voters strongly voted against the statewide ballot question regarding legalization of recreational marijuana. As such, the Board of Selectman wants to make sure voters have the ability to implement tough zoning restrictions should they want. The Attorney General has advised that certain amendments to the zoning and General By-laws would need to be voted at a Special Town Meeting in order to effectively prohibit retail recreational marijuana facilities in Hanover. The Planning Board has scheduled a joint public hearing with the By-law Review Committee hearing on November 20, 2017. There will be a special Town Meeting on Dec. 18, 2017. By-Laws need to be in place in order for the Town to effectively prohibit the use of recreational marijuana. These laws need to be in effect by April 1st. The Attorney General’s office will take 90 days to respond to the Town’s request once submitted; thus the timing of the

proposed Special Town Meeting. The Advisory Committee will need to review and vote recommendations regarding the Articles on the STM warrant.

Discussion of Impact of New DPW, Fire, Police and HMEL Contracts on FY 19 Budget:

The committee briefly discussed the impact that the new salary contracts will have on the department budgets as a whole. Chairman Hickey noted that the impact of the new contracts on the FY19 and FY20 budgets will be significant and likely with require cost cutting in other areas. Mr. Little-Gill asked about the increase in the use of “technology stipends” in the new contracts. No one seemed to have a full understanding of the reason for the expanded stipends or how they might enable cuts to other budget line items related to technology. Further review is warranted.

Other Business Related to the Town of Hanover:

- The committee asked Mr. Marino to pass along a request that we be provided with the proposed capital requests for FY19 along with an update version of the 5 year Capital request projections as soon as possible. Mr. Marino indicated that it would be a high priority.
- The Committee had a general discussion on upcoming contract negotiations with the Hanover Schools.
- The New Center Building School Project Event is scheduled for Wednesday, November 8th, 2017.
- The Veteran’s Honor Guard Memorial is scheduled for November 11th from 12:00 pm – 2:00 pm, outside of the Sylvester School grounds. Speeches will commence at 1:00 pm. Invitations were sent out to some 650 veterans in the Town.
- The new high school press box is now open.

Adjournment:

Edward Hickey made a motion to adjourn. This was seconded by Joan Port-Farwell. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.

Next Meeting:

The Committee’s next meeting will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall in the Advisory Committee’s Hearing Room.