



TOWN OF HANOVER
550 HANOVER STREET
HANOVER, MASSACHUSETTS 02339

Advisory Committee

Hanover Advisory Committee

550 Hanover Street

Hanover, MA 02339

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 12, 2020 - 7:00 pm

Advisory Committee Meeting Room

Hanover Town Hall

Committee Attendees

Ted Hickey, Chair

James Hoyes

Sandra Hayes

Steven Freedman

Jerry O'Hearn

Joan Port-Farwell

Nick Morwood

Steve Kmito

Committee Members Absent

Gavin Little-Gill

Other Attendees

Joe Colangelo, Town Manager

Lincoln Heineman, Director of Finance

Chelsea Stevens, Town Accountant

Police Chief Walter Sweeney

Fire Chief Jeffrey Blanchard

Opening

The meeting was opened at 7:00 pm by Sandra Hayes with 5 members present (quorum), three other members arrived shortly thereafter.

Review of Meeting Minutes

Sandra Hayes moved that the minutes from the January 13, 2020 meeting be accepted with one correction. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously. Sandra Hayes moved that the minutes from the February 3, 2020 meeting be approved. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

Presentation of FY 21 Budget Police & Fire

POLICE

Police Chief Walter Sweeney reviewed the Police Department's budget for FY21. The Chief reviewed each line item for the Department, Animal Control and Communications. Questions and discussion relating to Department expenses centered on changes around Mall expenses during construction.

Questions and discussion relating to Animal Control were relative to having a new officer and her desire to change the name from Animal Control to Animal Care & Control. Additional discussion centered on our officer having shared time with Pembroke and how that impacts the budget.

Capital item questions and discussion were about 2 marked cars which are recommended to be purchased with Free Cash and a marked command vehicle which will be purchased with other funding. The chief will provide the mileage per vehicle at a later date.

FIRE

Fire Chief Jeffrey Blanchard reviewed the Fire Department budget for FY21. The chief reviewed each line item for the Department. He discussed in detail how the SAFER Grant worked and how the federal reimbursement percentage would be dropping to zero during FY21. The Chief shared how ambulance revenue is up. The rates are reviewed annually in June.

Questions and discussion centered on labor cost increases and education pay. The questions focused on how to sustain these salaries over the long-term.

The Chief reviewed expenses. He shared that vehicle maintenance numbers are up. The newer vehicles have a higher cost to maintain than older vehicles. The Chief also reviewed the protective gear expense line. He shared that the protection gear has a 10-year life span, so the department must purchase some new gear to meet the regulation.

The Chief reviewed capital items – 2 signs, 1 pumper to be leased and a command vehicle.

The Committee discussed the need to decide on dates to meet with Petition Article Proponents and about the Town Clerk's salary.

It was decided the date to meet with the Committee would be 3/11/20 for the petitioners of the Article to amend Zoning Bylaws Section 6.230. There are two other articles by petition; these petitioners will be contacted by staff to ask whether they would like to present before the Committee.

The Committee decided the date for the Town Clerk's salary review would be 3/25/20.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be Wednesday, February 26, 2020 at 7 PM.

Adjournment

Sandra Hayes moved to adjourn at 9:13 PM. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.