TOWN OF NORWELL Advisory Board Meeting Minutes January 10, 2017 TOWN OF NORWELL TOWN CLERK 2017 JAN 23 PM 2: 37 RECEIVED

The Advisory Board was called to order by Roger Hughes at 7:00pm. Present were Jacky McClean, Susan Powell, Jane Stout, Mark Maiellano, Amy Koch, Ralph Gordon and Karen Reynolds. Tim Greene arrived after the Acceptance of Minutes. Also present was Town Administrator Peter Morin.

## **ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

**Acceptance of Minutes -** Roger asked for questions or comments about the November 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes. With no discussion, motion to accept the Minutes from November 15, 2016. *Seconded and passed 8-0.* 

**Announcements -** Roger reminded the AB that our Town Hall mailbox is regularly filled with interesting professional publications about the workings of a Town Government, seminars for people working/volunteering for a Town Government and other helpful literature.

## **ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSIONS**

- 1. Discussion of 2018FY Budget Process The three sources of revenue, Real Estate Tax, Local Receipts, State Aid are as expected. Given this premise, Peter is proceeding with the budget. He has proposals from most Departments the exceptions include Schools, Highway/Tree & Grounds and he has tentative budgets from Police and Fire.
  - a. AB is ready to begin budget discussions with Departments, Committees, Boards. Will begin with small budgets and work way up with the goal of finishing with ample time to investigate and consider Warrant Articles.
  - b. Warrant opened January 4, 2017, will close second week of February and go to press early April.
  - c. Special and Annual Town Meeting May 8, 2017
- 2. Capital Planning Spreadsheet tool Town contracted the Abraham's Group as a consultant to discuss and forecast a 10 Year Capital Plan. The Plan assesses each Department's long term Capital needs and then prioritizes them accordingly. This planful way to budget is designed to schedule and prepare for Capital Projects and reduce the panic of being caught off guard. The tool allows the Town to shuffle, add and subtract projects as our needs change.

- **3. Unanticipated Business -** Update of Town Health Insurance. Norwell is staying with the Mayflower Group during 2017.
  - a. Scituate moved to Maya and saw 11% increase
  - b. Hingham moved to GIC with 5% increase and major changes to plan
  - c. Abbington and Rockland formed partnership for joint purchasing power
  - d. 21 communities continue with Mayflower Group which is responding to recent criticism.
  - e. Norwell sees a 10% increase with Mayflower Group, but consultant thought it too risky to leave at this time considering Federal regulations in flux.
  - f. Town wants to have partnership with unions to have fair plan for all.

## **FUTURE MEETINGS**

Next several meetings are January 17, 24, and 31, 2017 at 7pm.

Adjourn - Motion made to Adjourn. Seconded and passed 9-0.

Roger Hughes Chairman