

**TOWN OF NORWELL
Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
March 5, 2015**

TOWN OF NORWELL
TOWN CLERK

2015 MAR 18 PM 12:42

RECEIVED

The Advisory Board was called to order by Chairman Roger Hughes at 7:00p.m. Present were Skip Joseph, Chad Forman, Ralph Gordon, Mark Maiellano, Jacky McClean and Karen Reynolds. Fran Molla and David McEachern were absent. Interim Town Administrator Peter Hechenbleikner was also present.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Acceptance of Minute: Roger asked members of the AB if they had questions about the Minutes from February 26, 2015. Motion made to approve the Minutes from February 26, 2015. *Seconded and unanimously passed 7-0.*

Bill: None

Transfer Request: None

Correspondence/Notices: None

NEW BUSINESS

Budget discussions

Council on Aging - Rosemary O'Connor present to support a level funded budget to achieve main goal of providing transportation, programs and a newsletter to Town's elderly population. Peter to make several amendments to this budget. As a custodian is retiring, Peter feels this should be part of the Facilities Budget and the new custodian would share hours between Council on Aging and Town Hall. This worksheet is in progress and AB will continue to discuss as more information is available.

Veterans Services - Norwell has 457 veterans, and they are entitled to Veteran Benefits paid by the Town and reimbursed by the State. Town Agent David Osborn contacts veterans/ spouse/widow to discuss current benefits and help prepare documents for entitled benefits. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Administrator for the level funded budget of \$36,279. *Seconded and unanimously passed 7-0.*

Library - Judy McConarty present to discuss the needs of the Library. The Library is asking to be funded at the state level to meet the Municipal Appropriation Requirement (MAR). In the past, the Library has had to apply for a waiver to meet this requirement. State aid is awarded to libraries that meet the MAR, open hours to service population, and spend 15% of budget on materials. This ensures certification, entitles it to receive state aid, participate in reciprocal borrowing services and be eligible to apply for federal, state and private grants including state construction grants. If the Library is funded at the MAR it would use the additional funds to open the Library on Sunday. This budget worksheet is a work in progress. Peter will present final budget at a future meeting.

Recreation - Peter gave brief description of the Recreation Budget. It is a revolving fund department in which revenues cover the cost. Full time employees are not paid through the revolving fund. This year the budget is decreased as a new director was hired last summer. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Administrator for the total budget of \$65,519. *Seconded and unanimously passed 7-0.*

Historical Commission - Peter gave brief description of the Historical Commission's level funded budget. The Commission is considering new properties and has two pending demolition delay for this year. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Administrator for the total budget of \$4,000. *Seconded and unanimously passed 7-0.*

OLD BUSINESS

Review and vote updated budgets.

Reminder: The Town is consolidating the Health Insurance Opt-Out line into a separate line of the Unclassified/Employee Benefits budget to be administered by the Town Treasurer/Collector. Departments are no longer responsible for this item in budget.

Unclassified/Employee Benefits - Peter revised this worksheet to reflect the true cost of workers compensation, liability insurance, health insurance and health insurance/opt-out. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Administrator for the total budget of \$7,603,388. *Seconded and unanimously passed 7-0.*

Highway Department, Tree and Grounds Department - In these revised budgets, health insurance opt-out line was struck from these budgets and moved to the appropriate line. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Administrator for the total budgets of \$1,115,657 for Highway and \$499,560 for Tree and Grounds. *Seconded and passed unanimously 7-0.*

Street Lighting - This budget was updated to reflect the true cost of Street Lighting that is offset by the solar credits. Motion to accept the recommendation of the Town Administrator for the total budget of \$60,000. *Seconded and passed unanimously 7-0.*

School Debt - This budget was also updated to reflect the cost of health insurance and opt-out program. South Shore Regional School District is still working on their budget. The School Debt worksheet will not be voted until confirmation from SSRSD.

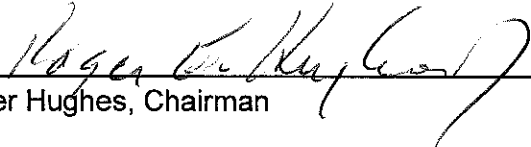
FUTURE MEETINGS

March 10, 2015 at 7pm.

March 14, 2015 at 8am.

Reminder of the Open Meeting Laws seminar Monday March 9, 2015 at 7pm in the Town Hall Gym.

Adjourn: Motion made to Adjourn. *Seconded and unanimously passed 7-0.*



Roger Hughes, Chairman