

**TOWN OF NORWELL
Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes
February 6, 2018**

TOWN OF NORWELL
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The Advisory Board was called to order by Tim Greene at 7:00pm. Present were Jane Stout, Susan Powell, Harry Solis, Mark Maiellano, Mark Cleveland and Karen Reynolds. Amy Koch was absent. Town Administrator, Peter Morin was also present.

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

Acceptance of Minutes - Tim asked for questions and comments about the Minutes for January 24. There was no Meeting January 24, but Minutes for January 30 were not ready.

ACTION ITEMS / DISCUSSION

Department Budgets

Council on Aging - Susan Curtain, Director for COA, was present for an in-depth discussion of the positive, growing programming and outreach work the COA achieves for the elder community of the Town. COA saw increased participation, home delivery of meals & rides along with outreach services including referrals for home heating assistance and healthcare among other services. The COA has strong relationships with all Town Departments but specifically Veterans Affairs and Public Safety. They recently installed a generator which makes COA a secondary emergency shelter for the Town. The biggest challenges for residents utilizing the COA are the increase in Healthcare costs and the increase in Town Taxes. Some of these challenges are offset by the strong Senior Work Relief program the Town offers. Last year 47 participants reduced Town taxes through this program.

This year the COA looks to shift the use of State grant money from paying for 30 hours salary of the receptionist to use for 15 hours salary for receptionist and to pay for conferences and to cover the wages of three on call drivers. The other 15 hours for the receptionist salary will be covered in the COA budget. Also the COA will have two Capital requests for two new vehicles. One request is for a new wheelchair accessible van with a 12-14 person capacity. The old van is outdated according to State standards. They are also asking for a small passenger car / crossover that meets Green Communities standards. It will be used when transporting 1-2 passengers. Currently the COA has one other vehicle. This will give them 3 vehicles. Peter explained that Norwell is now eligible for partial reimbursement of State & County charges for MBTA Assessments. The reimbursement funds are to be used for the wages of our transport drivers. The COA is fully staffed and with these changes the COA is in good position for the next year.

Total budget for Council on Aging \$260,260

Board of Health - Peter presented the budget for the Board of Health. It is a straight forward budget with increases for contract salaries, solid waste disposal and SEMASS disposal services. Recycling through PAYT program increased to 40% and has maintained that level.

While the Town pays for recycling services, it is much less than solid waste. The more the Town recycles, the less solid waste fees.


Total budget for Board of Health \$1,214,257

FUTURE MEETINGS

Thursday February 8, 2018

Tuesday February 13, 2018

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Greene', is written over a horizontal line.

Tim Greene, Chairman