

Cohasset Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 13, 2022

Virtual Meeting-Zoom Video Call

7:00 p.m.

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 20(b), following Governor Baker's declaration of a state of emergency in the Commonwealth arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Advisory Committee will meet virtually utilizing remote technology. **All votes will be taken by a Roll-Call Vote.**

Documents Received: Updated Draft Warrant dated as of April 5, 2022 for 2022 Annual Town Meeting.

This meeting was recorded. Meeting was called to order at approximately 7:00 pm by Chair Robert Hillman, with a quorum present.

Advisory Committee Members in Attendance: Jeanne Astino, Michael Barclay, Fran Collins, Robert Hillman, J. Patrick Kennedy, Mary McGoldrick, and Meg Wheeler (joined meeting at 7:20 p.m.).

Advisory Committee Members Absent: Adam Amann and Mark Maggi.

Documents Presented: Draft Advisory Committee Minutes for Meetings held on March 22, March 30, March 31, and April 27, 2022.

Guest: Chris Senior, Town Manager.

As a preliminary item, Chair Robert Hillman asked Town Manager Chris Senior to provide the Committee with an update on the status of state authorization of remote meetings in light of the impending expiration of prior state legislation allowing remote, rather than in-person meeting attendance, in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. Mr. Senior noted that remote meeting authorization currently expires at midnight on Friday July 15, 2022, absent passage of new legislation. Post-expiration legislation passage is possible with retroactive application, but Mr. Senior stated that competing bills between the Senate and House are currently holding things up. Mr. Senior agreed to keep Chair Hillman and the Committee apprised of developments for meeting planning purposes.

1. Fiscal Year 2022 Year-End Budget Transfers

Chair Robert Hillman explained that one of the Advisory Committee's jurisdictional functions is to review and approve certain year-end budget transfers. Mr. Senior presented the substantial items in the proposed year-end budget transfers memo and spreadsheet for fiscal year end 2022. Members of the Committee asked questions about health care transfers and the overage in the snow/ice clearing budget lines, which were answered by Mr. Senior.

- Following discussion and with all questions answered, Fran Collins moved to approve the requested Fiscal Year 2022 Budget Transfers, as presented in the Proposed Fiscal Year 2022 Year-End Budget Transfers Memo & Spreadsheet; Mike Barclay seconded the motion; and pursuant to a roll call vote, all members voted AYE (7-0-0).

2. Discussion Regarding Long-Term Planning Committee or Working Group

Chair Robert Hillman updated the Committee on his discussions with other Town officials, including the Select Board Chair and members of the Capital Budget Committee, about the possibility of forming a new Committee or Working Group to review and make recommendations about the long-term capital planning expenditures and projects facing the Town during the next ten years. He noted that participation may include the Select Board, Advisory Committee, Capital Budget Committee, Water Commission, and Sewer Commission.

- Following discussion, J. Patrick Kennedy moved to authorize an Advisory Committee working group consisting of Chair Robert Hillman and Mike Barclay, liaison to the Capital Budget Committee, to represent the Advisory Committee in all such future discussions, and to report back to the Committee the results of those discussions; Fran Collins seconded the motion; and pursuant to a roll call vote, all members voted AYE (7-0-0).

3. Discussion Regarding Infrastructure and Capital Projects

Chair Robert Hillman opened a discussion about Select Board review and recommendation of infrastructure and capital projects for debt exclusion during Fiscal Year 2023, noting that no projects had been advanced in time for a possible Special Town Meeting in November 2022. It was discussed that a proposed new Infrastructure and Budget Committee or Working Group should include Advisory Committee participation, although it was noted that Town of Cohasset General By-Laws prohibit Advisory Committee members from sitting as voting members on any other town Committees or Boards. It was also noted that Capital Budget Committee participation would be valuable to any such Committee or Working Group. Questions and comments about specific projects were raised, answered, and discussed, including regarding the recent Field Study review and assessment, the Elm Street Corridor Improvements project, the list of roads scheduled for repaving in any given fiscal year, the Town Hall Building Committee and project, and the School Facilities Committee. Chair Hillman noted that the School Facilities Committee should provide an update to the Advisory Committee following its submission of a statement of interest filing with the Commonwealth of Mass. School Building Authority, which was agreed by consensus. Vice-Chair Mary McGoldrick agreed to send to all members the link to the School's assessment report prepared by a consultant, along with a prior assessment study.

4. Discussion Regarding Zoning By-Laws Amendments and Other Possible Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Chair Robert Hillman requested that Town Manager Chris Senior update the Committee regarding any likely significant articles that may be presented in the warrant for the Fall Special Town Meeting. Mr. Senior noted that the Zoning By-Laws Amendments Committee was getting reorganized with a goal of undertaking an accelerated revision of the Town's Zoning By-Laws. Mr. Senior also mentioned free cash distributions, fiscal year-end clean up articles, and harbor-related articles as possible subjects of discussion at the Fall Special Town Meeting.

- Following discussion, Jeanne Astino moved to recommend Draft Warrant Article 14 for purchase and installation of PFAS filtration remediation technology, as presented in the April 5, 2022 Draft Warrant Article, to Town Meeting; Fran Collins seconded the motion; and pursuant to a roll call vote, all members voted AYE (7-0-0).

5. 48-Hours Item & Other Business

Chair Robert Hillman notified the Advisory Committee of an item not on the Agenda of which he was notified less than 48 hours before the meeting, which was that member Adam Amann has resigned from

the Committee due to his recent move out of Cohasset. Robert Hillman also updated the Committee that members Mary McGoldrick and Meg Wheeler, who had completed service of initial 3-year terms expiring at the end of June 2022, had both applied to serve a second 3-year term, and that both were approved at a recent meeting of the Troika (consisting of the Town Moderator, Chair of the Select Board, and Chair of the Advisory Committee).

- Following expressions of gratitude for Mr. Amann's service to the Town of Cohasset and the Advisory Committee over the past year, Chair Robert Hillman moved to thank Adam Amann for his dedicated and helpful service to the Advisory Committee; Mary McGoldrick seconded the motion; and pursuant to a roll call vote, all members voted AYE (7-0-0).

6. Review + Approval of Minutes of Past Meetings

Clerk J. Patrick Kennedy introduced the draft Minutes of past Advisory Committee meetings, which had been distributed prior to the meeting and which resulted in the following votes:

- For the Draft Minutes of the March 31, 2022 Meeting, Jeanne Astino asked that the School Department vs. Town Budget split for new growth tax revenues be corrected to a 61%/39% split, and with that correction, J. Patrick Kennedy moved to adopt them; Mary McGoldrick seconded the motion; and pursuant to a roll call vote, all members voted AYE, except that Meg Wheeler abstained because she was absent from that meeting (6-0-1).
- For the Draft Minutes of the March 22, 2022 Meeting, J. Patrick Kennedy moved to adopt them; Mary McGoldrick seconded the motion; and pursuant to a roll call vote, all members voted AYE (7-0-0).
- For the Draft Minutes of the March 30, 2022 Meeting, Jeanne Astino moved to adopt them; Mary McGoldrick seconded the motion; and pursuant to a roll call vote, all members voted AYE, except that Mark Maggi and Meg Wheeler abstained because they were absent from that meeting (5-0-2).
- For the Draft Minutes of the April 27, 2022 Meeting, Jeanne Astino moved to adopt them; Mary McGoldrick seconded the motion; and pursuant to a roll call vote, all members voted AYE, except that J. Patrick Kennedy abstained because he was absent from that meeting (6-0-1).

With its business completed, Motion to Adjourn by J. Patrick Kennedy, seconded by Jeanne Astino, and on a roll call vote all present members voted Aye (7-0-0).

Meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 p.m.