

Cohasset Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday October 19, 2022

Virtual Meeting-Zoom Video Call

7 pm

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: October 19, 2022 draft of Town of Cohasset Warrant, Special Town Meeting of December 12, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Rob Hillman at 7:03 pm. Present-Mike Barclay, Present- Fran Collins, Present -Patrick Kennedy, Present – Mark Maggi, Present- Ellen Maher, Present- Mary McGoldrick, Present- Meg Wheeler, Present – Rob Hillman

Absent: Jeanne Astino

Guests: Town Manager, Chris Senior

Chairman Hillman commenced an article-by-article review of the Warrant. Mr. Senior commented on each article and the intent behind them.

Article 1: Amendments to Fiscal 2023 Operating Budget. Mr. Kennedy moved to accept the article, Mr Collins 2nd the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 1 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022 Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 2: Unpaid bills from Previous Fiscal Year. Mr Senior advised that although the draft presently does not show any, there will be a few in the warrant that he hopes to have by the next meeting. The Committee deferred voting on this article

Article 3: Stabilization Funds: Mr Senior commented that the OPEB funding is in keeping with the policy adopted by the Town. The schools turned back very little from FY 22 operational budget and the Town is replenishing the SPED fund due to the withdrawal this year. Mr. Barclay inquired if the deposit to the Capital Stabilization fund would be impacted by voting on the later article and Mr. Senior said no. Mr Collins moved to accept the article, Mrs. McGoldrick 2nd

the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 3 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022

Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 4: Allocation of Funds for One-Time Costs. The Committee discussed the scenario and options regarding the removal of the compost pile, Mr Senior reviewed the Customer Relationship Manager Software that is a one-time license, including training that will support and enhance the town wide goal of improved communication. This expense will be built into the IT budget next year. The \$15k for playground upgrades is really maintenance and repairs and not upgrades, Mrs. McGoldrick requested the warrant be worded as such. Mr. Senior requested Executive Session at our next meeting review the one-time cost of \$150k for Collective Bargaining Agreements. The Committee felt that the \$322k price tag for the next phase of the field study should be a stand-alone item as there are many outstanding questions. Mr Senior advised request just happened in the last 48 hours. Mr Barclay moved to accept the article with exception of the allocation of funds for Collective Bargaining and the Field Study,, Mr. Collins 2nd the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 4 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022, with the exception as noted Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 5: Capital Improvement Projects. Mr Senior reviewed the itemized list and indicated that the Osgood Vestibule project will be deferred to Annual Town Meeting. Briefly, the article provides for buying out the town electric car leases, supporting final financing for Police Radios where grant of \$38k was received, replace police station interview room cameras which are no longer functioning, replacing public safety generator which has been repaired so often, there is no return on fixing it further, HVAC upgrades / installation in DPW building for bathrooms and office that never had HVAC. Capital Budget Committee voted in the affirmative for numbers 1, 2, 4, and 5. Mrs. McGoldrick moved to accept the article numbers 1. 2, 4 and 5, Mr. Kennedy 2nd the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 5 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022, with the exception as noted Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 6 Community Preservation Committee: the article is not ready

Article 7: The Creation of a Revolving Fund for Public Health Programs. Mr. Senior advised this was principally to facilitate clean accounting for the various vaccination clinics the town supports. Mr Kennedy moved to accept the article, Mrs. McGoldrick 2nd the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 7 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022 Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 8: Transfer of funds received from the National Opioid Settlement. Mr Senior explained that there will be payments for the next 10-15 years, starting with approximately \$34k the first year. Use of the funds is limited and particular to the defined uses of the Settlement. Mr. Senior advised that the language in the article may be further refined. Mr Collins moved to accept the article, Mr. Kennedy 2nd the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 8 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022 Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 9; Easement from the First Parish Church Access to the Town Clock. Mr Senior advised that the clock is actually owned by the Town, having been purchased in the 1860's. Funding was approved last year to fix the clock, now an easement is needed to access the clock. Mr Kennedy moved to accept the article, Mrs. McGoldrick 2nd the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 9 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022 Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye - Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 10: Wetlands Protection Bylaw Updated Definitions-Resource Area. Mr Kennedy suggested we defer voting on this article so he may liaise with Chris McFarland.

Article 11: Public Safety Communications Towers. Mr. Senior advised that a solution has been found to improve the poor cell service in northeast Cohasset by using a remote location in Wheelwright Park. Final acreage to be used will be approximately 1 acre. This article allows the town to go to the state for permissions. Mr Maggi moved to accept the article, Mr. Barclay 2nd the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 11 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022 Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 12: Removal of Cohasset Police Department from Civil Service. Mr. Senior advised this has been accepted by the police union. It will allow the town to recruit more broadly and promote based on assessments. Further discussion was requested to be held in Executive Session at the next meeting.

Article 13: Contract Extensions for Cell Antennas at the Water Department. Mr Senior advised this is just a renewal. Mr Collins moved to accept the article, Mr, Barclay 2nd the motion as follows: The Advisory Committee shall recommend to Town Meeting to approve Article 13 substantially in the form of the draft warrant of October 19, 2022 Roll call vote: Aye-Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman

Article 14: Citizens Petition- King Street Sidewalks. The Committee decided to defer voting

Article 15: Citizens Petition – Navigation Bylaw. The Committee deferred voting since the text of the bylaw being requested is not available

Chairman Hillman called for reports from liaisons.

Mrs. McGoldrick advised that the School Committee Finance Subcommittee met, and she will request an update and also noted that the SC is meeting tonight on budget priorities and calendar. She commented that the Forum held by the Zoning Bylaw Committee Monday evening was well attended and informative.

Mr. Collins advised that the Alternative Energy Committee has reported \$300k in savings so far with the solar array at the transfer station.

Mr. Barclay advised he was meeting with Chief Quigley October 21 and Chief Dockray October 28.

Topics not Reasonably Anticipated 48 hours prior: Mrs. Maher requested Mr. Hillman to circulate to the Committee the final draft budget message as sent to the Select Board.

Chairman Hillman advised our next meeting will be October 26 where we will convene in open session and adjourn to Executive Session.

Motion to adjourn at 8:46 pm by Mr. Kennedy, seconded by Mrs. McGoldrick Roll call vote: Aye- Mike Barclay, Aye- Fran Collins, Aye -Patrick Kennedy, Aye – Mark Maggi, Aye- Ellen Maher, Aye- Mary McGoldrick, Aye- Meg Wheeler, Aye – Rob Hillman