

## **Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date: March 11, 2019**

**Place: Town Hall**

In attendance: Committee Members Donna Smallwood, Victor Baltera, Bob Curley, Eric Haskell, Tom Belyea, Dave Anderson, Libby Claypoole, Eryn Kelley, Julie Strehle, George Danis, Andy McElaney, Davalene Cooper, Ed Gaydos, Nancy MacDonald and Town Accountant Sue Nickerson

Absent: Evan Sheehan

Chairman Smallwood called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm. Harbor Media recorded this session.

*Questions from the Public regarding items not on the Agenda – None*

*Approval of Minutes*

Minutes of the meeting held on March 5, 2019 were approved as amended by a vote of 11-0-0. Minutes from the March 7<sup>th</sup> meeting were deferred.

*Water Company Acquisition Briefing*

Members of the Water Company Acquisition Study Committee and the Board of Selectmen provided a briefing concerning the potential acquisition of the water company. Selectmen Mary Power and Karen Johnson made a PowerPoint presentation providing details of the favorable action on this issue recommended by the Board of Selectmen. The presentation provided historical background on the water company and the feasibility study to evaluate a potential purchase. The presentation addressed the financial feasibility of purchasing the water company, along with deficiencies in past maintenance, operation, and coordination with roadwork. Presenters noted the prevailing ownership and operation of water systems by municipalities throughout the Commonwealth and the expected mode of operation of the water system, if acquired, through use of a water superintendent, contract operator and citizens advisory board. Members of the Water Company Acquisition Study Group Jon Asher and Ed Siegfried gave a PowerPoint presentation concerning the work and conclusions of their committee

which included an analysis of acquisition financing, operation and governance, and transition.

Advisory Committee members asked questions of the presenters about the relationship with Hull ratepayers, the condition of the system in Hull, unaccounted for water, projected year 1 surplus, general versus revenue bonds, and transition. Andy Shafter spoke in opposition to the acquisition of the water company and urged further study.

*Advisory Committee Housekeeping Items*

The next regular meeting of the Advisory Committee will be on 3/18/19

*Matters not anticipated within 48 hours:* None

Adjourn – 9:37 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Curley, Secretary

List of Documents Distributed at this Meeting:

Agenda

Minutes of Meeting of 3/5/19

Board of Selectmen PowerPoint slides

Water Company Acquisition Study Committee PowerPoint slides

WASS as of 3/8/19

Advisory Committee Meetings/Milestones

AdCom approved on 4/9/2019 by a vote of 10-0-1