

Hingham Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 30th, 2026, at 7:00 PM
Town Hall, 210 Central Street, Third Floor, South Meeting Room

In Attendance: Carol Tully, Chair, Kevin Freytag, Vice Chair, Ted Ciolkosz, Secretary, Ben Burnham, Jerry Seelen, Brian Stack, David Leiphart, Elaine Cusker, Mary Power, Steven Pohl

Absent: Alan Macdonald, Michael Herde, Brenda Black, Tina Sherwood

1. The Chair called the meeting to order and read the following statement. This meeting is being held remotely/or in person as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L.c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.
2. Liaison reports - ACES update from Brian Stack, most special education related reserve funds have been spent for FY26. Trend to monitor, In District costs have been accelerating while Out of District student enrollment declined about ten percent.

Benefits update from Jerry Seelen, every two years an actuarial evaluation is mandated with regard to contributory retirement and KMS Actuaries concluded Hingham is about 79% fully funded to date. It was noted that salaries were greater, 2024 investment returns were lower than expected and mortality projections underestimated, so payoff amount would be greater if the Town sticks with the target year of 2035 to be fully funded (2040 is the current MA mandated deadline for all towns to be fully funded).

HMLP update by Elaine Cusker, late August/early Sept. the siting board should have a confirmed path for the proposed new power line from Weymouth tap station. HMLP Rate Study not yet complete, target is end of July. A 10mm federal grant was applied for with regard to the proposed additional power line project.

Community Preservation Committee (CPC) update by Ben, at CPC fiscal year end meeting reviewed completed projects, money saved vs. projected spend. Surplus funds roll back to CPC fund for future use.

Sustainable Budget Task Force (SBTF) update by Carol Tully, SBTF recently met, another meeting planned for next Thursday. Discussion revolved around what the framework of a potentially updated Memorandum of Understanding between Hingham Select Board, Hingham School Committee & Hingham Advisory Committee could look like.

School Building Committee (SBC) update by Steven Pohl, South and Plymouth River Elementary School roofs could be voted on at a Special Town Meeting in late October, expect quotes for costs by mid-July (estimated around 12mm with 36% potential funding to reduce the 12mm figure), August 18th SBC expects to vote and then present to AdCom with two additional meetings to review numbers, get public comment and have another vote. HHS roof and HVAC would be proposed at 2027 Annual Town Meeting in April.

3. 2026 Fiscal Year End Transfers – Total salaries and/or total expenses voted for the following: Department of Public Works transfer, Athletic Fields transfer, Accounting salaries to expenses, Harbormaster salaries to expenses, DPW to Bathing Beach transfer, Veterans Services to GAR Hall expenses transfer – all unanimously approved

4. Vote for Vice Chair Kevin Freytag to be authorized to approve any remaining transfers up to 20k aggregate between 06/30/26-07/15/2026 for FY 2026 – unanimously approved
8. Approval of minutes - 05/27/26 meeting minutes, unanimously approved
9. Housekeeping – next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, 07/07/26 (FY27)
10. Comments from the public on items not on the agenda – None
11. Motion to Adjourn – Unanimously Approved (Mary Power logged off zoom prior to vote)

Respectfully submitted by Theodore D. Ciolkosz, Jr., Secretary