

**Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
2/7/2017**

In attendance: Committee Members Anderson, Baltera, Belyea, Coughlin, Curley, Hancock, Haskell, Kelley, Kutsch, LaCroix, MacKay, Sharkansky, Smallwood, Strehle, and Taylor.

Chairman Taylor called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

Question from the public on items not on the agenda: None

Approval of Minutes

Members approved the January 31, 2017 minutes with revisions on a 12-0 vote. Members Kelley and LaCroix were not present for this vote.

Warrant hearing and votes

Article M – Community Preservation Article

Community Preservation Committee (“CPC”) Chair Carol Pyles, Vice Chair Jim Conroy and Administrator Carol Costello joined AdCom CPC Subcommittee Members Hancock, Anderson, Belyea, and Smallwood in presenting this article. CPC is recommending approval of 12 projects totaling \$559,379, while also allocating \$167,250 for anticipated Hingham Heritage Museum debt payments and \$360,000 for anticipated Lehner Property debt payments.

AdCom members discussed aspects of the following projects. Member Strehle recused herself from discussion of the South Shore Country Club pool feasibility study.

- Hingham Affordable Housing Trust (“HAHT”) Opportunity Fund – Accounting for already allocated funds including expenses and available balances
- Old Ship Meeting House Steeple – Proponent’s share of repair expenses
- Whiting Memorial Chapel – Plans for public use and project priority. CPC representatives noted that any award would include a requirement for public use.
- Tower Clocks (4 projects) – Project priority
- Harbor Boardwalk Extension – Project cost.

AdCom then approved the projects proposed in Article M by the following votes:

1. CPC Administrative Fund 14-0-0
2. HAHT Opportunity Funding 14-0-0
3. Conservation of Historic Town Records 14-0-0
4. Old Ship Meeting House Steeple 14-0-0
5. Whiting Memorial Chapel 13-1-0 with Sharkansky asking to record his negative vote
6. New North Meeting House Tower Clock 13-1-0 with Sharkansky asking to record his negative vote
7. Congregational Church Tower Clock 12-1-1 with Sharkansky asking to record his negative vote
8. William Fearing Building’s Tower Clock 12-2-0 with Sharkansky asking to record his negative vote
9. Second Parish Church Tower Clock 13-1-0 with Sharkansky asking to record his negative vote
10. Conservation Fund 14-0

11. Harbor Boardwalk Extension 11-2-1 with Sharkansky and Baltera asking to record their negative votes
12. South Shore Country Club Feasibility Study 13-0-0 with Strehle not participating in the vote since she had recused herself from the discussion.

Article O – Amendment to Veterans HOME Act

Veterans' Council Vice Chair John Buckley and Jon Asher joined Sharkansky in presenting this article which would formally adopt a State statute providing protection and financial stability for municipal employees called to active National Guard or Reserve duty. Hingham has applied the statute's practices, despite not formally adopting it, with municipal employees since about 1991. After suggesting an edit to the Comment, AdCom members approved Article O by a vote of 14-0.

Article P – Disposal of Surplus Supplies

AdCom postponed consideration of Article P to a later meeting.

Article Q – Application of Bond Premiums

Anderson noted that this article gives the Town the ability to choose to reduce the amount of bonds sold to finance existing authorized but as yet unissued non-excluded debt such that the Town receives only the amount of funding desired from the bond sale. Any bond premium, an increase in price in excess of the bond's face amount, could also be applied to pay project costs. After suggesting some edits to the Comment, AdCom members approved Article Q by a vote of 14-0.

Warrant hearing calendar review

Chair Taylor noted that current copies of AdCom's calendar and Warrant Article Status Summary are now posted on the AdCom page on the Town website and will be updated regularly. He will schedule votes for articles J, K, and P, along with a revote of revised Article C. Articles N (Naming of Lynch Field House) and AA (Sanctuary Community) may be withdrawn.

Liaison Updates

AdCom Liaisons provided the following updates:

- Schools (Kutsch) – The threshold for insurance recovery requiring Town Meeting action is increasing from \$20,000 to \$150,000. Articles such as this year's U and V will only be necessary for more expensive insurance recoveries in the future.

Matters not anticipated within 48 hours of the meeting: None

Adjournment

The Committee voted unanimously to adjourn at 10:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna M. Smallwood
Secretary

Documents:

Agenda – AdCom Meeting 2/7/2017

Draft Minutes – AdCom Meeting 1/31/2017

Advisory Committee Meetings/Milestones 2016-17 2/4/2017

FY 18 Warrant Article Status Summary 2/4/2017 1:30 PM - LH
Article M – Community Preservation
Article O – Amendment to Veterans HOME Act
Article P – Disposition of Surplus Supplies (2/6/2017 draft)
Article Q – Application of Bond Premiums
Article T - Leashing Regulations at Bare Cove Park (2/7/2017 draft)
2017 Warrant Articles (Revised text for all articles)