



**Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, February 6, 2014
Scituate Library
7:00 pm**

Committee members in attendance:

Anthony Antonello
Karen Connolly
Mark Sandham
Geoff Burns
Frank Judge
Mike Westort
Bob Nelson

Committee members absent:

Maura Curran
Jamie Gilmore

Also Present:

Trisha Vinchesi
Kevin Cafferty
Nancy Holt
Jim DeBarros
Bob Rollins

1. Meeting Called to Order – By Vice Chairperson Frank Judge at 7:00 PM
2. Acceptance of agenda–accepted unanimously.
 - Scituate resident Norman Paley, asked for a change in advisory booklet for transparency. He is requesting an added column in the book to show the money that has been actually spent for the previous fiscal year. The committee indicated that they would take his suggestion under advisement.

3. FY 15 Budget Review

DPW - presented by Kevin Cafferty

DPW Administration:

- Karen Connolly asked why the FY13 personal services money was down that year? ; Trisha responded that the staffing had been moved to the facilities line item

Engineering Budget:

- Frank Judge asked for an update on the pipe replacement: Kevin informed the committee that they expect to start on April 15, 2014. Phases 1 & 2 are out for bid,

and they plan to hold a public meeting at the community center in the upcoming month to inform residents. Each phase will consist of 7 miles of piping.

Highway Grounds Department Budget:

- Geoff Burns recognized the salt shortages around the country asked about Scituate's stock ; Kevin responded that the new salt shed has been a huge help to stockpile. But with the amount of snowfall thus far this year, we may be in the red with the next storm.
- Mark Sandham asked if new roads would be completely done where the new water piping is being installed ; Kevin responded that some roads may not need to be completely replaced. Other roads they will be able to saw cut, trench, patch/pave it; there will be no additional sidewalks installed
- Frank Judge asked how the brine material worked during the storm; Kevin informed the team that they are having trouble with the Brine Truck, looking to fixing it.
- Bob Nelson asked how the clearing of the roads after storms/wash outs have been ; Kevin responded that there have been 4 instances of washouts: Glades Road, Central Ave, Lighthouse and Ocean Dr. have been the toughest areas. It took 20 truck loads last storm to fix Glades Road, and this was not a permanent fix. The town has submitted to FEMA for reimbursement for the repair of the above mentioned roads.
- Bob Nelson question if additional seawall repair would help during these storms ; Kevin informed the committee there are no breaches in the wall, the only way to fix would to raise the walls by 4', which is not a possibility
- Karen Connolly questioned the benchmarking for Parks since Scituate seems to be on the higher side ; Trisha: Informed the committee that our DPW is set up differently than other towns. We have a large DPW under one roof;
- Mark Sandham asked who repairs the roads after these large storm; Kevin said it can vary depending on the size of the damage. Some roads the town crews can handle. Central Ave was so washed out we had to hire a contractor for assistance.
- Mark Sandham asked for an update on the work along Musquashkett Pond due to erosion ; Kevin said that they are looking into hiring a contractor to purchase a specific beach stone to be installed. Looking to use stabilization funds to pay for this work

Snow and Ice Budget:

- Mark Sandham questioned how the town handles plowing during the storms ; Kevin informed the team that they use the town trucks/employees when possible. During larger storms the town will hire people
- Bob asked for the cost savings for stock piling in the salt shed ; Kevin responded that the cost is still the same since Scituate ties in with the Plymouth county bid.

Street Lights and Beacons:

- There were no questions on the cost for electricity and street lights.

Sewer:

- Kevin informed the committee that the limits for copper that discharges in the river have changed. This is an obstacle that Scituate is working on, we have 5 years to solve this problem
- Bob Nelson question the capacity of the sewerage, is there a need to expand; Kevin said that it changes monthly. It is higher when it rains or snows. There is also infiltration from ground inflows sump pump.

- Mark questioned the status of the betterments ; Nancy Holt said the betterments went out in November, but will not recognize full payments, they will have a better idea in FY16

Water Enterprise – presented by Jim Barros

- Mark question how many wells are left to install generators ; Jim responded that there are 4 left
- Frank Judge question the “other item” on the revenue chart ; Jim explained that it’s a 1% match for labor pension
- Anthony asked is the water dept was looking for additional employees; Jim said he was looking for 2, but 1 was recommended for the time being. Increase to 2 depending on work load
- Frank Judge asked for updates on all the water main breaks and who pays for these repairs; Jim responded that many of these breaks are done from contractors. Many of these pipes are so old they are not properly put on the map.
- Karen asked how the town handles water liens ; Nancy Holt responded that a tax lien is put against the home, or it is paid off in the residents taxes
- Karen Connolly questioned the surplus for FY11; Nancy informed the team that there was no capital budget that year

Transfer Station: Kevin Cafferty

- Mark Sandham asked if he thought there might need to be a price change in the cost for bags; Kevin said he felt at this time there is no need for a price increase
- Frank Judge asked about the increase in technical services from 70k to 100k ; Kevin explained that this is for the landfill flare
- Anthony asked what the 40K in equipment was for; Kevin explained this was to purchase the compactor and security cameras

4. New Business

There was no new business to report.

Next meeting: Thursday February 13, 2014 at the Scituate Town Library

Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 9:18 PM 1st motion by Geoff Burns 2nd motion by Karen Connolly

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsey DeSimone, Recording Secretary
2.13.14