OFFICE OF THE
Advisory Board
TOWN HALL
511 MAIN STREET
DUNSTABLE, MA 01827-1313
(978) 649-4514 x222 FAX (978) 649-4371
advisory@dunstable-ma.gov

February 3, 2020

Present: Marie Gamache, Jake Lewon, Kieran Meehan, Bob Nelson, Harold Simmons, Leo Tometich
Also attending: Town Administrator Brian Palaia, Public

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

FY2021 Budget Town Administrator Update and Discussion
Note that this discussion relates to the Dunstable FY21 budget as of this date and will change as new information is available.
Brian met with the Groton TM in an effort to get some perspective on the FY21 budget. Currently plan for a $500,000 reduction split between the schools and municipal budgets. One take away from this discussion is that the GDRSD and school committee are working very hard to minimize costs with increasing mandates, and a big push to reduce the GDRSD budget is unlikely. This still leaves a significant deficit in the current draft of the Dunstable FY21 budget, so some discussion of the override amount needed to eliminate this shortfall. Brian presented a couple of preliminary override concepts for ongoing discussion.
The Swallow Union painting will probably be put off another year. This delay could reduce the FY21 school district capital funding by approximately $30,000. Joan Simmons noted that CPC may be able to cover the repair cost of historical buildings, but not basic maintenance like painting. With some discussion Joan also outlined a possible plan of action to move the Union building repair project forward.
On the municipal side it may be beneficial to postpone additional highway personnel until the Governance Committee town organization recommendations are completed.

Motion to adjourn – Harold, – 2nd Marie. Vote: Unanimous to adjourn
Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.