

# 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

July 10, 2019

Present: Adria Fischer, Kieran Meehan, Bob Nelson, Harold Simmons, Leo Tometich

Also attending: Town Administrator Brian Palaia

Meeting called to order at 6:03 p.m.

# **Advisory Board Committee Liaisons**

Often in past years the AB has had a member act as a liaison to other town departments in order to gather more detailed information about each department and its needs. Migration to Town Administrator municipal structure will have many operational departments reporting to the Town Administrator. This minimizes the need to have AB liaisons for some departments. Outcomes of the town governance committee may help define committee sizes and future town government organization. The AB will likely continue to assign liaisons when helpful.

## FY 2019 Year End Transfers

Review of five year end transfers.

Motion to approve all five year end transfers - Harold, - 2<sup>nd</sup> Adria. Vote: Unanimous to approve

### **Town Administrator Update**

- 1. Working to analyze town energy costs and credits to try and reduce overall energy costs. Constellation Energy is a state approved natural gas and electricity provider, with some possible cost savings since the state is vetting and helping manage Constellation Energy.
- 2. River Street solar project walk through today. Some of the financials will be driven by state regulated rates.
- 3. Nothing finalized, but have had some discussion with possible Dumont Property business tenant.
- 4. Continuing preparations for the October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 fall Special Town Meeting.
- 5. Some eminent domain easements along Route 113, small slivers of land, are required for future road improvements by the state. Current plan is for road construction to begin in 2021.
- 6. Brian will start asking town departments for FY21 plans.

## FY21 Budget

Bob and Brian are working on Dunstable FY21 budget, plus five year projections. Additional input needed on departmental budget inflation rate, five year department projections and possible personnel infusion.

- 1. Brian presented police and highway personnel addition costs for potential override discussion. \$125,000 per year for one additional police officer and \$155,000 per year for two additional Laborer classification highway department employees.
- 2. Also discussion of additional fire department and building inspector staffing.
- 3. Brain also presented costing of road resurfacing and maintenance, plus replacement of fleet and heavy equipment in multiple departments. We may also need to fund state mandated storm water compliance. Capital costs likely funded through debt exclusions.

Motion to adjourn - Harold, - 2<sup>nd</sup> Kieran. Vote: Unanimous to adjourn Meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.