

**TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN - BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES – JOINT MEETING WITH FINANCE COMMITTEE  
MONDAY, MARCH 13, 2017 5:00 PM  
TOWN HALL – JUDGE WELSH ROOM**

Chairman Richter convened the open meeting at 5:00 pm noting the following:

Board of Selectmen attending: Chairman Raphael Richter, Members Dr. Cheryl Andrews, and Robert Anthony

Excused: Vice Chairman Erik Yingling and Member Tom Donegan.

Other attendees: Town Manager David Panagore, Asst. Town Manager David Gardner, Board Secretary Elizabeth Paine, Finance Committee Chairman Mark Hatch, Vice Chair Louise Venden, Members Duane Steele, Scott Valentino, Stanly Sikorski and Cass.

Recorder: Elizabeth Paine

**5:05 pm, Chairman Richter called the meeting to order.**

**1. Public Hearing: Joint meeting with Finance Committee Proposed FY2018 Operating Budget Pursuant to Provincetown Charter 9-1-6; and**

Mark Hatch started the meeting off by congratulating staff by making this the least controversial session he has been a part of. He felt things went really smoothly.

Town Manager Panagore and Chairman Richter agreed. Chairman Richter thought it was good testament to the town that both boards are in agreement.

**2. General discussion on the FY2018 Capital Improvement Plans, and**

Town Manager Panagore gave a short summary on this year's CIP. Asst. Town Manager Gardner talked about replacing the auditorium chairs by using the revolving account funds. DP and Chairman Hatch discussed wanting to look at upcoming projects that will be coming down the road, debt cycle and analyzing future FY18. BOS Chairman Richter brought up utilizing Free Cash to fund all but one of the CIP. DP wants to keep directing stabilization funds towards structural upkeep. Mr. Anthony feels the town should look into building a garage for the DPW's equipment. Fincom Vice Chair Venden expressed planning for capital expenses and capital improvements being figured into the discussion and looking forward to 2019 & 2020. Dr. Andrews wants to call attention that the Technical School will be on the agenda and based on the current events, it would be important to pay attention to it because if costs get shifted this would affect the towns apart of it.

**3. Discussion of the Fincom Article 22 for Annual Town Meeting.**

*“To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate or transfer from available funds the sum of \$45,000, to be expended under the direction of the Town Manager, for costs associated with health care consulting services to assist the Town in evaluation its health care cost; or to take any other action relative thereto.”*

Fincom Chairman Hatch discussed the Town is now getting close to paying 6 million in health care expenses. He feels it really requires a lot of specialized language and it would be a good idea to hire in a consulted.

Fincom Vice Chair Venden noted that health care costs is increased by 7% this year.

Mr. Anthony, is in favor of the article, but wonders where the amount \$45,000 comes from.

Town Manager Panagore, felt this amount was an adequate amount to hire a consultant do full analysis. With the changes coming from the Federal Government, impacts the State and ultimately the town. Does P-Town leave the current group and join another? Being able to have someone would allow us to analysis currently situation, options for plan, and look at the questions of; where else can we go with the plan, are there things that we can be doing that are creative.

Dr. Andrews voiced this issue has been in front of the Town for over 20 years. While it is still a problem, Provincetown isn't any different than what all the other Towns are going through. Having a hard time seeing how it is going to be worth the expenditure. Cost effective to go alone? Dealing with something that is changes so fast, but will it be worth it when it prints. Not ready to jump aboard.

Town Manager Panagore – Environment is rapidly changing, he doesn't feel the MMA doesn't represent small towns and feels that Barnstable County caters to larger towns. He would like to have a consulting firm on board to give advice to how to proceed. Have talked to Truro about the possibility to going into this together, but feels the communities further down the cape's focus is different than ours. He feels that if we change the health insurance costs, it would affect cost transfer to the community. While the Town of Provincetown's 2 demographics are small town & older generation, he doesn't feel this is necessarily the criteria's Provincetown needs to look for when partnering with another town. The funds would be utilized over the course of time.

Fincom Chairman Hatch would like to have this information back for when the next insurance hikes, the finance committee can decide if there is another possibility.

Dr. Andrews directed her question towards Town Mangers, how did you come up with the cost?

Town Manager Considered several factors; what is a reasonable amount of money based on group size, would it cost to pay for a consultant? Estimate on what he believed the cost would be.

Robert Anthony – By hiring a consultant, it allows the Town to get ahead of the eight ball.

Fincom Vice chair Venden believes forward thinking and willingness to spend the money on addressing an ongoing issue is an important topic to discuss.

**4. Other – Other matters that may legally come before the Board not reasonable anticipated by the Chair 48 hours before the meeting. Votes may be taken.**

**Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 5:57 pm.**

Minutes transcribed by: Elizabeth Paine