

TOWN OF PEMBROKE  
APPROVED  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES  
13 APRIL 2022

Linda Peterson, Chairperson opened the meeting of the Advisory Committee at Town Hall at 6:30PM on 13 April 2022.

Also present were: Sandra Beaton, Matthew Rushing, Liz Benotti, Stephen Walsh and John Scholl, Kristi Cullinane and Robert Kenney

**Absent:** Tim Landy

**Guest:** Mike Tropeano, School Committee Chairperson; Susan Bollinger, School Committee Member; Erin Obey, School Superintendent and Bill Chenard, Town Manager

Linda welcomed Mike, Erin and Susan.

Mike Tropeano provided copies of his presentation to the committee. The FY23 School Budget is \$36.7M; an increase of 3.1% versus FY22. Some of the changes:

- Kindergarten Size
- Special Education needs
- SPED Teacher
- COMPASS Program
- Paraprofessionals
- Additional social and emotional support
- Next week, the school is having an Academy for students that have lagged behind
- Additional tutors, some covered by COVID funds, some by budget
- The school is in the first year of a three year contract with all unions

**Level 1 priorities:**

- Reading Specialists, focusing on ESSER money as a one time item.
- Paraprofessionals for Resource Room. Students having difficulty interacting; behavioral issues increasing. They're seeing more social conflicts in Middle and High School.
- COMPASS Teacher for the high school; resource plan "to go" and for students that have been out for a while.
- Preserve Social Worker at the Middle school.
- Pathway Coordinator to prepare high school students for different career paths right after high school such as engineering. Some other areas include digital arts and gaming. The School has been working in conjunction with the Chamber of Commerce regarding this topic.
- Language needs for students; we have 23 languages in town impacting 72 students. Teachers need to be able to communicate with these students and their parents. They're using Google technology. The top two languages are Portuguese and Arabic.
- Mike outlined the timeline of COVID and ESSER funding sources and how these funds will be used. The technology replacement costs go through FY24 some thought will have to be given as to how to fund this in FY25. Scituate is currently charging for technology, approximately \$225 per student.
- Erin Obey noted that Pembroke student enrollment is down 18 students for next year versus this year.

The school budget is funded 50% from the town, Chapter 70 from the state, Special Education Breaker funding and some federal funding. It cost approximately \$100,000 a day to run the Pembroke School District. Mike explained that in the FY23 budget there is a \$75,000 gap. This may have to be funded with a SPED transfer or from Revolving account; not yet determined.

Erin spoke about the students interested in attending vocational schools. Silver Lake has seen a spike in interest, approximately 57%. Students within district (Kingston, Halifax, Plympton) must be selected first before Pembroke. Silver Lake Vocational will only have 12 slots for Pembroke students.

<sup>1-18</sup>The Chairperson did not vote on this motion

Mike noted that the amount of services the school delivers to students with more needs, family issues are greater than what the schools should deliver. For example, the “grab & go” breakfast and lunch meals provided during the Pandemic. For some students this may have been their only meal of the day.

Mike was asked about the \$65,000 request in the Capital Budget for the Bryantville Gym Replacement. This was discussed a year ago. Mike said it wasn't a need a year ago and wouldn't spend the money if it's not a significant need.

Linda thanked Mike, Erin and Susan for coming.

Bill reviewed the FY22 year end revenue and projections as well as expenses. There are a few transfers but that's all, no trouble closing.

For FY23 budget Bill noted on Article 1 the Library Director Salary difference is because the new Director will not be managing the town website as Deborah Wall did. The \$8,300 was moved to the Select Board budget. The town website is now managed by Bill's office. He is training his staff and the Town Clerk's office staff.

Bill and the committee reviewed and discussed at length The Annual & Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles. The Advisory Committee voted as follows:

Upon motion moved by Stephen Walsh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matthew Rushing to vote Favorable Action on Article 1 – Wage & Classification Plan.

**VOTED<sup>1</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 1 – Wage & Classification Plan. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Matthew Rushing and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristi Cullinane to vote Favorable Action on Article 2 – Operating Budget.

**VOTED<sup>2</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 2 – Operating Budget. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Matthew Rushing and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 3 – Water Enterprise Operation Budget.

**VOTED<sup>3</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 3 – Water Enterprise Operation Budget. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Stephen Walsh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 4 – Solid Waste Operating Budget.

**VOTED<sup>4</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 4 – Solid Waste Operating Budget. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Matthew Rushing and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 5 – Capital Budget.

**VOTED<sup>5</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 5 – Capital Budget. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Stephen Walsh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matthew Rushing to vote Favorable Action on Article 6 – Trust Fund Transfers.

<sup>1-18</sup>The Chairperson did not vote on this motion

**VOTED<sup>6</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 6 – Trust Fund Transfers. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Stephen Walsh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Kenney to vote Favorable Action on Article 7 – Community Preservation Fund Allocations.

**VOTED<sup>7</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 7 – Community Preservation Fund Allocations. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Stephen Walsh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Matthew Rushing to vote Favorable Action on Article 8 – Revolving Fund Limits.

**VOTED<sup>8</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 8 – Revolving Fund Limits. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Matthew Rushing and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 9 – Fund Collective Bargaining Agreements.

**VOTED<sup>9</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 9 – Fund Collective Bargaining Agreements. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Stephen Walsh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 10 – Accept Lisa's Lane as a Public Way.

**VOTED<sup>10</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 10 – Accept Lisa's Lane as a Public Way. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Stephen Walsh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 11 – Amend Zoning Bylaws – Washington Street.

**VOTED<sup>11</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 11 – Amend Zoning Bylaws – Washington Street. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Matthew Rushing and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Robert Kenney to vote Favorable Action on Article 12 – Community Preservation Funded Project Proposals - Recommendation A; Recommendation B; Recommendation C; . Recommendation D; Recommendation E; Recommendation F; Recommendation G.

**VOTED<sup>12</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 12 – Community Preservation Funded Project Proposals - Recommendation A; Recommendation B; Recommendation C; . Recommendation D; Recommendation E; Recommendation F; Recommendation G.. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Stephen Walsh and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristi Cullinane to vote Favorable Action on Article 13 – Accept Town Reports.

**VOTED<sup>13</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 13 – Accept Town Reports. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

<sup>1-18</sup>The Chairperson did not vote on this motion

Upon motion moved by John Scholl and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 14 – Annual Town Election.

**VOTED<sup>14</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 14 – Annual Town Election. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Matthew Rushing and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 15 – Community Center Building Project.

**VOTED<sup>15</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 15 – Community Center Building Project. Matthew Rushing, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion. Stephen Walsh abstained. John Scholl opposed.

### **Special Town Meeting Warrant Articles**

Upon motion moved by Matthew Rushing and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandra Beaton to vote Favorable Action on Article 1 – Departmental Transfers .

**VOTED<sup>16</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 1 – Departmental Transfers . Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

Upon motion moved by Matthew Rushing and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Stephen Walsh to vote Favorable Action on Article 2 – Fund Collective Bargaining Agreements.

**VOTED<sup>17</sup>:** To vote Favorable Action on Article 2 – Fund Collective Bargaining Agreements. Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing, John Scholl, Sandra Beaton, Kristi Cullinane, Robert Kenney and Liz Benotti supported the motion.

On April 30<sup>th</sup> from 9am-1pm Bill will be hosting a question and answer Open House for residents about the Community Center Building and the additional 2.6M to cover the costs.. He will also discuss this topic on PACTV and Social Media.

Linda and committee members thanked Bill.

Upon motion moved by Sandra Beaton and 2<sup>nd</sup> by Kristi Cullinane to approve the meeting minutes of March 30, 2022 as amended.

**VOTED<sup>18</sup>:** To accept the meeting minutes of March 30, 2022 as amended. John Scholl, Liz Benotti, Sandra Beaton, Stephen Walsh, Matthew Rushing and Kristi Cullinane supported the motion. Robert Kenney abstained.

Linda reminded members to complete their Conflict of Interest quiz and return to the Town Clerk by May 2, 2022.

Bill Chenard, Town Manager sent an email out to all Board and Committee members suggesting setting up a separate Google email to use for Town of Pembroke communications. The committee agreed to set up their own email as follows:

[Firstname.lastname.pembroke.advisory@gmail.com](mailto:Firstname.lastname.pembroke.advisory@gmail.com)

Members of the Advisory Committee are invited to attend the Select Board meeting on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 7:00pm along with the Steve Dodge, Town Moderator to walk through the Annual & Special Town Meeting Warrant Article process at the Annual Town Meeting. The Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 7:00pm – Advisory will plan to meet at 6:30pm.

Advisory has cancelled their meeting for Wednesday, April 27, 2022.

Linda will assign the Motions for each Warrant Article and send to committee members.

<sup>1-18</sup>The Chairperson did not vote on this motion

Advisory adjourned at 9:40PM.

Respectfully submitted

Stephen Walsh, Clerk