



## TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

January 19, 2012

**A** quorum being duly present, Council President Frederick Chirigotis called the January 19, 2012, Town Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Hearing Room of Town Hall, 367 Main St., Hyannis, MA.

**PRESENT:** Janice Barton, Ann Canedy, Frederick Chirigotis, James Cote, Jennifer Cullum, Debra Dagwan, June Daley, Jessica Rapp Grasseti, Michael Hersey, Janet Joakim, John Norman, Thomas Rugo, James Tinsley, Jr.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by President Chirigotis, followed by a Moment of Silence.

### **Annual Joint Workshop with the School Committee**

The School Committee joined the Council – Pat Murphy, Margo Weber, Fran McDonald, Stephanie Ellis, and Chris Joyce. – Dr. Mary Czajkowski, Maureen McKay, Gareth Markwell, Mark Milne and Acting Town Manager Tom Lynch were also present to review the financial condition of the town.

Dr. Czajkowski gave a few comments:

- Looked at a 2-year projection – Munis module
- Position control
- Want school improvement plans to be followed by principals.
- She acknowledged the consolidation program in Barnstable

Acting Manager Lynch:

Noted that we meet weekly with the school department and noted Dr. Czajkowski's involvement in department head meetings as well.

Finance Director Milne – did a Powerpoint presentation (See Exhibit A attached)

- Reviewed financial information
- Had a budgetary surplus of \$2.9M (due to actual revenues exceeding estimates)
- Returned appropriation
- AAA by S&P
- Refinanced bonds for budgetary savings
- New meals and rooms tax increase
- Savings on pension assessment with annual payment
- He explained enterprise funds
- The certification of free cash was shown
- Revenue has been growing, expenditures peaked in FY08 and have been declining

- Schools is the largest operating department – enrollment is dropping, but net school spending is increasing
- The capital program funding history was shown and projected out
- Debt service is declining and is currently 8% of the budget
- We have a low ratio of debt per capita
- With efficiencies our utility and fuel costs are decreasing
- We have a little more than \$50M in reserve balances
- OPEB benefits – unfunded liability is \$162 M = we developed a trust fund
- Milne talked about the long-term funding challenges
- Pension and Health Care Reform
  - 11% of the budget goes to employee benefits
  - The retirement age for those hired after April 2, 2012 will increase
  - Eliminates double dipping, anti-spiking, 5 year salary averaging
  - Reducing early retirement subsidies
  - Plan design changes (copays, deductibles)
  - Health Care costs to subscriber to drop but deductibles will rise
- General fund projections
- Taxes to rise about 3%
- Total percentage of change will be 0.36% - revenue
- Changes in fixed costs are down -3.09%
- There will be about \$1.2M to go to school operations and \$808,760 will go to municipal operations

Councilor Joakim asked for reserve explanation. Milne said 4% from the free cash goes for extraordinary events and helps with the bond rating. (Hurricane damage, etc.)

Councilor Rugo asked about HYCC and if there is a deficit – they are in a surplus. Expenses have been cut.

Councilor Dagwan asked about healthcare reform. Lynch said in February they will bring forth items to adopt pieces required.

Councilor Tinsley suggested being cautious in budgeting about the \$300,000 plus that we might lose.

Councilor Joakim noted it is nice to see that we are not talking about cuts again.

President Chirigotis said that it is also nice that we are all looking at this together and he thanked Finance Director Milne.

Recess – 8:15 p.m.

### **Joint Workshop with the Community Preservation Committee**

Lindsay Counsell, Laura Shufelt, Sue Rohrbach, Richard Sawyer, Tom Lee, Terry Duenas came together to give a background on the CPC and the Land Bank. Counsell said this was the first meeting in 5 years.

- Land Bank passed in 1999 – for open space purchasing
- Purchased over 1,000 acres – about \$34,000 per acre.

- 2005 – Com. Preservation Act passed – monies that went to Land Bank now go to CPA
- He said currently acquisitions have cost about \$56,000 per acre
- Counsell identified the previous council priorities (ie matching funds, multiple categories, housing/historic (municipal buildings), open space, underserved villages, increase access to water and recreation.
- Showed photos of projects such as the town hall, West Barnstable Community Center, Cromwell Court, open space acquisitions, recreation, etc.
  - ❖ Councilor Joakim asked about the process. Counsell explained about receiving letter of intent; followed by a complete application; site visit, vote. Then it goes to the council.
  - ❖ Councilor Canedy asked about the next deadline – June.
  - ❖ Councilor Joakim spoke about the fact that there is less money and reduced need.
  - ❖ Vice President Barton supports affordable housing.
  - ❖ Councilor Cullum asked about working with the planning department; historic cemeteries have you done them. Counsell said they have not done any cemeteries but those can be done. He also works with a variety of departments.
  - ❖ Councilor Tinsley agrees on affordable housing, and also recreation (broad-based use).
  - ❖ Councilor Norman would like to see open space slide down and recreation slide up.
  - ❖ Councilor Canedy would like to expand access to the water; water protection; historic properties (municipal ones) – (Trayser and Selectmen’s buildings to name a couple).
  - ❖ Councilor Daley agreed with Councilor Canedy on the historic buildings (municipal) as well as open space (likes the list the way it is).
  - ❖ Councilor Rugo – agreed on the buildings, open space and access to water (expensive).
  - ❖ Councilor Cullum – community housing and recreation.
  - ❖ Councilor Hersey watershed protection, should supercede housing. He would like to see that on the list. Great job.
  - ❖ Councilor Rapp-Grassetti - historic preservation is important. Would like to see the Selectmen’s building receive help. She asked about pathways. Counsell said we cannot maintain any existing but could create. As far as historic we have to restore the buildings.

- ❖ Councilor Tinsley suggested each person prioritize and create a list.
- ❖ Councilor Joakim explained the 3 parts of the law – housing, open space and historic.
- ❖ Councilor Cote - recreation, and open space.
- ❖ President Chirigotis - combine open space and public access so that the public has the use of the property. Counsell suggested a sticker session for prioritizing. Chirigotis asked about projected revenues. Counsell said those will come forward in the not too distant future.
- ❖ Acting Manager Lynch said we are taxing ourselves for quality of life issues. Thanked the group for their service. Many individuals currently serving have been there since the beginning.
- ❖ Laura Shufelt said Barnstable has an affordable housing trust fund. Some towns take 10% and give directly to the trust. She suggested it as a possibility.
- ❖ Councilor Canedy said it is not cost effective for development in this economy. She asked if homes could be rehabbed – yes said Shufelt.
- ❖ Vice President Barton asked a little more about the housing trust fund allocation.
- ❖ Councilor Dagwan would like some ideas on water protection projects.

**PUBLIC COMMENT - 5 minute recess was taken at 9:08 p.m.**

Al Baker has a concern with possible elimination of public comment. Everyone should not be punished.

Robert Tucker said Mr. Baker is right. Mr. Klimm is a good man.

**COUNCIL RESPONSE TO PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**ACT ON MINUTES (Includes Executive Session)**

- ✓ December 1, 2011 – Voted to approve: 13 Yes
- ✓ December 15, 2011 – Voted to approve: 13 YES
- ✓ January 5, 2012 – it was voted that minutes be postponed to first meeting in Feb. – VOTE: 13 Yes
- ✓ Town Council Acting Town Manager Compensation Sub-committee Executive Session – December 12, 2011 – Vice President Barton noted that these minutes were voted to be released by the committee
- ✓ T.C.A.T.M.C.S – December 13, 2011 – These minutes were voted to be released by the committee as well.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, STAFF,**

Councilor Barton announced a ham and bean supper.

Councilor Canedy asked whether a letter from the Mosquito Control needed to be addressed by the Council. – Acting Manager Lynch said this is an executive function.

Councilor Joakim announced a meeting on womens issues, Jan. 25, - 4 – 6 at Mass Maritime.

## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

### **A. OLD BUSINESS**

<b>2012-056 - APPROPRIATION OF \$545,000 FOR AIRPORT EMERGENCY GENERATORS INTRO: 01/05/2012, 01/19/2012</b>
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Airport Manager Bud Breault, and Asst. Manager Frank Sanchez came forward and explained that the new airport terminal building is up and running; but they need a transfer to pay for a generator for emergency use. This is a major concern. They hope to get part recouped from grant funds, and possibly from the designers. No taxpayer funds are being requested, monies will come from the enterprise fund.

See Exhibit B for a copy of the Powerpoint that Manager Breault displayed showing where the generator would be set.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted to go in to a public hearing for the purpose of discussing said item 2012-056.

**VOTE:** 13 yes

Robert Tucker said you need to get the power. He suggested they use the old generator at the rink.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted to go out of said public hearing.

**VOTE: 13 yes**

Councilor Dagwan asked about the cost of rental of the generator - \$16,000 to \$14,000 a month and it will take about 20 weeks for the new one to come in. Councilor Canedy is not clear on how this omission could have happened. Breault explained when the building was reduced everything was dropped off the list and then reevaluated as things were put in. It was assumed the generator that we had would work. Canedy wants to know why the architects did not catch it. Breault said they are looking into their legal options.

Councilor Rapp-Grassetti urged following up on this as well. Breault explained what a construction manager at risk is after Councilor Hersey asked.

Councilor Norman asked if it would be wise to go slower to put the new generator in place. Breault said they still do have a retainer.

Councilor Hersey asked if they were eliminating handicap spaces – Breault said they will be shifted and they are in excess of the number required by law.

President Chirigotis asked if Mass Aeronautical review had looked at this.

A motion was made and seconded to move the question.

**VOTE: 13 yes**

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was

**ORDERED:** That the sum of Five Hundred Forty-Five Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$545,000.00) be appropriated for the purposes of funding the purchase and installation of temporary and permanent emergency power generators for the new Barnstable Municipal Airport Terminal facility; and that to meet this appropriation, \$545,000.00 be transferred from available funds within the Airport Reserve Fund , and that the Barnstable Municipal Airport Commission is authorized to contract for and expend the Appropriation made available for this purpose.

**VOTE: - Roll Call – 13 yes**

<b>2012-057 GRANTING OF TWO UTILITY EASEMENTS AT THE BARNSTABLE AIRPORT INTRO: 01/05/2012, 01/19/2012</b>
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Manager Breault explained the installation of the 3 new poles – the easements are needed.

Councilor Rapp-Grassetti is in favor of burying utilities – why would they not bury them? Breault said it was an N-Star requirement and they were tied into other poles.

Councilor Cote asked when the road was rebuilt could the power have been put underground. Breault said it is very costly. There will be more road modifications in the future but no opportunity to put them underground.

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted to move the question.

**VOTE: 13 yes**

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was

**ORDERED:** That the Town Council votes to grant to NSTAR Electric Company and Verizon New England, Inc. two (2) utility easements. The first easement is in a portion of property located at 480 Barnstable Road, Barnstable (Hyannis), Barnstable County, MA as shown on a plan of land entitled, “Plan to accompany easement to NSTAR Electric Company on land of the Barnstable Municipal Airport prepared for: Town of Barnstable prepared by: DPW Survey Section May 12, 2011 Scale : 1” = 30’”, a copy of which plan is on file with the Town Clerk’s Office; the second easement is described as being a portion of the premises described in an Instrument of Taking, dated November 29, 1941, recorded with the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds in Book 587, Page 271. Said property is shown as Lot 9 on a plan recorded in the Barnstable County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 66, Page 49. The second easement plan is described as “Plan for relocation of pole 1107/3 and Placement of new pole 1107/4 Iyanough Road, to accompany easement for Verizon New England, Inc. and NSTAR Electric Company” dated November 16, 2011 and attached to the proposed easement document as Exhibit A; and to authorize the Acting Town Manger to take any steps necessary to finalize

**VOTE: 13 YES**

**2012-060 APPROPRIATE & TRANSFER \$365,000 FOR ASBESTOS ABATEMENT SERVICES & REMOVAL AT THE OLD BARNSTABLE AIRPORT CONTROL TOWER BUILDING**

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was voted to refer this item to a public hearing to be held on February 2, 2012.

**VOTE: 13 yes**

**TOWN MANAGER COMMUNICATIONS**

Acting Town Manager Lynch said the 10-year forecast will be available to the councilors.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Upon motion duly made and seconded it was

**VOTED: To adjourn.**

**ADJOURNED: at 9:52 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted,

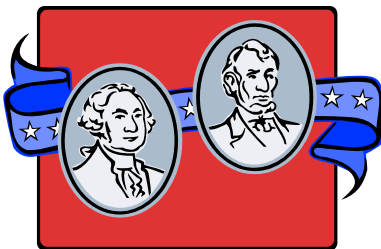
Linda E. Hutchenrider, MMC/CMMC  
Town Clerk/Town of Barnstable

**Attachments:**

Roll Call Sheet

Financial Powerpoint – Exhibit A

Airport Generator Powerpoint – Exhibit B



**NEXT REGULAR MEETING: February 2, 2012**