



The Town of Barnstable

Comprehensive Financial Advisory Committee (CFAC)

367 Main Street, Village of Hyannis, MA 02601

v. 508.862.4654 • f. 508.862.4717

www.town.barnstable.ma.us

Email: cfac@town.barnstable.ma.us

CFAC Committee:

Chairman:

Bill Brower

Members:

Robert Ciolek
Laura Cronin
Stanley Hodkinson
Ralph Krau
Tom Michael

Staff Liaison:

Mark Milne

Councilor Liaison:

Richard Barry
James Munafo Jr.

CFAC MEETING MINUTES

9.07.10

7:00 PM

Growth Management Conference Room

CFAC Members Present: Bill Brower, Robert Ciolek, Ralph Krau, Tom Michael, Stanley Hodkinson

CFAC Members Absent: Laura Cronin

Councilors Present: None

Staff Present: Mark Milne - Finance Director, Deb Childs - Finance/Budget Analyst

1. Call to Order

Upon a quorum duly present, Bill Brower called the CFAC meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Growth Management Conference Room.

2. Act on Minutes

Motion made and accepted to approve the minutes of 08.16.10.

Vote: Unanimous

3. Chairman, Staff & Councilor Comments

Mark Milne reminded that committee that the tax classification discussion and decisions from the Town Council would be coming up soon and if the committee would like to provide any comments that may want to add to a future agenda. Bill B. requested it be added to the next agenda as they did want to review.

4. Old Business

Clean Water Protection

Bill B. reviewed that a special meeting was held on 8/26/10 although due to an error in the posting it was not an “official “ meeting and no votes were taken.

The committee discussed with the Town Manager and Town Council President Chirigotis planning for steps to educate the voters on the upcoming ballot issues.

Ralph K. has been in touch with the various civic associations to set up time on their agendas. He has confirmed the following:

Centerville Civic Association 10/4 @ 6:30 p.m. COMM

Marstons Mills 10/5 @7 p.m.

Hyannis 9/28 @7 p.m. Steamship Authority

West Barnstable was meeting tonight and would be discussing.

He has not received word from Barnstable or Osterville. Ralph will keep the members posted with new information as it is available.

Mark Milne has equipment reserved should it be required for a PowerPoint presentation. A videographer is also available and it was agreed the 9/28 meeting would best be suited for taping.

A regularly scheduled CFAC meeting is set for 10/4 but due to the conflict with the Centerville Civic Association meeting, Bill Brower requested it be canceled.

Revenue Enhancements / Cost Savings

Bill B. noted that after reviewing the CFAC reporting on the Operating Budget that many of the suggestions were already included in that report. Bill would like to set up time for CFAC to be on the Town Council’s agenda to discuss the report and any additional items. Bill would like to target Sept. or Oct. and will check with the Council President on possible dates.

5. New Business

Assessing

Town Assessor Jeff Rudziak was present at the meeting as requested by the CFAC members. Jeff first shared a document that outlined the tax exempt properties in the Town for FY11 by ownership and type. This aided in his discussion of how the assessing department monitors these properties.

Mark Milne asked what procedures were in place to capture properties that change status?

Jeff R. replied that it usually captured as a result of the property changing ownership. The Assessing department has several avenues to research with the State and the Division of Charities.

Tom inquire how many cases have there been recently that required review?

Jeff responded about five.

Ralph K. inquired how the town could encourage tax exempt organizations such as Cape Cod Hospital to contribute fund to the Town.

Jeff R. recommended reviewing the topic with Town Council. He thinks a holistic approach of “what can you do to contribute to your town” would be best.

Bob C. had two questions:

1. We do not receive any funds from the Steamship Authority. Have they been asked?

Bill B. indicated yes and that is was not well received. Mark M. recalled that that discussion led to the special legislation which allowed for the implementation of the ferry tax.

Bob C. commented that those funds are from the passengers and not the Steamship Authority itself.

2. Of the 986 parcels owned by the Town, how many are in Tax Title? How quickly are they turned around and have any been offered on the open market?

Jeff R. noted that these parcels include the school and municipal properties, beaches, conservation land etc. He also indicated the Tax title possessions are handled through the Tax Collector and the Treasurer.

Mark M. noted that no property had been foreclosed or taken possession of in the last twelve months. He noted the Town does have an inventory of tax possessions and are contemplating doing an auction. He also noted there is currently, one property that has a house on it where the Treasurer is considering foreclosure. No one is living in it and it is falling into disrepair. It has been the town's objective not to make anyone homeless so it does not pursue foreclosure on homes with active tenants, only vacated properties.

Ten Year Forecast

Mark shared some documents that outline the past trends in revenues and expensed for the Town General Fund as well as future projections. He provided an overview of each section and requested comments and suggestions from the committee.

Mark anticipates completing the Ten Year Forecast by October 1st for presentation to the Town Council's October 21st meeting.

New CFAC Members

A new CFAC member is anticipated to be appointed by the Town Council. Mark will forward the candidates resume to the committee.

Bob C. suggested having a briefing meeting to bring the new person up to speed on the committee and its responsibilities.

Mark M. and Bill B. will plan to set up a meeting with the new member.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Next Meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2010.