

Cohasset Advisory Committee Held Jointly with Select Board

Tuesday, March 8, 2022

Virtual Meeting-Zoom Video Call

7:30 p.m.

Pursuant to M.G.L. c. 30A, Section 20(b), following Governor Baker's declaration of a state of emergency in the Commonwealth arising from the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Advisory Committee will meet virtually utilizing remote technology. All votes will be taken by a Roll-Call Vote.

Documents Received: Proposed FY23 Water Department Budget; Proposed FY23 Sewer Department Budget.

This meeting was recorded. Joint Meeting of the Advisory Committee with the Cohasset Select Board was called to order at 7:38 pm by Vice-Chair Mary McGoldrick.

Advisory Committee Members in Attendance:

Adam Amann, Jeanne Astino, Fran Collins, J. Patrick Kennedy, Mark Maggi, and Mary McGoldrick.

Advisory Committee Members Absent:

Robert Hillman, Mike Barclay, and Meg Wheeler.

Guests: Chris Senior, Town Manager; Don Piatt, Director of Finance; Water Commission Chair John Steinmetz and member Leonara Jenkins; Sewer Commission member Paul Kierce; Chair Kerry Thompson, Vice Chair Corey Evans, and Members of Select Board Jack Creighton and Jean Healey-Dippold.

I. Proposed FY23 Water Department Budget

Don Piatt presented the proposed FY23 Water Commission budget to the Select Board and Advisory Committee. The budget materials and discussion included:

- 3 years of historical results; FY22 budget and actual-to-date results; plus FY23 proposed budget;
- Discussion focused on the FY23 budget proposal;
- The Water Department proposes a 2.6% increase in revenue and costs, resulting in a year-end balanced budget for FY23;
- The five-year rate-set increase passed at the 2021 Annual Town Meeting flows through to the budget; and
- Don Piatt and John Steinmetz answered questions posed by Select Board and Advisory Committee members.

II. Proposed FY23 Sewer Department Budget

Don Piatt presented the proposed FY23 Sewer Commission budget to the Select Board and Advisory Committee. The budget materials and discussion included:

- 3 years of historical results; FY22 budget and actual-to-date results; plus FY23 proposed budget;
- Discussion focused on the FY23 budget proposal;
- The Sewer Department proposes a 2.5% increase in revenue and costs, resulting in a year-end balanced budget for FY23;
- Betterments and usage charges are the key drivers for revenue increases; and
- The unusually wet summer in 2021 provides a conservative starting point for the revenue model; and
- Don Piatt and Paul Kierce answered questions posed by Select Board and Advisory Committee members

Motion to Adjourn the Advisory Committee portion of Joint Meeting with the Select Board made by Jeanne Astino, and J. Patrick Kennedy seconded the motion. All present members voted Aye (6-0-0).

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 pm.