TOWN OF WEST BROOKFIELD
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
MARCH 13, 2017

Present: Phil Landine
        Tom Long
        Lori Loughlin
        Pam Griffing
        Robert Blozie

Absent:  Brad Hibbard
         Richard Gobi

Others Present: Diane Vayda
               Mike Frew
               Kevin Dorman
               Brian Dorman
               Clayton Edwards
               Bob Benson
               Danny Santos

The meeting was called to order by Chair Lori Loughlin at 6:15 p.m.

BUDGET #5 ASSESSORS: Mike Frew and Kevin Dorman were present to review the budget and answer questions. All employees will receive a 2% raise. The Assistant Assessor is the only one with a cell phone and she receives $360 per union contract. The Camera Software has been discontinued and they will be using Vision Software. Mike said this is a good system and one that Bev Kenniston had used in her previous employment. The fee for the first year is free but there will be a user fee thereafter. They will continue to use Vadar for billing. When asked, they did not know the amount of money turned in last year. The question was asked if the $20,000 for Revaluation was taken off the warrant or is it still on. Mike Frew said that there was no vote by the Board to take it out. Assessors will get a figure for new growth.

BUDGET #13 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS: Kevin Dorman was present. He said special permits were slow. General Expense is used for paperwork, advertisements and postage. His budget was level funded. Expenses spent last year was $983. Expense budget will be cut to $2,000 from $2,980.20.

BUDGET #21 FIRE DEPARTMENT: Brian Charron, Clayton Edwards, Bob Benson and Danny Santos were present. Advisory Committee questioned $12,000 for MFA Training. Brian Charron this is a 300 hour MFA class. He has a possible four members who want to take the course. The cost of the course is free. This course requires many hours to complete and the firefighter is given $3,000 at the completion of the course. This is State monitored and must have a 70 passing grade. Brian said there are five out of 13 total members who have taken the course. The Advisory Committee recommended that this be on line item Education on the Selectmen’s budget and dedicated to the Fire Department. Brian will speak to Johanna. Bob Benson has a cell phone. Software for the Fire Department had not been paid and ended in June. The software is outdated and they
are looking for a new software program and presently are trying different software sample programs. Brian did not know how much money was turned back last year.

7:05: Robert Blozie left the meeting to attend the School Meeting at Quaboag Regional.

**BUDGET #26 HAZARDOUS WASTE:** Brian Charron was present to review his level funded budget. Phil Landine said we need to have the actual cost. He does get reimbursements. He uses his personal cell phone.

**TREASURER’S BUDGET:** Pam Griffing wants to see line by line how this budget was developed and would like it by Friday. She will send an e-mail.

The Tree Warden sent a note via the secretary that he has used $1850 on Police Details in 2017 and he requests to lower his budget request from $10,000 to $3,000 for Police Details.

Next meeting will be March 20, 2017: We will review the Police, Tax Collector, Parking Clerk and Technology budgets. We will make recommendations on all budgets and work on the Advisory letter.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine M. Long
Secretary