

Town Council / Appropriations Committee
Joint Meeting
Wednesday, April 10, 2013 at 7:30 P.M.
Council Chamber, Barrington Town Hall

TOWN COUNCIL

Present: June Sager Speakman, Kate G. Weymouth, Cynthia Armour Coyne,
William C. DeWitt (late arrival) and Ann P. Strong

APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE

Present: Kathryn D. Cadigan, Timothy R. Sweetser, Geoffrey Grove, Rosetta Narvaez and Joel Hellmann

Also Present: Town Manager Peter A. DeAngelis, Jr., Finance Director Dean M. Huff, Jr. and Tax Assessor Michael R. Minardi,

Council President Speakman called the meeting of the Town Council to order. Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Kathryn D. Cadigan called the Appropriations Committee to order.

Discuss and Act on Senior Tax Deferral

The senior tax deferral was discussed. The Committee on Appropriations indicated no real support of the proposed Senior Tax deferral program: two members in favor, Mr. Grove and Mr. Hellmann, two members abstained, Mr. Sweetser and Ms. Narvaez and one member not in favor, Ms. Cadigan.

Discuss and Act on Road Bond

The Town Manager did not include a road bond in the municipal budget. The Council and Committee on Appropriations are in favor of having a road bond, some debt has been retired, the economy is better, the rates are low and it is time to take care of the infrastructure. There was discussion on the various amounts and term length of a proposed road bond. The process is to present a resolution to the voters at the Financial Town Meeting for authorization to issue a bond to repair Town roads; amount to be determined by the administration. Motion by Mrs. Weymouth and seconded by Mrs. Strong to recommend to put before the voters at the Financial Meeting authorization to issue an up to \$4 million road bond. Amount to be determined by the administration. Passed unanimously.

Discuss and Act on Municipal Budget

Town Manager Peter DeAngelis explained the BAY Team's five year grant expires in September but he has not added funding for them in the municipal budget. The BAY Team will reapply for its grant funding. Mr. Hellmann suggested the fund balance surplus be set aside for future tax appeals; the Manager and Finance Director assured him this had already be accounted for in the fund balance surplus. The Committee on Appropriations is in favor of a resolution for the Financial Town Meeting to reserve up to \$400,000 from the fund balance surplus to address unexpected tax appeals. The majority of the committee was in support of revisiting the excise tax for either an increase in the amount of the exemption or the rate. Barrington is one of the highest car tax in the State. The Finance Director will send the Appropriations Committee the different combinations for this tax which will not overly burden the real estate property owner.

Adjourn

Motion by Mrs. Strong and seconded by Mrs. Weymouth to adjourn the Town Council meeting at 8:45 P.M. Passed unanimously. The Appropriations Committee continued their meeting.

Linda H. James, Town Clerk