

TOWN OF PRINCETON, MA
Princeton Advisory Committee
Meeting Minutes
December 5, 2019 – 6:00 p.m.

AC members in attendance: Wayne Adams, Helga Lyons, Rick McCowan, Bill Lawton, Judy Dino

AC members absent: Mary Jo Wojtusik

Also present: SB members Karen Cruise and Richard Bisk, TA Sherry Patch, Chief of Police Michele Powers and Sergeant Ricky Thebeau.

Advisory Committee (AC) Agenda

- Draft 2021 Budget review with SB and TA: Police Department
- Approve Minutes of 11/21/19

Meeting Minutes

Meeting started at 6:25 p.m

Discussion

The Chief of Police (CP) presented a level operating budget to include a projected increase in police salaries. CP reported a current budget shortfall for EMT training of police officers. The shortfall will be covered from other current budget items.

CP reported that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts requires that each police officer undergo 40 hours of training each year. This mandate is now being tracked. The Princeton police department currently does not fully meet this requirement. A listing of possible classes and the related costs was presented. A minimum additional training budget of ~\$18,000 was requested.

Several new budget item requests were presented as follows:

- Replacement of 2015 Police Cruiser (capital request)
- Replacement of 2009 Chief of Police Cruiser (capital request)
- Purchase of four new radios (replacement of 15-year old equipment)
- Purchase of one MDT (replacement of 5-year old equipment)
- Continuation of current lease of Police tasers (this was previously included in the operating budget)
- Investigative Tool (fee based) – on-line tool for finding suspects
- Archive Social – social media archival system
- New e-mail system – Microsoft 365

AC asked that all items other than the police cruisers are added to the operating budget. For all IT related items, it was suggested to get in touch with the IT Strategic Planning Committee to optimize Town resources. For the purchase of police cruisers, it was suggested to research Hybrid vehicle options and potential grant money for energy efficient vehicles.

Approval of minutes of the 11/21/19 meeting: 5Y/0N/0A

It was decided to re-schedule the meeting for discussion of Finance Policy to 12/18/19 at 6 p.m.

The AC Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Handouts: Minutes of 11/23/19, Draft Budget of Police Department and eight separate requests for new items.

Minutes recorded by Helga Lyons, Secretary