



**Recreation Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
April 12, 2012 7:00 p.m. Town Hall Council Chambers**

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Adams, Ken Henke, Winston Shade, Kari McCloud, Marty Buckwald, Stephane Daniel, Cheri Lee

ABSENT MEMBERS: Linda Hunt-Williams, Peter Koutroumpis, Monica Fanjoy

STAFF PRESENT: Julia Meder, Len Bradley, and Julie Tew

CALL TO ORDER: Kevin called the meeting to order

APPROVAL OF 3/8/12 MINUTES: Minutes approved.

BOARD RECOMMENDATION TO COUNCIL REGARDING BOND:

The advisory board was provided with a packet of information from Len which included articles from local papers regarding the bond, the presentation given to the Town Council at the retreat, and literature provided to the public during the bond campaign. The board reviewed the information and Len opened the floor for the board to ask any questions and discuss.

Board members discussed at length their personal thoughts about the bond, the tax increase and how they felt the information was portrayed to the public. Some members felt that the information was provided in the correct manner while others felt misled by the possibility of a tax increase versus an inevitable tax increase. Len explained that when a referendum is put to the community for a vote it must be presented as one with a tax increase or without a tax increase. After reviewing the literature provided in the packets, the bond referendum is shown to be one with a 3.5 cent tax increase. The board members continued to discuss their personal thoughts on the issue and weighed the pros and cons of each tax increase scenario, 3.5 cent, 2 cent, 1 cent or zero increase. Winston asked for Len and Cheri to explain the timeline for raising taxes should the council approve a tax increase. Len explained that the Town has seven years to use the bond funds with the possibility of a three year extension. Cheri stated that even though she is not in support of raising taxes, now would be the time to move forward while rates are low. When asked his opinion, Len shared that he would recommend to council moving forward with the 3.5 cent tax increase to complete phase one as stated in the literature provided to the public. This would complete projects between 2012-2015. It was explained in the literature that future tax base growth could reduce the burden on tax payers as adjustments are always a possibility.

Kevin made a motion to the board to take a vote on which scenario to recommend to council. The board voted on each tax scenario to send a message to council about their stance on the tax increase. Kevin made a motion to recommend the 3.5 cent proposal with a second from Marty. Five were in favor, one was opposed. Kevin made a motion to recommend the 2 cent proposal with a second from Marty. Five were in favor, one was opposed. Kevin made a motion to recommend the 1 cent proposal with a second from Marty. Three were in favor, three were opposed. Kevin made a motion to recommend the zero increase with a second from Ken. One was in favor, five were opposed. Kevin will present the recommendations to council in person during public comment next Tuesday, April 17.

ADJOURN: There being no further items for discussion the meeting was adjourned.