

TOWN OF PROVINCETOWN - BOARD OF SELECTMEN

JOINT MEETING WITH THE FINANCE COMMITTEE

PUBLIC FORUM – MONDAY, MARCH 21, 2011 6 PM

JUDGE WELSH ROOM

Chairman Michele Couture convened the meeting at 6:00 PM noting the following attendees: Board of Selectmen members: Michele Couture, David Bedard, Austin Knight, Elaine Anderson and John Santos

Other attendees: Town Manager Sharon Lynn, Assistant Town Manager David Gardner, Finance Director Dan Hoort

Recorder: David Gardner

The following are meeting minutes, in brief.

The Finance Committee convened a meeting at 6:00 PM noting the following members present: Thomas Coen, Ann Maguire, Tom Donegan, David McChesney, Frederic Biddle, Eric Yingling and Glen Dombrow. Excused Absence: Thomas Thurston

TOWN'S FUTURE LIABILITY FOR POST-EMPLOYMENT BENEFITS (HEALTH INSURANCE)

Daniel Rhodes, Segal Corporation

Mr Rhodes made a presentation regarding the actuarial study showing the financial effects of adopting Section 18 or 18A, which would require all Medicare eligible retirees to elect a Medicare plan offered by the Town of Provincetown through the Cape Cod Municipal Health Group. The report addresses the short and long-term costs and savings to the Town and its retirees associated with adopting Section 18 and 18A, and also reviewed the differences in coverage between non-Medicare and Medicare plans.

Comment:

Elaine Anderson - Very helpful. Good presentation. Increases are not that great for retirees.

Michele Couture - We need to do something. Every year we face a deficit.

Austin Knight - Increased liabilities will affect our bond ratings. How can we help offset some of the out of pocket costs for retirees?

Tom Coen - We have discussed the possibility of the Town contributing to the Medicare premium. When does the switch to Medicare take effect?

Sharon Lynn - FY 13

Tom Coen - 16 out of 23 Towns have adopted 18 or 18A (3 18A)

Tom Donegan - Will there be any savings to actives from adoption of 18?

Daniel Rhodes - Not much.

Tom Donegan - Exhibit 7 - What is that savings attributable to? Are these liabilities transferred to Federal Government?

Daniel Rhodes - Yes.

Public Comment:

James Meads - Issue of part B premium needs further discussion. Retiree income is very low for older retirees. Requests postponement of this article until fall town meeting.

Kathy Meads - When did Warrant close? Report was received AFTER warrant closed. This Article is premature, as there are many unanswered questions brought up by this discussion.

Dick Silva - Gets less than \$200 per month for Social Security. Does the Board of Selectmen realize that we don't get full (or any) social security.

Linda DiBenedetto - Does Board of Selectmen realize that many doctors are dropping Medicare patients? What about supplementing Medicare?

Ann Maguire - Any Massachusetts government retiree does not get full social security benefit.

Kathy Meads: Don't forget that Section 18 is irrevocable.

Motion to adjourn the by Austin Knight at 7:45 PM.

Minutes transcribed by: Vernon G. Porter, Secretary to Board of Selectmen
March 22, 2011