

**CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MEETING**

FEBRUARY 12, 2013

**PORTSMOUTH CITY HALL
Conference Room A**

6:00 P.M.

Present: Chairperson Nancy Emerson, Algene Bailey, Constance Carmody, Bob Layton, Alicia Weaver, Alison Hamilton

Absent: Vice Chairperson Dani Rooney (excused), Lynne Langley (excused), Jean Pecunies (excused)

Staff: Dave Allen, David Moore, Adam Cannon

Chairwoman Nancy Emerson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Next, the committee unanimously approved the minutes from previous Citizen's Advisory Committee meeting on January 15, 2013.

Chairwoman Emerson then requested a copy of the current HUD Income Limits and an updated listing of committee members.

Following this action, Mr. Moore discussed the Fiscal Year 2014 (FY14) entitlement grant figure. He noted that the figure is still undetermined and that HUD has recommended planning for a 10% reduction in the entitlement grant for FY14.

Next, Mr. Moore highlighted the various ongoing projects programs which will continue in FY14. Among these included Ranger Way Streetscape Improvements (Construction), Maynard Park Improvements (Construction), Housing Rehabilitation Program, Housing Rehabilitation Administration, Residential Accessibility Grants and the HomeTown Program. In particular, Mr. Moore discussed the new delivery model for the Housing Rehabilitation Administration budget and highlighted the specific duties of the Housing Specialist as part of program.

Following this discussion, Mr. Moore proceeded to discuss plans for the FY14 General Administration budget. He stated that the budget includes portions of his own and the office manager's salary and benefits, noting that even with a 10% budget reduction, the department will stay under the 20% general administration cap.

The topic then moved onto the public service agencies. Mr. Moore stated that funding may remain at last year's level. Mr. Cannon discussed the Public Service Agency Grant program for FY14. He stated that applications were due on the 14th of the month and that several agencies have expressed interest in the program. He expected some new agencies to submit applications. Chairwoman Emerson asked for a copy of the application. Mr. Cannon stated that he would provide one to the Committee in a mailing. Mr. Moore stated that the City will provide a letter, once again this year, to advise agencies the continuing trend of decreased entitlement amounts.

Ms. Hamilton asked how agencies are notified of whether they receive a grant. Mr. Moore replied that the group will first make a recommendation to the City Manager and then they will receive a call from City staff along with a letter.

The Committee then considered a request by Operation Blessing to fund an emergency generator project similar to the Betty's Dream generator project in past years. Mr. Cannon stated that he spoke with Mr. Byron Grant of Operation Blessing recently and Mr. Grant indicated that he would be able to come up with some

matching funds. Mr. Moore stated that this request could be discussed in more detail prior to drafting the budget.

Following this discussion, Mr. Moore gave a recap of all the requests made at the January 15th public hearing. In response to the Goodwin Park Neighborhood Association request, he stated that there were many sidewalk rehabilitations occurring throughout the City and that the City's Capital Improvement Plan addresses these items. He did not know when the rehabilitation would take place and stated that public works is aware of the request.

In response to the Atlantic Heights Neighborhood Association, Mr. Moore said that most of their requests would be addressed in the upcoming Ranger Way and Maynard Park renovations. In particular, concerns about the current fencing arrangement and park amenities for dogs could be addressed as part of Maynard Park Improvements. In addition, he highlighted the request for pedestrian scale lighting and stated that the Committee will need to determine the relative priority of this project in light of other requests from the neighborhood.

This ended the main portion of the agenda. Following this topic, committee members discussed miscellaneous topics. Chairwoman Emerson asked if the Strawberry Banke skating rink would be under consideration for funding. David stated that this was not an eligible activity for funding.

Mr. Moore then distributed a copy of last year's budget to give the committee an overview of what a completed budget looks like. He explained in detail the various types of monies including the revolving loan fund and reprogrammed monies from previous fiscal years. There will be a draft form available in early April.

Chairwoman Emerson then stated that she is concerned about senior transportation. Mr. Moore replied that there are a lot of transportation conversations taking place including issues with COAST's request for more money due to the costs of the paratransit service.

The next meeting date is for March 5th, 2013 and will begin public service agency presentations.

Chairwoman Emerson adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.