

**2013 Fiscal Study Committee  
Minutes  
October 16, 2013**

Attendance: see attached

Chairs: Maurice DePalo, Henry Fitzgerald

At 7:03 PM, Mr. Fitzgerald called the meeting to order.

On a motion by Mr. Forletta, second by Mr. Alperson, the minutes of the October 2, 2013 minutes were approved. All in favor.

Mr. Fitzgerald asked that members provide an update on where the various subcommittees are in their work and requested that the reports be finalized by the end of the week if possible. There was agreement that Mr. Gregory would circulate to the larger group each of the draft reports once they are ready for discussion.

Mr. Forletta explained that the employee benefits subcommittee draft report is nearing completion and only needs minor editing and some consolidation.

Mr. Gooley explained that he has submitted the library subcommittee report. There was some discussion about the section of the library report titled "Debt Exclusion" and then consensus that that section be removed since the final report will likely not be made public until after the debt exclusion vote on November 5<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gregory acknowledged that he would circulate this subcommittee draft report.

Mr. Ryan explained that he will soon be submitted what he has drafted on State Aid.

Mr. Karas explained that his public works subcommittee (exclusive of water/sewer) should have a report ready for submission by Friday.

Ms. Hollenback explained that she will have a PAYT draft report submitted by Friday. There was some discussion about whether a community may increase its excise tax through an override vote.

Ms. Keohane and Mr. Jordan explained that the school revenue subcommittee is still soliciting feedback from Mr. Hurley and Dr. Sawyer and that a draft report should be ready by Monday.

Mr. Alperson and Mr. Fitzgerald explained that the taxation subcommittee's report is nearly complete and that there did not appear to be much in the way of finding new sources of revenue, other than the possibility of hiring additional staff to report on uncaptured new growth. Mr. Fitzgerald referenced Shrewsbury's low ranking in average residential tax bills among the Assabet Valley Collaborative towns. The subcommittee had been researching data about household income for Shrewsbury but then determined not to include this data in the report because it did not appear to lead to any particular conclusion.

Ms. Kasperzak and Mr. Flynn explained that the police report is now finished and that the fire report should be finished very soon.

Mr. Austin explained that the school expense subcommittee recently met with Ms. Maguire, Special Education Director, to gather data about special education costs. There was some discussion about establishing a local special needs program which would reduce the need to send special needs children to programs outside of the district. Mr. Samia noted that the committee is still pulling together data for the report.

Mr. Fitzgerald then explained that the subcommittees could meet separately as they desired for the remainder of the meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2013 at 7:00 PM in the Senior Center.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas M. Gregory  
Assistant to the Town Manager

Referenced Materials  
Minutes of October 2, 2013

<b>Fiscal Study Committee Attendance Record</b>	
	16-Oct-13
Henry J. Fitzgerald, Co-Chairman	x
Maurice M. DePalo, Co-Chairman	x
Adler, Mark	
Alperson, Gary	x
Austin, Brian	x
Berquist, Florence	x
Campaniello, David	
Collins, Peter	
Convery, Patrick	
Cox, Jacqueline	x
Cygielnik, John	
Flynn, James	x
Forletta, Bernard	x
Gooley, William	x
Holland, Robert	
Hollenback, Melissa	x
Hoogasian, James	
Karas, Matthew	x
Kasperzak, Heather	x
Keohane, Kathleen	x
Kickham, Barbara	
Kristant, Cheryl	x
Marshall, Kelly	
Palitsch, Jason	x
Pitney, Patrick	
Rubin, Jordan	x
Ryan, Robert	x
Samia, John	x
Schwartz, Daniel	x
Shaw, Preston	
Willingham, Mark	
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