Northampton Elected Officials Compensation Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Date: July 24th, 2014

Members Present: Todd Thompson (Chair), Dennis Helmus, Trey Fortier, Douglas Loux, Linda Matson, Vicki Baum-Hommes, and Jennifer Higgins.

Public Comment – None.

Review Prior Minutes – The minutes of the June 24th, 2014 Elected Officials Compensation Advisory Board were accepted as presented.

Confirm Dates and Format for Soliciting Stakeholder and Public Input.

- Chair to invite elected officials to the board's next meeting on August 28th, 2014.
- Public hearing is to be held on September 4th, 2014.

Presentation and Discussion of Benchmarking Data

- Member to add column to benchmarking worksheet that will specify (yes or no) whether elected position is eligible for health benefits.
- Members recommend excluding PPO percentage data from benchmarking criteria.
- Member suggested including different, more qualitative data to consider supplementing the Board's final recommendations, such as a town's walk score, or citizen's creditworthiness.
    - One member will gather this data and present it to the other members who will then collectively decide what may or may not be relevant to the final recommendations of the board.
- Board members decided to include all 24 cities with populations less than 50K in their preliminary benchmarking worksheet. Members will then decide, based on this data, which cities may or may not be relevant to the board's final recommendations.
- Members will determine questions they would like to ask elected officials. These questions will be sent to the board chair, who will then forward them to the elected officials for review prior to the joint meeting between the board and elected officials.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 28th at 6:30PM.

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