

Voted and approved 06-29-2010

BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
Tuesday, April 06, 2010
7:00 PM at Town Hall Meeting Room

Present:

Douglas Blanchard, Vice Chairman
Michael Phelan
Jess Dods
Ann Roy

Also Present: Diana Schindler, Town Administrator

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Call to Order

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

7:00 P.M.

MASTER PLAN COMMITTEE INTERVIEW: Linda Summers

The Board interviewed Linda Summers for the Master Plan Committee.

MOTION: To appoint Linda Summers to the Master Plan Committee. (PHELAN, DODS)

Voted and approved 4-0

7:10 P.M.

JOINT MEETING WITH FINANCE COMMITTEE RE: Budget

Finance committee present: (all members? Bob Blanchette, John Martin, Jim Fleming, Nancy LaBombard and Tammy Tefft

Present: Ed Cauley, Highway Superintendent, Police Chief Silvernail, and David Kielson, Town Accountant.

The Boards continued their discussion regarding the budget. Chairman Blanchette brought up the FY10 budget shortfalls. The Finance Committee inquired about the big storm and asked the Department heads if there was anything outstanding in the end of the March expense and wage report. Ed stated most of the expenses are there except a bill of 1,000. Ed further explained how the reimbursement number is determined when the state and federal determine emergency numbers. Chief Silvernail stated the police and fire expenses have been submitted, it is reflected in the end of month expense report.

Chairman Blanchette stated at the end of March is 75% of the year, and just using that percentage benchmark and looking at the expended from the accounts there are about four or five accounts that are running over their allotment and they discussed with those departments and know the answers why, but they remain cautious that it is being managed well. He asked if they can get thru the year with money that has been allocated.

The Select Board opened the floor to the department heads to comment regarding the budget. Mr. Cauley commented there are a lot of things that are not getting done; the cost estimate would be an additional 40 to 50 a year for material, gravel, pavement, bridge repair etc. Chief Silvernail stated everyone is going without and doing without. As things break and are not being replaced or fixed. He further stated not all departments made that seven percent cut last year and if they are looking at further cuts everyone should share the burden. They are continuously doing more with less and he doesn't know how the board expects that.

The Finance Committee stated they are in favor of the meals tax.

The free cash is 224,000; they know they have to transfer some of the money into the stabilization account. They came up with 100,000 in there and 135000 in the Capital improvement account. They would love to put in more. If they can keep FY10 in a situation next year the first things they would do and take apportion and put into the stabilization fund, at least 100,000. They are not recommending funding the FY11 with future free cash. They would like to reserve the rest for FY10 if needed or use it for FY11.

They discussed the current budget and asked the Select board and Ms. Schindler if they are willing to participate in that and to look at the current budget and to use their experience they might help them identify a critical list that they could add money to. Chairman Blanchette asked for input from anyone to help them build it. The capital improvement plan has 1530000 needs to come from stabilization if it were less than 153000.

Ms. Schindler discussed the wage scenario and stated it is difficult to achieve. The zero percent is affordable but still leaves the budget with a deficit. There was discussion about reopening contracts. The expected wage increase that includes every employee that works for the town left with deficit of 270,000. If the meals tax passed it would bring the deficit down to 240,000.

There was a discussion of whether or not to ask for an override.

Selectman Dods recap not funding the capitalization fund this year.

MOTION: To use the 100,000 and to not fund the capital expenditure fund of 100,000. (DODS, ROY)

Voted and approved 3-0

Selectman Phelan nay

Ms. Schindler stated she will take a look at the budget and the finance committee will meet with the board on April 20th. Selectman Dods asked if the Finance Committee would like to meet with the union in executive session. Ms. Schindler stated she will run it by the union rep. Finance Committee left the room.

8:00 P.M.

TOWN HALL DEPARTMENT HEADS RE: Storm Closure Policy

Ms. Schindler passed out the policy that was adopted on February 9, 2009 and they reviewed a separate policy that had more detail. "If the town hall is closed the employees will get paid for the day." Chief Silvernail asked if they close the town hall and the dispatchers still came in how are they compensated. He further stated the board adopted a policy but did not follow thru with the proper procedures of passing thru with the Personnel Policy Procedure Board.

The Select board asked to forward this to the PPPB. Mr. Cauley asked to have a hearing and make this a bylaw. The Board asked to have both policies sent to the PPPB for review.

MOTION: To rescind the storm closing policy from last year (02-09-09). (PEHLAN, DODS)

Voted and approved 4-0

I. TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Review Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles

Ms. Schindler stated she will have a draft for the Board at their next meeting for them to review. The Board of Assessors brought request to change the elderly exemption, and they did vote to support the farm animal. When she put all the articles together she will provide the supporting documentation. She also stated Madeline Way is going onto the roads.

II. BOARD OF SELECTMEN UPDATES

- Upcoming Events/Meetings

III. OLD BUSINESS

Goral Property-see correspondence from RNC

Ms. Schindler stated the Recreational Needs Committee sent a letter listing priorities to continue to develop the existing field they have, second to maintain a the condition of the fields recommended a department of public works, the town tried to do that a year before, but failed by a few votes.

Chairman McDougall read letter aloud Mr. Goral letter. If they had a favorable recommendation from the Recreational Needs Committee then they will get an appraisal and ask CPA for the funds.

MOTION: To ask CPA to fund the appraisal and to send the Gorals a letter of the Boards vote. (PHELAN, DODS)
Voted and approved 4-0

IV. NEW BUSINESS

Apr Land request-Glendale Road

Ms. Schindler stated the Department of Agricultural asked that the Select Board read the letter aloud and sign to acquire 106 acres. Fournier and Winding River Trust took the first step; they paid CPA funds town share (per Virginia) the board asked to have that put on the agenda for the 20th and to get additional information on it. They are not going to waive the 120 day notice.

V. OTHER CORRESPONDENCE AND SIGNATURES

Annual Town Election Warrant- to be signed

MOTION: To sign the Annual Town Election warrant. (DODS, PHELAN)
Voted and approved 4-0

Notice to Proceed (PVPC) -to be signed

MOTION: To sign the notice to proceed PVPC. (PHELAN, ROY)
Voted and approved 4-0

This contract is to take us into year two deferring the capital purchases; they voted an allotment on 09 and 10 they are ten months behind.

Forest Cutting Plan-to be reviewed

Forest cutting plan notification on Madeline Road. Ms. Schindler stated this plan has already been approved by the forester and this was discussed at previous meetings that the forester has limited amount of time to approve the plans and he does not have an obligation to wait to approve the plans. Selectman Dods stated he thought they had "legal teeth". Ms. Schindler stated forestry is not considered agriculture, the by law that was passed was agricultural.

One Day Alcohol Permit-Simone

One Day All Alcohol permits for Brandee Simone for June 26, 2010

MOTION: To sign the One Day All Alcohol Permit at Conant Park on June 26, 2010. (PHELAN, DODS)
Voted and approved 4-0

Chapter 90-Southampton FY2011 \$244,762, 37

Maple Street from ConCom- to be reviewed

Ms. Schindler updated the Board regarding 37 Maple Street: Finding wetlands and the enforcement order, they had meeting Monday night and they will do a site visit with the builder.

Letter of Resignations

Chairman read aloud the letters of resignation from Paul Brad Broussaeu from Hampshire Regional High School Committee and the Energy Committee, and the letter of resignation from Paul Truehart, Board of Health.

MOTION: To accept Mr. Brousseau and Mr. Trueharts resignation and to send a letter of appreciation.
(PHELAN, ROY) Voted and approved 4-0

Mr. Truehart had one more year; Ms. Schindler stated she will look into it with the upcoming election.
(Tape was never restarted-per Ms. Schindler)

VI. MINUTES OF MEETINGS, APPROVAL & SIGNATURES

PCF-Miltimore, Fire Dept

Per Ms. Schindler the board voted and approved the PCF for Kyle Miltimore, Fire Department who replaces Reilly Forance.

Payroll Warrant

Per Ms. Schindler the board voted and approved the Payroll warrant #P10-40 \$216,663.35 and Bill warrant #W10-41 \$220,696.67

No minutes at this time

VII. OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC

Jean Pierre Crevier asked if the board would go into executive session under litigation.

EXECUTIVE SESSION M.G.L. CHAPTER 39, §23B-Nothing scheduled at this time

MOTION: To go into executive session under M.G.L. Chapter 39, §23B #3 –

Roll Call Vote: MCDOUGALL – AYE; DODS – AYE; PHELAN – AYE; BLANCHARD – AYE; ROY – AYE;

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted

Regina Shea-Sullivan