

Board of Selectmen Meeting:
Memorial Town Hall Conference Room
Chairman: Edmund E. Jaworski

Nov. 13, 2018 @ 1:00pm
Approved: March 6, 2019

Present:

Edmund Jaworski, Jr., Chair, Brian Moriarty, Selectman, Cindy Doty, Selectman, Marlene Michonski, Town Administrator, Edwina Palmisano, Sharon Strzegowski, Treasurer/Collector's Office, Lydia Szych, Town Clerk

Selectman Jaworski opened the meeting at 1:00pm.

There were no announcements, nor anyone present for public forum.

Vote for Special Election and Questions for Ballot-

Selectman Jaworski said he feels pressured because if we don't act on this we will miss out on \$200,000.00 in grant money. He asked Ms. Michonski what needs to be done for a Special election. The Board needs to approve ballot questions and set a special election date. Ms. Michonski will confer with the town clerk. The announcement should have said 27th, December 27 is a Thursday.

The Board discussed posting deadlines for a Special Town Meeting and special election with town clerk, Lydia Szych. Time is needed to prepare ballot questions and for ballots to be ordered taking into account a month earlier for absentee ballots. Ms. Michonski said full authorization is needed as soon as possible to take advantage of the grant. The Board will decide if the 19th is better or the 27th, but no sooner than the 19th.

Selectman Moriarty read article 1. He explained the \$480,000.00 upgrade, for which we would get \$200,000.00 back from the state. There is a time crunch to qualify for this. The wording was discussed "...borrowing or otherwise..." Selectman Jaworski talked about the sewer users or town-wide support for this. Selectman Doty noted the town doesn't have a betterment tax. Selectman Moriarty said this is an infrastructure issue. The plan is to get more people on the sewer.

Selectman Jaworski asked about the levy limit, and how it would affect borrowing. Ms. Palmisano read some numbers saying \$480,000.00 is less than \$500,000.00, so no bond counsel is necessary, just go to the DOR. Interest was also discussed. A rate of 2.25% was the last rate but that can't be guaranteed. Interest would be about \$10,800.00. July 2018 was last payment for Bridge/Gore loan so the extra \$67,000.00 could be used toward this loan.

If Special Town Meeting approves it by borrowing, then a town election is not necessary. Ms. Szych said she can't just cancel an election. Questions must be submitted to her by tomorrow.

Selectman Moriarty said if people decide debt exclusion then we need the ballot question. Ms. Szych said the warrant needs to reflect what's to be discussed at the meeting. Ms. Michonski said MGL Chpt 44, Section 7 or 8, town counsel will check.

Selectman Jaworski said article 1 is the borrowing, article 2 is the debt exclusion. The town has the option of those two. The Board needs to have information in order to answer questions, and maybe more information will be available by then. Ms. Palmisano noted that \$67,000.00 coming off should help the levy limit.

Selectman Moriarty said question 1 on the ballot will equate to article 2 on the warrant because that article is only necessary for a debt exclusion. Ms. Szych will find out the percentage necessary for the vote, either 2/3 or a simple majority.

Article 3 is the code compliance renovation for Memorial Town Hall. Selectman Moriarty said if this is passed then we can go out to bid before spring. This would also be a debt exclusion. Ms. Michonski noted CPA said \$125,000.00 was funded several years ago for the elevator, and \$380,000.00 needs to be reauthorized. Selectman Moriarty mentioned the cost increase for the renovation.

Ramp/Kitchen add-ons –

Articles 3 & 4 are to be debt exclusion. Two ramps were discussed, but Selectman Jaworski explained the current ramp is not code compliant and must be removed and redone. Selectman Moriarty said we don't need 2 ramps at town hall, but we have to let townspeople decide. Selectman Jaworski said article 3 is to bring us to compliance and fire protection. If article 4 passes there would be a second exterior ramp.

Article 5 would reauthorize an appropriation we already have. It is for money that should have been spent by a certain date, but we are extending that date.

Selectman Moriarty said if we meet tomorrow, the 14th, the Board can then officially vote on them.

Selectman Jaworski said if we agree on changes today we can sign tomorrow.

Selectman Moriarty moved to accept 5 articles as presented today, including making article 1 into 2.

Selectman Jaworski seconded. The motion was approved.

Selectman Moriarty moved to accept 3 ballot questions to be on a Dec. 19th special election. Selectman Jaworski seconded. The motion was approved.

There was brief discussion regarding a second ramp.

Selectman Moriarty moved to adjourn. Selectman Jaworski seconded. The meeting ended at 1:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ki J. Eno
Executive Assistant