

Board of Selectmen Meeting:
Memorial Town Hall Conference Room
Chairman:

7-9-2019 @ 6:00pm
Approved: 11-19-2019
Selectman Brian Moriarty

Present: Selectman Brian Moriarty, Selectman Diana Szynal, Marlene Michonski, Town Administrator
Finance Committee: Betsy Rider, Diane Brzozowski, Darryl Williams and Sean Barry
Absent: Edmund Jaworski,

Selectman Moriarty opened the meeting at 6:00pm. Ms. Michonski announced Waterpalooza will be held July 20th in front of the library. Selectman Szynal said New Year's Eve gala tickets will be on sale the 17th and 18th at town hall. Whole tables only are being released. The tickets are \$100/each and more information is available on the website. Also, the Greater Hatfield Open, Aug. 25th at Crumpin-Fox to benefit the Smith Academy golf and booster club. Call Matt Denera, golf coach for more information.

No one was present for public forum.

Minutes-

Selectman Moriarty moved to accept the regular meeting minutes of June 25, 2019. Selectman Szynal seconded. Selectman Moriarty then moved to accept the minutes of the executive session of June 25, 2019. Selectman Szynal seconded. All voting in favor the minutes were approved.

350th Steering Committee

Selectman Szynal, as a member of the committee, supports the request to increase from 9 to 11 members

Selectman Szynal moved to increase the committee size from 9 to 11 members. Selectman Moriarty seconded. The motion was approved.

Selectman Moriarty moved to appoint Mike Cahill, to fill the vacancy of Lynn Omasta on the 350th Anniversary Steering Committee. Selectman Szynal seconded.

Selectman Moriarty moved to appoint Stephanie Slysz and Paul Labbee to the 350th Anniversary Steering Committee. Selectman Szynal seconded. All voting in favor of the appointments the motions were approved.

Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Stephanie Slysz. The gala is expected to sell out.

Conservation Restriction – Straits Road, Mark Walmsley, Kestrel Land Trust

CPA funds were expended to purchase land, approved by the Conservation Commission and is awaiting the Board's signatures. A final vote on a special permit is required. There is a hearing on the 16th for a common driveway permit. Selectman Szynal moved to approve the conservation restriction as laid out. Selectman Moriarty seconded. The motion was approved and the signatures of the Board were witnessed by Lydia Szych, Town Clerk.

A brief break was taken at 6:15. As the Board was scheduled to meet with the Finance Committee at 6:30.

Ms. Michonski said the contract for the Memorial Town Hall renovation is currently being reviewed by town counsel. She hopes to have the Board meet briefly on this topic next week. This topic was tabled. A notice to proceed would go out to the contractor. The Board will award the contract to the low bidder, approve the contract and then the notice to proceed.

COLA rate approval.

Selectman Szynal moved to accept rates as presented excluding the Firefighter training rate and Firefighter regular rate because she cannot vote on those. Selectman Moriarty seconded. The motion was approved.

Ms. Strzegowski wanted to clarify that what was approved was the 2% COLA but not other increases. Speaking as a taxpayer, she said it wouldn't be appropriate for departments with extra money to give additional raises. Selectman Szynal said she understood it was the 2% COLA that was being voted. Ms. Michonski developed the spreadsheet voted on as the rate sheet. When the list was put together the rates reflected the reshuffling of funds within the Police Department. Ms. Strzegowski said other departments want to increase rates if they have extra money. Ms. Michonski will expand the chart and bring it back. Selectman Szynal moved to rescind the vote. Selectman Moriarty seconded. the motion to rescind was approved.

Mr. Genovese asked if the old rates would stay. They would then be retroactive.

Unanticipated New Business

Selectman Moriarty announced that there was unanticipated new business of a time sensitive nature and it pertained to Town meeting approval of the ambulance and school department van.

Selectman Szynal moved to approve the lease with option to purchase 2020 – 12 passenger rear lift school bus. Selectman Moriarty seconded. All voting in favor the motion was approved.

Selectman Szynal moved to enter into a lease with option to purchase agreement for the 2019 Horton 603 4x4 ambulance. Selectman Moriarty seconded. All voting in favor the motion was approved.

A short break was taken at 6:30pm to await Finance Committee members and the meeting resumed at 6:38pm.

Approved 2% COLA Increases

Selectman Szynal moved to grant 2% COLA by department with the exception of the firefighter training rate and the firefighter regular rate. Selectman Moriarty seconded. The motion was approved.

Budget transfers were to be taken up with the Finance Committee. The fiscal year ends on June 30. Ms. Michonski noted a spreadsheet with departments, and listed deficits and surpluses. Funds can be encumbered until July 15th, but there is still 1 more warrant.

Ms. Michonski explained shortfalls. Mr. Genovese said he had to sit down with Baystate Accounting because of line errors.

Ms. Michonski explained Justin Cole's recommendation regarding the snow & ice deficit.

Mr. Williams said he would like clarification from Mr. Cole on the snow & ice budget.

Regarding the library underage, Mr. Genovese said it doesn't go through Public Buildings Maintenance.

Ms. Rider moved to approve the transfers as presented on the end of year document dated July 9th. Ms. Brzozowski seconded. Mr. Williams said it would be good to get clarification on some of the items, snow & ice, mis-posting, and the library. Mr. Barry said the library budget always increases because of the grant. Mr. Barry suggested looking at the whole budget as other lines may have a surplus. All voting aye, the motion was approved.

Selectman Szynal moved to make the recommended transfers as per the document.

Selectman Moriarty seconded. The motion was approved.

The FY20 insurance budget is in deficit. Ms. Michonski explained the premiums are \$170,000, for property & casualty and worker's comp. The Town has had some claims and \$16,576 is being requested. The original appropriation was \$140,000 and \$121,756 is the present balance. \$156,576 is the total due for insurance.

Mr. Barry moved to transfer \$16,576 from Finance Reserve to Insurance. Ms. Rider seconded. All voting in favor, the motion was approved.

Selectman Moriarty said we need to talk about sewer rates, capital projects, and insurance. Mr. Williams suggested meeting in early September because there are big picture items to be looked at. The next Board of Selectmen meetings will be July 23, at 5:30PM, and August 20th.

Selectman Szynal moved to adjourn. Selectman Moriarty seconded. The motion was approved and the meeting ended at 7:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ki J. Eno
Executive Assistant