

Present: Selectmen Brian Moriarty, Edmund Jaworski, Diana Szynal, Marlene Michonski, Town Administrator, Lydia Szych, Town Clerk, Kerry Flaherty, Board of Health, Bob Flaherty, Fire Chief Finance Committee members Sean Barry, Darryl Williams, Betsy Rider, Diane Brzozowski, Kim Baker, Collector Sharon Strzegowski, Phil Genovese DPW Director., John Robert, School Superintendent

Selectman Szynal called the meeting to order at 6:10PM.

#### Announcements

Selectman Szynal read the public participation policy. She thanked people for gathering yesterday and walking through town in support of racial equality. She said it was a powerful and beautifully done event which included Dr. Jalil Johnson.

Selectman Moriarty announced that Memorial Town Hall will be opening tomorrow for folks who absolutely have to go in. Temperatures will be taken, and face masks must be worn. People are encouraged to do things online or over the phone to have as little exposure as possible.

The Warrant to be discussed is as of June 5 and includes changes from the last meeting.

Selectman Szynal went through the warrant articles with brief discussion around some of the articles including number 9, dealing with accounting services and number 12 which repurposes some of the Council on Aging renovation funds.

Article 13, the Memorial Town Hall Renovation article, was discussed. Ms. Michonski said the article includes language for a borrowing though the treasurer/collector says there is not sufficient time to go out to bid to borrow. Selectman Jaworski offered an explanation of what actually happened regarding the \$448,000 reported cost overrun. Selectman Moriarty thanked Selectman Jaworski for his explanation and summarized that we basically started off in the hole from accounting errors and the project kept getting pushed out. He said the town was on a schedule to get this done by the state building authority.

The remainder of the articles was discussed with 14 and 15 being CPA articles. Numbers 22 and 23 are the general last articles. Selectman Szynal remarked that articles are set up in such a way that we will accomplish the most. Ms. Michonski will renumber as there is now no article 21.

Joe Lavalley said articles 1 - 4 can be voted as 1 article. Selectmen agreed and the motions are to be prepared accordingly. He explained new legislation for Annual Town Meeting signed by the governor that towns can operate on a 90% reduction in quorum. Selectman Moriarty moved to accept the policy, however Ms. Szych said the Board of Selectmen must post a notice, 7 days prior to the Board taking the vote. It could therefore be voted at the meeting just before Annual Town Meeting. Pursuant to legislation that was approved, the Board intends to hold this vote at 5pm on June 16<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Michonski a notice that the Board will consider taking a vote will be posted tomorrow. Annual Town Meeting warrant will also be posted tomorrow after signature of Board.

Selectman Moriarty moved to accept and approve the 2020 Annual Town Meeting warrant as discussed at this meeting. Selectman Jaworski seconded. All voting in favor the motion was approved. Board members will come in to town hall in the morning to sign the warrant.

Budget-

Mr. Williams brought up ambulance lease and paramedic equip lease which were forgotten in previous discussion. Ms. Michonski said she had proposed to Chief Flaherty taking \$30,000.00 out of ambulance surplus to use toward the ambulance lease payment. Mr. Williams noted according to the recap page the levy limit is now 4626.40.

Under local receipts, operating expenses Ms. Michonski explained that Laurie Dell'olio checked the spreadsheet formulas. Ms. Michonski said she's reduced Town Administrator budget line in legal expenses, and professional consulting. \$72,000 is for Melanson Heath and LaveryAP contracts. Finance Committee discussed another meeting on Thursday and asked Ms. Michonski to check Pat Squillante's availability.

The Finance Committee discussed with the Board and Fire Chief Flaherty the subject of ambulance revenues and ambulance surplus. Chief Flaherty reported that ambulance call volume is down 3-5% so \$20,000 yearly cannot be expected as a contribution toward the ambulance lease. The lease is to stay under the DPW line with the other leases, and paramedic equipment, so they aren't forgotten.

The Finance Committee discussed with the Board of Selectmen the levy limit, stabilization and the amount of free cash money to be put into finance reserve. Having a better understanding of these numbers may be possible in the fall. Mr. Barry remarked that it is hard not knowing the state aid numbers. Mr. Genovese said a fall town meeting would be necessary to address 2 easements for the pumping station.

School Superintendent, John Robert said regarding school safety and PPE, that it might make sense to hold on to balance of monies until he knows what needs to be purchased for the school for the fall.

The Federal coronavirus relief package with a potential \$289,000 and MEMA 75% reimbursable, "grant" were discussed. An estimated budget needs to be put together and online form completed by the chief officer. Selectman Szynal noted there is 1 line that all things would be paid from. Selectman Moriarty mentioned that anything reimbursable needs to be reported to the Emergency Management Director as a Covid-19 expense. Receipts need to go to the Fire Chief.

Ms. Michonski informed that \$289,000 is the cap and we have to provide an estimate for FY20 expenses. Information needs to get to her and the Fire Chief asap. Mr. Robert will work with Ms. Michonski, Kerry Flaherty and the Fire Chief regarding supplies for the school and potential repurposing of funds.

Another online meeting of the Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee will be posted for Thursday morning, perhaps at 10am, according to Ms. Squillante's availability.

The Finance Committee recommended all articles 2-16 on a motion by Mr. Williams, seconded by Ms. Rider. Finance Committee adjourned at 7:50pm.

Selectman Moriarty moved to adjourn. Selectman Jaworski seconded. The motion was approved. The meeting ended at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ki Eno