

Approved: May 24, 2022

Select Board Meeting
May 10, 2022, 5:30 pm
Smith Academy Library, 34 School Street

Present: Select Board: Chair, Diana Szynal, Edmund Jaworski and Brian Moriarty

Also present: Finance Committee: Darryl Williams, Chair, Sean Barry, Diane Brzozowski, and Kim Baker; Joe Lavallee, Moderator; Sharon Strzegowski, Treasurer/Collector; Tom Mullen, Town Counsel; Lydia Szych, Town Clerk; Alaina Wilcox, Assistant Town Clerk; DPW/Facilities Director Phil Genovese; Fire Chief Bob Flaherty and Town Administrator Marlene Michonski.

Chair, Ms. Szynal convened meeting at 5:33 pm.

Department of Public Works

Director, Phil Genovese recommended job reclassifications and rate increases for the following employees.

- Brandon Daniel, from Water Operator to Assistant Water Superintendent, @ \$32.00/hr
- Ken Holhut from Wastewater Operator to Wastewater Superintendent @ \$37.81/hr
- Tony Lastowski from Water/Highway Superintendent to Water Superintendent @ \$37.81/hr.

Select Board approved all reclassifications and rate increases.

Tax Title Revolving Fund

Pursuant to the Town By-Laws, Treasurer, Sharon Strzegowski, made a request for authorization to spend in excess of the FY22 \$25,000 payable expense limit by increasing limit to \$40,000. As of 4/27/2022, \$25,000 has been expended. Increasing the spending limit will allow Ms. Strzegowski to proceed activities with legal counsel for properties in tax title.

Motion made by Mr. Moriarty to authorize spending limit for FY22 to \$40,000. Motion seconded by Mr. Jaworski. Unanimous vote

Annual Town Meeting Motions

- Motions to be read by the Select Board were divided in sequence of articles.
- Select Board and Finance Committee proceeded with discussion of articles. DPW Director Phil Genovese referenced Article 24 regarding drainage repairs on Raymond Avenue noting the work includes School Street to Chestnut St.
- Overview with Attorney Mullen regarding use of term “tabling” and “indefinitely postpone”
- Finance Committee Chair raised letter Chief Flaherty received from Northampton Fire Department regarding cost to cover Hatfield ambulance calls which was not brought forward during discussions of the FY23 budget. Recognizing that a plan is in place to fund the additional coverage added to the FY23 budget, Select Board and Finance Committee agreed they will spend the year to look at revenues and all options that will enable them to make a better assessment. Chair, Ms. Szynal asked Chief Flaherty to obtain numbers from South County. Chairwoman Szynal also suggested a small group work on this. Fire Chief Flaherty explained that letter was received at the conclusion of finalizing budget.
- Chief Flaherty asked for support to fund the 3% COLA for the positions in terms of the added hours for new coverage. Select Board Chair Ms. Szynal and Finance Committee member Sean Barry explaining that the COLA goes with the position and not the person and the purposes being relative to the economy, the positions will be compensated the COLA.

Chair Ms. Szynal concluded meeting to convene for Annual Town Meeting.

Respectfully,
Marlene Michonski, Town Administrator