

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2012

The Selectmen's meeting for Thursday, November 1, 2012 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Malloy, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Hatch, Selectman Pratt, Chairman Clark, Administrator Scruton and Clerk McNeil.

Chairman Clark noted that Barrington resident, Alan Kelley, a member of the Upham Family, recently told him the following story: In 1888 James Upham and Francis Bellamy, as a business move, began to sell American flags to public schools with a goal of placing a flag above every school in the nation. In 1892, Upham had the idea of using the 400th anniversary of Christopher Columbus reaching the Americas to bolster the schoolhouse flag movement and a flag salute was to be part of the Columbus Day celebration. Francis Bellamy wrote the Pledge of Allegiance to be used as the flag salute. In 1892, President Harding established October 12th a National Holiday, Columbus Day. Chairman Clark led in the Pledge of Allegiance and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments

REVIEW OF MINUTES – October 8, 2012 & October 22, 2012. Selectman Pratt moved to accept the minutes of October 8, 2012 as written, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept the minutes of October 22, 2012 as amended, seconded by Selectman Pratt. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

PROPOSED 2013 BUDGETS

LIBRARY – The budget was presented by Trustee, Ron St. Jean. Mr. St. Jean noted that over 100,000 items have been circulated this year and the following are issues in the budget: 1. staffing has become an issue and they would like to add a part-time page to free up other staff, 2. add a few hours to the technology person who is in training - this would cut back on having an off-site technology person and this person could also train the public, 3. they would like to increase the training line for the staff to advance their skills and 4. accessibility and space issues are a problem. The other lines in the budget did not change much. Amy Inglis commented on the various services that the Library provides and their different resources - "library's need to be looked at for more than books". The library raises 7% of their money through fines and donations. Selectman Pratt commented on the long term shift of technology and electronic books versus published books. Mrs. Inglis feels reference material will be all electronic but there is still a lot of request for books for leisure reading.

POLICE – Chief Conway stated that a majority of his budget is pretty much the same as in the past except for the increase in benefits, overtime, and earned time buyouts. He stressed that he has had a problem filling shifts because of the new buyout program and that is why there is an increase in overtime. He explained how his shifts work and asked the Board to look at earned time differently. The telephone line went up as it is supplied through Strafford County

Dispatch. Vehicle maintenance is up as the vehicles are getting older vehicle. The new vehicle line is up because of the cost of a new car increases. He reviewed goals and objectives and also provided some comparisons with the number of calls and the number of employee in similar size towns. Chief Conway explained the duties of his proposal of a sergeant and two lieutenants. Selectman Gaudiello asked about the overtime and the buyout and the possibility of asking for a waiver.

HIGHWAY – Peter Cook showed a power-point presentation of his budgets showing goals, the mission statement of the department and objectives. The 2013 budget increase is \$291,953 and he noted the proposed changes for 2013. He is requesting the addition of an administrative assistant and flaggers. There is an increase in the overtime line and a new earned time buyout line. There is an increase in the training line as the crew has been taking advantage of what is offered. The office supply line has an increase with additional advertisement for bidding and we are taking more photographs for documentation. Under road maintenance, the big increase is in paved roads. This money was previously a warrant article.

Winter Maintenance – no increase in this budget.

Street Signs/Bridges/Rail/Culverts – no increase in this budget.

Equipment-Vehicle Maintenance – no increase in this budget.

TRANSFER STATION RECYCLING CENTER – Mr. Cook stated the goals, objectives and mission statement of this department. There are increases to four lines which are all personnel lines. The rest of the budget will be held at 2012 levels.

DAMS – There is no increase to this budget. He summarized what was done after receiving the letter of deficiency from the State. Some work needs to be done on the dam building itself.

PUBLIC COMMENTS - Mike Morrissey asked about the possibility of changing the set-up at the dump and recycling. Mr. Cook has been talking with Waste Management regarding single stream recycling in hopes to trying single stream at some time. Selectman Pratt stated maybe having someone talk to people when they come into the dump to explain where material should be dumped would help with more control of disposing of material. Mr. Cook stated that they need clean and properly disposed of recycling to turn as much revenue as possible. Peter Royce noted that he would be happy to help investigate those options.

STAFF REPORT

Administrator Scruton

1. The Recreation Dept. wish to sell a dishwasher and fryolater. The Board authorized the Recreation Dept. to sell these appliances.
2. Selectman Hatch moved to request that the tax collector not deed the Demers and Limanni property, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Clerk McNeil

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following: vendor manifests dated 10/25 & 11/1, payroll manifests dated 10/21 & 10/28, the Election Inspectors Warrant and the Second Half 2012 Property Tax Warrant in the amount of \$9,971,325.77.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Gaudiello asked about the easement for the American Legion lot on the Clark-Goodwill property. Administrator Scruton noted that the plan is to make a driveway and create a memorial with a flag pole to "use" the land and get the tax exemption status. Selectman Gaudiello also reported that the Library Trustees met prior to this meeting and they have replicated the town's policy regarding closure of the library.

Selectman Hatch noted that she has recently attended the law lecture series.

Selectman Pratt noted that the Building Committee will have a table at the Election inviting the public to a meeting on November 14, 2012 to get input from the public regarding the considerations for the town office, library, recreation office and SAU office. The costs that are under consideration range from \$2,100,000 to \$7,000,000/\$8,000,000.

Selectman Malloy stated that he has heard a lot of interest around town in renovating the old town office. Also, the high school issue is off of the table.

The tax rate has been set at \$21.46 up 68 cents.

Chairman Clark stated that the meeting scheduled for Monday, November 5th has been cancelled. He further stated that he would like to have some ideas as what is going to be requested for warrant articles.

Selectman Gaudiello stated that she would like to schedule the town treasurer to meet with the Board at a future Selectmen's meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.