

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES MONDAY, NOVEMBER 2, 2015

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, November 2, 2015 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Bussiere, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Hatch, Selectman O'Brien, Chairman Clark, and Clerk McNeil. Administrator Scruton was absent.

Chairman Clark welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

BUDGET REVIEWS – Town Clerk – Kim Kerekas noted the filing period for town offices. She reported that income to date from her department is \$1,233,933 which is a 7.8% increase over last year. She also reported the number of dogs licensed, marriage licenses and registrations that were handled. She noted the different budget lines that showed a savings for next year. Regarding the operating budget, she stated that she would like to move her part-time employee to full-time. Mrs. Kerekas is increasing the buy-out line because she is over extended for 2015. There is an increase in the benefits line because of the additional full-time employee. Supplies increased mostly for toner for three printers. There is a 4% increase in this proposed budget.

Elections – Kim Kerekas and Stan Swier presented this budget. This budget has increased 157% due to four elections in 2016 including a presidential primary and the presidential election.

Library – Amy Inglis presented this budget. Mrs. Inglis noted their technology usage has increased. In communications they made changes in distribution of their newsletter to Mail Chimp. This freed up \$300 a year that the Friends were paying now the money can be used elsewhere. With the operating budget, there is no increase in salary lines; there is an increase in the buyout line. The contracts line decreased. The security system line increased due to changes at Strafford Dispatch. The Trustees added \$25,000 for the building plan. This will be removed if the town doesn't need the current \$25,000 for demolition of the old town office. Program expense line increased due to more people using library services. Currently the library is 3500 sq. ft. The ideal amount of space is 12,000 to 15,000 sq. ft. If kept in the budget, \$25,000 will be used for a basic conceptual design for a new library. The Trustees would like to start private fund raising and need drawings so people know what the proposed building would look like.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Mausteller is requesting that the Board freeze Administrator Scruton's salary as he has received a 14% increase in five years and there have been several projects that have come in over budget as they were not budgeted properly. He noted how the town clerk's salary has decreased.

Chief Walker updated the Board on the tower project. Fairpoint has finished their work and now Two-Way Communication will be called to finish their work.

Chief Walker also reported that the Fire Association is raising funds to acquire a second thermal imaging camera. They will be having a pancake breakfast on November 14th.

Ron St. Jean stated that the Greater Barrington Chamber of Commerce will be honoring Rick Walker as their Citizen of the Year.

Paul Mausteller asked about getting a credit card machine at the town office. Kim Kerekas stated that she would like one however; a credit card machine won't work with the current software system. Finance Director, Norma McCulloch stated that it will be an expensive purchase as departments have different programs plus training on the new system.

Amy Inglis reminded everyone of dessert fund raiser at the library on Saturday, November 7th from 4:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – October 26, 2015 – Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept the minutes of October 26, 2015, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following: abatement #52, payroll manifest dated 10/25/2015, vendor manifest dated 10/29/2015.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Gaudiello will be attending the Conservation Commission meeting on Thursday.

Selectman Bussiere will be attending the Planning Board meeting on Tuesday.

Chairman Clark reported that the School Board meets on Tuesday and will be discussing their proposed budget.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

The meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.