

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES NOVEMBER 14, 2016

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, November 14, 2016 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Ayer, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Knapp, Chairman O'Brien, and Clerk McNeil. Administrator Scruton and Selectman Hatch were absent.

Chairman O'Brien welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Tax Collection – Linda Markiewicz presented this budget. The increase in this budget is \$75.38. She noted the lines that had changes. Increases are in Mileage & Expenses, Contracts, Printing, Office Supplies, Conferences and Training. The decreases were in Employee Benefits, Equipment Rental and Equipment.

Library – Amy Inglis presented this budget. There is a minimal increase of 3% in this budget mainly in the salary and hourly wage lines. The contracts line was decreased and a new line was added for digital materials. Digital Materials includes electronic access to materials i.e. audio books, e-books and magazines. There is an increase in the postage line. The warrant article request is for \$3,000 to be added to the Library Technical Capital Reserve Fund. The Library is open 49 hours a week.

Recreation Commission – Tara Barker presented this budget. There is a 3% increase in this budget. There isn't a lot of change in the operating budget except for the salaries, benefits and earned time buyout – that is where the increases are. The Recreation Department also has a revolving fund. Selectman Gaudiello asked for a spreadsheet of all of the expenditures showing what comes out of the operating budget and what comes from the revolving fund. Ms. Barker will provide that information. For the first nine months, \$310,683.42 has been spent out of the Revolving Fund.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Saunders from the ABC asked the Library about the contracts line and what had been put in the digital materials line from the contracts line.

Peter Royce from the ABC felt that the budget books need to be better organized. All department material should be together including the budget and the corresponding information.

Chief Walker has a hose rack that isn't being used and he would like permission to dispose of it. It will be offered to any departments in the town first then to the Seacoast Chief's Association. The Board approved his request. He also would like to get rid of the old dryer that still works. He would like to offer it through the General Assistance Department if there is no liability for the town giving away at dryer. He will confirm with Administrator Scruton about the liability issue. Selectman Gaudiello suggested that the Chief review the policy on disposal of surplus property and follow that policy.

Selectman Ayer looked at the invoices and questioned the expense of trees being taken down. Chairman O'Brien noted that a crane had to be used and there were trees taken down on various roads in town over several days.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – November 7, 2016 – Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept the minutes of November 7, 2016 as presented, seconded by Selectman Ayer. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on payroll manifest dated 11/06/2016 and vendor manifest dated 11/09/2016.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Gaudiello had nothing to report.

Selectmen Ayer noted that the Planning Board has a workshop this week. Selectman Ayer spent all day at the polls on Election Day and felt that the day went smoothly and he had no complaints. Selectman Ayer had concerns with the installation of the culvert at the A. Harlan Calef Reserve. It was suggested that he should contact John Wallace with his concerns.

Selectman Knapp also spent time at the polls. The only complaints were the traffic problems first thing in the morning and several people had mobility issues with the handicapped parking location.

Chairman O'Brien also spent time at the polls, along with all the Selectmen, and recognized the excellent work done by the staff that worked on Election Day.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Peter Royce asked about the demolition bill for the old town office – there has been no progress to date. They have not responded to Chairman O'Brien.

Chief Walker wanted to clear up the issue of handicapped parking behind the school building on Election Day. People used to be able to park by the back door but it is illegal to block an exit door. There is also a concern when school is in session as the children play out behind the school. The handicapped parking spaces were moved and more spaces were added to the front of the school. The Attorney General's office does an inspection and the town has passed every year.

The guard rail will be going up on Orchard Hill Road the end of the month.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 pm.