

Present: Frank Fenner, Riggs Parker, Warren Doty, Tim Carroll, Jonathan Revere, Rodney Bunker, Ebba Hierta, Jack Shea, Andy Goldman, Chief Tim Rich, Nathaniel Scott,

Minutes of November 25th 2008 approved with changes.

Personnel Board

The Personnel Board recommended that the Selectmen approve a re-grading of the Library Assistant year-round position to Grade 4 on the compensation plan and the seasonal Library Assistant to Grade 3 on the Seasonal compensation plan effective July 1st 2009. Ebba Hierta, Library Director, presented the information to the Selectmen. She asked that the grades be revisited in the future.

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to approve the position descriptions as recommended by the Personnel Board. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Mr. Fenner signed the original and gave it to Ms. Hierta.

Mr. Doty reported that the Up Island Regional School Committee had submitted a budget that was up only 0.48% over last year.

Police Station Air Conditioning Units

Town Custodian, Rodney Bunker, presented three quotes to the Selectmen for replacing the window air conditioning units with two mini splits. He recommended the job be given to BTU and that the town go with the higher SEER 17 & 20 A/C units.

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to award the work to BTU as per the proposal and have Powers Electric wire the units. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

County-wide License for GIS with ESRI Memorandum Of Understanding

The Selectmen discussed the county-wide \$25,000 a year open license for all local government agencies to use all ESRI mapping software. They reviewed the draft memorandum of understanding. Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to authorize up to \$3,500 exposure. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Police Chief Retirement

Chief Rich announced that he would be retiring July 1st 2009 after 33 years of service. The board expressed their congratulations to Chief Rich on his retirement and thanked him for his service to the community.

Chief Rich said that he was only as good as the people who supported him in the job and that he had an amazing experience that will stay with him all of his life. Chief Rich said that he Selectmen had not micromanaged him or his department and that he had been fortunate to not have any political head banging.

Mr. Fenner said that Chief Rich had been doing community policing at a high level and that it was kind and gentle. Mr. Fenner said he would like to continue things the way Chief Rich has been running the police department.

Mr. Fenner spoke about working with Chief Rich in the next few weeks to determine what the needs there might be regarding advertising and the like. Mr. Parker said that the Board of Selectmen should do the whole process of selecting a new police chief themselves. Mr. Fenner said that there should be one Personnel Board observer.

Mr. Parker said that this was a very important process and the Personnel Board should be asked for their advice on the process.

Chief Rich said that the new person would be eligible for a contract. He cautioned that some people interviewed well but might not end up being a good fit for the town.

Police Academy

Chief Rich requested that the Selectmen sign the waiver to permit Chris Brown to be a “self sponsor” at the next police academy paying the \$2,500 tuition and all expenses. Officer Brown serves in the National Guard and has been deployed to Kosovo for 18 months and is now back working with our police department. Chief Rich said that Officer Brown was a good fit for the community and will work for at least one summer after the academy for Chilmark in exchange for the waiver.

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to sign the paperwork allowing Chris Brown to self sponsor to the police academy. SO VOTED: Three Ayes. Chairman Fenner signed and gave the original to Chief Rich.

Retirements

Mr. Carroll announced that Ozzie Fischer had submitted his request to retire at the end of 2008 as the Animal Inspector. Mr. Fischer will be training Chris Murphy to replace him. Mr. Carroll also reminded the board that Basil Welch was retiring as the Cemetery Superintendent on January 1st also. He reported on the meetings he had attended with the Cemetery Commission and its members.

Conservation Commission

Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Doty seconded a motion to promote from Associate Commissioners Richard Smith and Andrew Fischer and appoint them as Commissioners on the Conservation Commission. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Community Center

Nathaniel Scott requested permission to have the \$400 fee waived so he could hold a fund raising event for African Charities (Ghana). The Selectmen discussed the concept of micro financing with Mr. Scott.

Mr. Fenner directed Mr. Scott to have the facility cleaned up well. Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to authorize the waiver of the usual fee but not the cleaning deposit. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

John Morelli Memorial Service

The Board of Selectmen agreed that Mr. Morelli was a great high school teacher in our community and were happy to authorize the use of the community center for his memorial service. Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to waive the usual rental fee. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Handicapped Parking Enforcement

The Selectmen reviewed the memorandum from the state with Chief Rich. He assured the board that the Traffic Officers were already enforcing the handicapped

parking laws in Menemsha. He said he would run the numbers and address additional enforcement with his staff.

US Coast Guard RESCUE 21 Tower Lease

The Selectmen reviewed the documents and discussed the final location of the parking area. Mr. Fenner moved and Mr. Parker seconded a motion to authorize Mr. Doty to sign the lease after obtaining final commitments from the USCG on the inclusion of three more paragraphs addressing the shared use, parking and an escalation clause. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

MIIA/MMA Delegate

Mr. Doty moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to authorize Mr. Carroll to vote for the town at the Mass Municipal Assoc / MIIA annual meetings in January. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

DAS

Mr. Parker read a press release regarding the selection of American Tower Corporation by the Cell Phone Committee in response to the RFP issued August 15th 2008. Mr. Parker moved and Mr. Fenner seconded a motion to accept the recommendation of the Cell Phone Committee and to authorize the committee to negotiate a contract that will be brought back to the Selectmen for approval. SO VOTED: Three Ayes.

Middle Line Road Affordable Housing

The Selectmen discussed the updates received from Mr. Hodgkinson. Mr. Carroll reported on the status of the wells. It was discussed that the project would need an additional \$85,000 in three months to fund the development of the building designs with David Handlin. Mr. Carroll suggested a special town meeting. The board agreed to continue moving ahead with the wells in January 2009. There was discussion about funding, schedules and design.

MV Commission

Mr. Doty reminded the board that a Selectmen's representative to the MV Commission needed to be appointed for January 2009.

Cable TV

Mr. Carroll reported on the need to get a process going. The Selectmen agreed to support an island wide process starting as soon as possible. Mr. Carroll will speak with other towns.

Cape Light Compact

Mr. Carroll reviewed the monthly report on energy efficiency with the board.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Approved: January 6th 2009