



BOARD OF SELECTMEN

RICHARD H. SMITH TOWN HALL

Regular Meeting February 26, 2019

Attendance:

Selectmen Angus McDonald, and Duane Gates, Bill Burdick, Margo Hilfinger and John Greene (*videography*), Augusto Lucarelli, Tom Perry, Sherry Perry, Susan Huybensz, Brett Thompson, Laurence Stewart, Tony Buldoc, Ben Whalen, Scott Bowden, Jim Budney, Tim Lee, possible other citizens.

Call to Order:

This regular meeting was called to order at 6:31 pm by McDonald.

Approve minutes from regular meeting held on January 22, 2019:

Burdick moved, Gates 2nd, to accept the meeting minutes of regular meeting held January 22, 2019. Regular meeting of February 12, 2019 was canceled due to weather.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Discussion of traffic concerns: Union and Spring Streets:

McDonald introduced that there have been increasing reports of speeding north on Union, in particular at the corner of Union and Spring. McDonald spoke of the possibility of adding a stop sign at the northbound lane, but suggested doing added research to determine if there may be a better solution. Some discussion ensued regarding traffic calming studies that do not recommend stop signs and that the town would put the speed recording sign up to record and review traffic on Union and on Bridge Street, too.

Discussion of Minimum Budget Requirements (MBR):

McDonald informed the Board that he had received a response to the letter requesting a waiver on the \$68,000 MBR penalty, and that despite the rest and subsequent telephone conversations, the State had determined not to grant a waiver. McDonald reported that he was continuing discussions, but it was becoming more and more apparent that the request was probably going to be unsuccessful, and that it was his recommendation to bring to the Town the suggestion to place

the funds into the DRES budget in order to avoid both the \$140,000 penalty in the 2020 fiscal year and jeopardizing the ECS funds that the Town receives.

Gates moved, Burdick 2nd, to recommend to the Board of Finance that the Town go to Town Meeting in order to move \$68,000 to the DRES budget as so directed by the State of CT Dept. of Education.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Request authorization to auction 2011 Dodge Charger:

McDonald informed the Board that the Town had a new patrol car and that we would be selling or otherwise dispose of the 2011 Dodge Charger and the 2013 Ford Interceptor.

Gates moved, Burdick 2nd, to authorize McDonald to auction or sell the 2011 Dodge Charger.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Reappoint Sarah Kateley to Parks and Recreation Commission:

McDonald informed the Board that Parks and Recreation member Sarah Kateley's name had not been on the list of reappointments in December and that she did, in fact, still want to continue on the Committee.

Burdick moved, Gates 2nd, to appoint Sarah Kateley to the Parks and Recreation Committee, term to expire December 1, 2021.

APPROVED 3 – 0

CCM Discount Prescription Drug Card Program:

McDonald informed the Board that all Deep River citizens are eligible for a discounted Prescription Drug card thanks to a program run by CCM. McDonald stated that posters will be placed around town and that information will be on the website and at the Town Clerks office to try and alert citizens of this savings.

Discuss and possible action on appointment of Jim Olson to the Planning and Zoning Commission alternate position with a term to expire of 12/01/2020:

McDonald suggested to the Board that while there are two vacancies for alternate positions on the P&Z, one person requesting appointment, in his opinion, rises above any of the current sentiment and has proven by his commitment to the community and participation on other Deep River committees and commissions that he is well suited for the role and requested a motion to appoint Jim Olson to the P&Z alternate position with a term to expire of 12/01/2020.

Burdick asked for comment from the floor and Bolduc suggested that the size of the commission be increased in order to accommodate the number of interested parties. McDonald stated that he would research the concept. Much further discussion critical of process ensued.

Burdick moved, Gates 2nd, to table the item for further discussion.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Fire Commissioner Chair Scott Bowden to discuss 9 new members and turn out gear that needs to be purchased during the current budget:

Fire Commissioner Scott Bowden addressed the Board, informing them that the Fire Dept. was pleased to say that there were nine new members, five of whom are already certified to fight fires. Bowden requested that the Board of Selectmen support and forward to the Board of Finance a request for “turn out gear” for each of the new members at a total cost of \$34,992.62. Fire Chief Tim Lee and Deputy Jim Budney offered technical support to Bowden’s request and after a brief discussion expressing support Burdick moved, Gates 2nd, to move the request to the Board of Finance.

APPROVED 3 – 0

Tax Collector reimbursements:

McDonald informed the Board that the Tax Collector had tax reimbursements totaling \$2,667.66 for the month of January.

Audience of Citizens – Any other business to come before the Board:

None

Adjournment:

Burdick moved, Gates 2nd, to adjourn the Board of Selectman’s meeting at 7:00 pm.

APPROVED 3 - 0