

Board of Selectmen Minutes
Meeting – June 5, 2013

Present: Selectmen – Mark Gilmore, Carolyn Shores Ness
Town Administrator – Bernie Kubiak

Executive Session: A motion was made by Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Ms. Ness, and voted, to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining as an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the town's bargaining position. A roll call vote was taken: Gilmore – Y, Ness – Y. Mr. Gilmore announced that the board would reconvene in open session.

Minutes: A motion was made to approve minutes of the following meetings: 1/30, 2/26, 3/13, 3/27, 4/10, 4/16. A motion was made by Mr. Gilmore, seconded by Ms. Ness, and voted, to accept the minutes of 4/18, a joint meeting, amended to add the names of attendees. For the minutes of 5/8 Ms. Ness commented that re: animal control, the board didn't sign on as there is already a plan to commit to the Montague plan. Mr. Gilmore made a motion, seconded by Ms. Ness, and voted, to approve the minutes of 5/8 amended to correct misspelled and missing names.

Public comments: none

Selectmen's Comments/Announcements: Old Home Day is this weekend.

Board of Health Comments/Announcements: Police yards for standing water, mosquito breeding grounds. Predictions are for 1-2" of rain in the next couple of days, a reminder to clear drains of leaves and debris to avoid flooding.

Hearings/Appearances before the Board:

FCAT: Present- Doug Finn

Mr. Finn presented the FY'14 budget for FCAT, noting that Sunderland's contribution has increased over last year. He reported that FCAT is doing more outreach and trying to capture more community activities. This past year those activities included programs at the libraries, concerts in Deerfield, and programs put on by the Historic Society of Conway. Two part-time staff people have been added which he hopes will provide time to reach out to local businesses. He mentioned that while FCAT is a private non-profit entity, the meetings are open to everyone. Funding for the station is not from taxation; money for public access comes from the cable company (Comcast).

Mr. Kubiak said the services provided by the station are very helpful to the town, noting that minutes for meetings are prepared from the broadcasts. He encouraged people to volunteer. Mr. Gilmore thought it important to get the schools more involved as this is a great opportunity for kids to learn about and get to use broadcasting equipment. He would encourage increased internships. There was discussion about sharing of PEG access money, if needed, to challenge Kevin Murphy to do more with the elementary schools. The upcoming special election was discussed as something with which students could be involved.

A motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, and voted to approve the \$70,122 FCAT budget.

Discussion/Decision Items:

Special Election: A motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, and unanimously voted, to sign a warrant for a special election on June 25, 2013. Polls will be open from 7:AM to 8:PM.

Sewer abatement: Due to an error on a water bill, from which sewer bills are derived, **a motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, and unanimously voted to abate bill # 619 in the amount of \$246.70.**

Interim Town Administrator: The Board signed two documents: 1) agreement to pay Wendy Foxmyn as a consultant for 60 hours at \$33.76/ hr during the last two weeks of June; and 2) an employment agreement for the interim position.

Special Town Meeting: At a recent board meeting the Board discussed holding a special town meeting at the end of the summer, however no vote was taken. **A motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, and unanimously voted, to notify the Town Clerk that the Board voted to hold a special election on September 9, 2013.**

Management audit: Mr. Kubiak reminded the Board that it had indicated a desire to request a management audit from the Department of Revenue. He presented forms for that purpose to be signed.

Emergency Communications System memorandum of understanding (MOU): Reminding that the FRCOG has taken over the old county radio communication towers currently used by the area towns, Mr. Kubiak presented a MOU for signing. The term of the agreement is three years. Towns are assessed on the number of radios it has. The Police Chief and Ambulance Director have reviewed the MOU and find it acceptable. Mr. Gilmore said he would like a summary of the past few years. He had additional questions which he will seek answers to prior to signing.

Insurance Comparison Statement: The Treasurer has requested that the Board sign a form showing that the Hampshire Insurance Trust, through which the Town obtains its insurance, is competitive with GIC, as required by the Insurance Reform Statute.

A motion was made by Ms. Ness, seconded by Mr. Gilmore, and voted, to adjourn the meeting with the signing of warrants.

Respectfully submitted,
Priscilla Phelps