

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, May 12, 2014 at 6:05 pm.

Present: Martin Crowley, Chairman; David Sheedy, Clerk; William Dowling; George Samia, Town Administrator and Cathy Johnson, Administrative Assistant

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Forum

Open Forum opened by the Chairman.

Residents of Woodland Circle were present to inform the Board on a few of their concerns with the Town accepting said street. Chairman Crowley stated that the issue would be discussed at the Public Hearing at 6:35 p.m.

Open Forum closed by the Chairman

The Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee met to go over End of Year Budget Transfers of Ch.44 s33B.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote of the Board of Selectmen, approve the Ch.44 s33B End of Year Budget Transfers for Fiscal Year 2014.

M/Kelly, s/Ward, a unanimous vote of the Finance Committee, approve the Ch. 44 s33B End of Year Budget Transfers for Fiscal Year 2014.

Action Item

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve the minutes of the Monday, April 28, 2014 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve the minutes of the Monday, May 5, 2014 Board of Selectmen Meeting.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and Russell Hannagan regarding health insurance contribution percentages.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and Anne Kerrigan regarding health insurance contribution percentages.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve the Memorandum of Agreement between the Town of East Bridgewater and Phyllis Tirrell regarding health insurance contribution percentages.

Town Administrator Report

Town Administrator George Samia announced that Treasurer/Collector Erica Flemming attended a meeting of the Plymouth County Retirement Board that was called to inform member towns of legislation pending that would give county retirement boards a means of funding their retiree healthcare liability, referred to as OPEB (Other Post Employment Benefits). For the Town of East Bridgewater the unfunded liability is approximately \$30 million dollars. Plymouth County's unfunded liability would be the collective totals of the County and member towns. The legislation would allow county retirement boards to issue bonds to raise the money to fully fund the liability with the debt being repaid by the investment earnings received on the amount raised.

Reminders

Hazardous Waste Day

May 31st 8 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at the G.W. Mitchell Middle School

Drug Awareness Community Out Reach Night

May 21st 6 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. @ Community Center at Sachem Rock

Recycle Program

Please be advised that to opt-out of the recycle program for FY 2015 you must notify the DPW office by June 15, 2014 to avoid being charged in November, 2014.

Public Hearing – Street Acceptances for the following streets:

Opened at 6:36 p.m.

TOWN OF EAST BRIDGEWATER

Notice is hereby given that the Selectmen of the Town of East Bridgewater intend to lay-out as town ways:

Adams Lane
Brown's Lane
Captains Way
Cider Mill Lane
David Lane
Northridge Drive
Porter Farm Road
Teresa Terrace
Woodland Circle

A Public Hearing on said lay-out will be held at Town Hall, Main Conference Room, East Bridgewater, Massachusetts, at 6:35 p.m. on Monday, May 12, 2014.

Mr. Bernard Rhode and Ms. Theresa Rhode of 6 Woodland Circle were present to announce their concerns with the actual name of their road. Mr. and Mrs. Rhode explained their road was named Woodlawn Circle, to their knowledge. Mr. and Mrs. Rhode presented plans to the Board regarding same. Planning Board Chairman Roy Gardner was present and stated that the issue would be researched and that the residents would receive notice of a Hearing at such time one is scheduled.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve to place the above streets on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for acceptance by the Town.

Public Hearing closed at 6:46 p.m.

Appointment

Attorney John Clifford was present to go over the June 2, 2014 Annual and Special Town Meeting Warrants with the Board.

The Board and Attorney Clifford reviewed and discussed Articles 1 through 13 on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

There were no changes or concerns with Articles 1 through 13 on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve to close the June 2, 2014 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

The Board and Attorney Clifford reviewed and discussed Articles 1 through 46 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

The following changes were made to the June 2, 2014 Annual Town Meeting Warrant:

- ARTICLE 33 – Replace the word "tank" with the word "tanks".
- ARTICLE 34 – Attorney Clifford recommended adding detail to Article.
- ARTICLE 35 – Attorney Clifford recommended changing the language from "School Text Books" to "Technology and Supporting Software"

M/Sheedy, s/ Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve to close the June 2, 2014 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Capital Improvement Committee Chairman, Glenn Tattrie was present to present to the Board the Capital Plan for FY15.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve to accept the Capital Plan for FY15 as submitted by the Capital Improvement Committee in the amount of \$2,990,034.30.

Board Discussion

Chairman Crowley reported on discussion that took place among attendees at a recent meeting of a Massachusetts Municipal Association policy committee. The concern was for an over-reliance on the property tax to fund local budgets due to recent reductions in Local Aid from the State followed by lackluster growth. The concern was that the property tax is a regressive tax that does not take in to account a resident's ability to pay. Household incomes can go down and the property tax can still increase each year. Chairman Crowley cited a recent audit report of the Town that indicated that Local Aid used to fund up to forty percent of the Town budget and now is in the thirty percent range which means that budget growth will be limited to the restrictions imposed by Proposition 2 ½ and that future increases are likely to be funded from residents household budgets.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, motion to adjourn.

VOTE: Yes – Crowley, Sheedy, Dowling; a unanimous vote in favor

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm



Board of Selectmen Clerk