

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, March 30, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

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

### **Pledge of Allegiance**

### **Open Forum**

Open Forum opened by the Chairman.

No one present

Open Forum closed by the Chairman

### **APPOINTMENT**

Police Chief John Cowan, Fire Chief Timothy Harhen, Detective Sergeant Allen and Susan Silva of E.B. Hope were present to update and inform the Board and the public of the current epidemic status of drug overdoses in Town and throughout the State.

Fire Chief Harhen reported on the previous year's statistics versus the current year overdoses, noting an extreme increase in Town. Chief Harhen reported on the administering of Narcan and its lifesaving effects.

Police Chief John Cowan spoke on partnering up with E.B HOPE to help the community as well as reporting on his Officers handing out brochures to community members in need of direction for themselves or a family member. Chief Cowan reported on the administering of Narcan by his Officers due to the Police Department personnel usually being first on the scene of an overdose.

Detective Sergeant Allen reported on the role the Police Department is taking on with the epidemic of drug overdoses in Town and the surrounding area. Sergeant Allen stated that surrounding Towns, such as Stoughton, Rockland and Whitman are getting ideas together to help combat current drug issues as well as being pro-active in social media and gathering statistics to track for a problem solving approach.

Susan Silva of E.B. Hope was present to report to the Board and the Public on the issues regarding opiate addiction and overdoses in Town. Ms. Silva handed out the Bureau of Substance Abuse statistics, noting the staggering numbers here in East Bridgewater. Ms. Silva stated there are no resources here in Town, such as sober houses, halfway houses, services at local medical center, etc. Ms. Silva further noted that, thanks to Principal Viera, grades 7 through 12 will be educated on opiates.

### **BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Manuel Leite, Library Director was present to present to the Board and the residents the FY16 Public Library budget.

### **BUDGET PRESENTATION**

Police Chief John Cowan was present to present to the Board and the residents the FY16 Police Department budget.

Mr. Sheedy expressed his appreciation to all departments staying within the 3% budget increase.

**Action Items**

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve the minutes of the March 23, 2015 5:30 p.m. meeting.

M/Sheedy, s/Dowling, a unanimous vote, approve the minutes of the March 23, 2015 6:30 p.m. meeting.

**REMINDERS**

The Annual Town Election will be held on Saturday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Jr/Sr. High School. Polling hours will be from 11 am to 7 pm.

Chairman Crowley wished a Happy Easter and Happy Passover to all residents.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 pm

 Clerk  
Board of Selectmen