

A meeting of the Board of Selectmen was held on Monday, May 11, 2015 at 6:30 pm.

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Open Forum

Fire Chief Timothy Harhen was present to announce the awarding of an Assistance to Firefighters Grant received by the Town in the amount of \$93,659.00, with the Town's share being 5% at \$4,459.00. Chief Harhen explained that the Grant will allow his department to replace the following much needed items:

1. Portable mobile radios
2. Flashlights
3. Cardiac Monitor
4. Two thousand feet of hose
5. Defibrillators (4)
6. Boots, coats, helmets and pants for the fire fighters

As well as adding a Personal Accountability System to the Department, which will allow the Chief to know where all fire fighters are at the scene of a fire; making it safer for his personnel.

Open Forum closed by the Chairman

Appointment

John Clifford, Town Counsel was present to go over the June 1, 2015 Annual and Special Town Meeting warrant articles with the Board, the Town Administrator, the Finance Committee and the Town Accountant.

The Board and Attorney Clifford reviewed and discussed Articles 1 through 7 on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

There were no changes or concerns with Articles 1 through 7 on the Special Town Meeting Warrant.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve to close the June 1, 2015 Special Town Meeting Warrant.

The Board and Attorney Clifford reviewed and discussed Articles 1 through 29 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

There were no changes or concerns with Articles 1 through 29 on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve to close the June 1, 2015 Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Action Items

M/Dowling, s/Crowley, a unanimous vote, approve the minutes of the May 5, 2015 meeting.

Town Administrator Report

Town Meeting Update

Announcement of a pre Town Meeting forum scheduled for May 26, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

Board Discussion

Chairman Sheedy made a statement with regards to the last School Committee meeting, where the School Committee voted to approve a budget with an \$800,000.00 increase over what was presented by the School Committee to the Finance Committee and expressed his thoughts of it being a mockery of the Town's entire budget system, as well as blindsiding an entire financial team who have been putting a tremendous amount of time and effort putting together budgets and urged the public to attend Town Meeting to discuss this issue.

Roy Gardner, Chairman of the Planning Board inquired about the vacancy on the School Committee. Chairman Sheedy explained the Joint Appointment process, stating that it was a School Committee appointment and that they can, should they choose; decide not to fill the position.

Jonathan White of 10 Crosby Road inquired about the true majority of the current School Committee. Attorney Clifford explained that the majority vote is of the Committee members present at a meeting.

Debbie Alstead of 30 Carina Way inquired about how the School Department budget could be put before the Town Government budget, due to the effect of the results on the General Government budgets. Attorney Clifford stated that it would be up to the Moderator to make that decision.

A discussion was held regarding rules and past practice at Town Meeting regarding the increase in a budget line. Attorney Clifford stated that past practice in Town has been that the Moderator has requested the body state the funding source for the increase and vote a balanced budget.

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

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:02 pm



Board of Selectmen Clerk