

**TOWN OF FARMINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES
Monday, January 16, 2012
356 Main Street, Farmington, NH**

Selectmen Members Present: Paula Proulx, Charlie King, Gerry McCarthy, Joan Funk and Jim Horgan

Town Staff Present: Interim Town Administrator Gary Stenhouse

Public Present: Neil Johnson and Ray Cardero

Chairman Charlie King opened the meeting at 6:03pm.

1. Public Comment:

Ray Cardero, Lancelot Shores, explained he is the Vice-President of the Homeowner's Improvement Association. At this time the Association is broke but bills for the current year have recently gone out. However, a number of the properties owe back bills that amount to a year's worth of dues in total. He is looking for some advice from the Town on how to move forward and questioned if the Board knows of another association that was in a similar circumstance and found a solution. Gary stated that some associations in this circumstance have changed to a village district which would mean the yearly dues would be collected in the form of property taxes attached to the "normal" property taxes.

Another issue arising in Lancelot Shores is that the covenants only allow for new single family homes but two new homes have been built with in-law apartments that are being rented out. Charlie stated that the town does not have any jurisdiction over this and it is a civil issue. It would be a town issue if the "use" is different than the "approved."

2. Town Budget Review:

Gary informed the Board that he and Pam have got the budget down to a \$0.22 tax impact increase. Paula asked why the executive budget increased by \$5,000. Gary explained the town administrator line is based on a \$70,000 max for a new administrator and 6 months of an interim administrator from Municipal Resources Inc. at \$65/hr. Gary then reviewed some other changes like taking out the funds for the fence repairs and the parking lot lease. Gerry stated he is against taking out the funds for the fence because it is in sad repair and has been for several years. Under the highway department the roller was taken out and the longevity was reduced due to a change in personnel. At the landfill Gary is proposing having one full-time attendant with the remaining hours filled with part-time people therefore saving funds in insurances. The animal control budget was reduced because they don't expect to fill the position until April and the crossing guard line was reduced because the AmeriCorps staff at the fire station currently fills the role. The fire department section has some minor cuts including the deputy chief position. Gary also suggested reducing the summer grants line and cutting the bingo board from the Rec. dept budget. Lastly, Gary suggested cutting

\$10,000 for the preliminary engineering of the Hornetown Road Bridge because he feels it could be paid out of the FEMA funds.

Charlie asked Paula what the school tax impact is projected to be at and Paula said if the budget and all the warrants pass as presented there will be a \$0.92 impact. Paula asked about the town hall bathroom line and Pam explained the funds are going to be taken out of the capital buildings fund (Fund 9). Paula then noted there is \$3,500 for water infrastructure and \$5,000 for enterprise fund loaded in the budget. The Board agreed that the \$3,500 for the water infrastructure could be cut. Charlie stated he had a question on the pricing for the computers loaded into several of the budgets and questioned if the cost for computers could be reduced. Paula then asked why some of the lines for the culverts and catch basins can't be funded through FEMA funds. Charlie then noted that he feels the line item for \$18,000 to replace the modine heaters at the highway garage is excessive and Gary noted that the line is based on an estimate. Pam noted that \$5,000 is budgeted in revenues to offset this line. The Board agreed to reduce the culvert and catch basin line (noting those funds can come from the FEMA funds) and fund the fence repairs at \$20,000. ***Charlie King motioned to cut the \$3,500 from the water infrastructure line and reduce the culvert/ catch basin line by \$10,000 and then fund the fence repair line at \$20,000, 2nd Jim Horgan. Motion carried with Joan Funk opposed.***

Additional discussion on the budget was held. Gerry noted that he feels the road repair line can be cut because he does not feel some of the roads listed for repair are a high priority. Charlie replied that he does not feel the line should be cut because our roads need to be maintained or they are only going to get worse and Joan agreed. Paula stated she agrees with both sides of the argument but also noted there is an incredible amount of work included in this budget. The budget now stands at a \$0.24 tax impact. ***Charlie King motioned to accept the budget as finalized tonight and forward to the Budget Committee, 2nd Joan Funk. Motion carried with all in favor.***

3. Any Other Business To Come Before the Board:

A. Gary informed the Board he has an encumbrance for \$13,052 for the revaluation contract. ***Charlie King motioned to encumber \$13,052 for the revaluation contract, 2nd Jim Horgan. Motion carried with all in favor.***

B. Jim noted that there is about \$250,000 in the Capital Reserve Fund for a public safety building and he would like the Board to consider starting the preliminary design process for such a building. Charlie stated he thinks it is a good idea to discuss this in the future. Charlie also noted that he has heard some ideas about moving the police department to the current municipal building.

C. Charlie stated that when he reviewed the revolving account details for the Rec. Dept. he noted that the department does not do so well on events outside of the community. Joan noted when the senior programs were originally added thought was to offer trips that took the seniors out of the community because otherwise they might not be able to participate in such things.

At 7:48pm, Charlie King motioned to go in non-public session under RSA 91A.3.II (b), 2nd Jim Horgan. Roll call – Charlie King (yes), Paula Proulx (yes), Gerry McCarthy (yes), Joan Funk (yes) and Jim Horgan (yes).

At 7:53pm the Board came back into session and Charlie announced the non-public minutes were sealed with a unanimous vote.

D. Charlie asked Gary to get a copy of the police department reports of when their tazers have been discharged.

At 8:00pm, Gerry McCarthy motioned to adjourn, 2nd Joan Funk. Motion carried with all in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brandy Sanger

Recording Secretary

Chairman Charlie King

Jim Horgan

Joan A. Funk

Gerald McCarthy

Paula Proulx