

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen – Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 13, 2015
Selectmen's Chambers
356 Main Street

Board Members Present:

Charlie King, Chair
Brian St. Onge, Vice Chair
Paula Proulx
Jim Horgan
Jerry McCarthy

Others Present:

Arthur Capello, Town Administrator
James Reinert, Interim Fire Chief
Jeff Greenwald, Groen Builders

1). Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

Chairman King called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

2). Public Comment: None.

3). Review of Minutes:

The board did not receive copies of the minutes of the last meeting.

4). Groen Builders for Discussion on the Public Safety Building:

Jeff Greenwald of Groen Builders came before the board to discuss the pre-construction schedule with Selectmen. Greenwald said it was his understanding that a Public Hearing about the proposed building project must be held by mid-December to include it on the Warrant for Town Meeting in March. Town Administrator Arthur Capello said he would check the required dates for the budget process. Greenwald said the milestones to get to that point include the board chooses the sites to be considered, site walk and site assessment of each site, topography, test borings and preliminary subcontractor estimates and other documents are then completed. Meetings with the board and department heads are scheduled from July 17 to mid-August and the architect completes the building design. Discussion included the location of the three sites under consideration, existing utilities at each site, setting a date for walks at the sites, time and cost involved to tear down existing the buildings at the present site and how to provide emergency services to the town while the tear down and construction are completed if the present site is chosen for the new building.

Motion: (Horgan, second King) to authorize Groen Builders to move forward with the preliminary investigation of the three potential building sites passed 5-0.

Greenwald said a representative from the company will return to the board with some answers and more questions at the July 20 meeting.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to take a 10 minute recess passed 5-0 at 6:35 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 6:45 p.m.

5). Discussion on the Status of the Anthem Contract:

Interim Fire Chief James Reinert returned to the board to continue the discussion about opting out of the contract with Anthem. Discussion included the cost per ambulance trip, the billing process through Anthem and Com Star, restrictions on collecting the remainder of costs from the patient, benefits and disadvantages of remaining with Anthem, the 90-day notice to opt out, the process for submitting billing and fees collected for the billing by the company.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to authorize the Town Administrator to work with the Interim Fire Chief to opt out of the Anthem contract passed 5-0. Capello will send a certified letter to Anthem notifying them of the board's decision.

6). Executive Update:

A). Family Fun Nights-Capello told the board he became aware that the Recreation Department has stopped holding Family Fun Nights on Wednesday evenings in Fernald Park. He said Rec. Dept. Director Rick Conway said the Family Nights were canceled due to the cost of providing entertainment for the events. The dept. will hold a Family Fun Day in the park on July 25 instead he said.

B). Release for Hay Day- Capello asked the board to approve the hold harmless agreement for use of the TD Bank parking lot during Hay Day.

Motion: (Horgan, second McCarthy) to authorize Chairman King to sign the agreement passed 5-0.

7). Old Business:

Selectman McCarthy:

Library Trustees Meeting- Members previously suggested the meeting and said they still plan to hold a joint meeting with that board. McCarthy asked Capello to set up the meeting.

Ten Rod Road- McCarthy reported that some portions of the road are in bad shape and asked Capello to discuss the issue with Public Works Director Dale Sprague. Capello said he will e-mail Sprague regarding the road conditions.

Selectman Horgan:

Town Hall Repairs-Horgan said he noticed the painting and repairs seemed to be stalled at Town Hall and wondered if it was due to lack of funds or some other issue. Chairman King said that he was not aware of any issues. Horgan said the company is doing a great job and asked if they will complete the repairs to the Municipal Building after the Town Hall work is completed. Capello said he would ask Sprague for an update on the matter.

Eversource- Horgan asked about the memo from the utility company regarding a change in the Priority Call System. Capello said the change is related to a change in the ranking of priority calls and does not require any action by the Town.

Ronci and Cameron Properties- Horgan asked about the status of the conservation easement for the Ronci property and the land swap involving the Cameron property. Capello said he does not know the current status of the paperwork involved for the two lots. Horgan decided to discuss the matter with Conservation Commission Chairman Dave Connolly.

CAP Contract- Horgan asked the status of the new contract with Community Action Partnership for the Farmington Children's Center. Capello said the old and new contract language is being reviewed and the revision maybe ready for Selectmen to review in two weeks. He said he would supply the board with a copy of the revised contract including the proposed changes for the July 27 meeting.

Fire Chief Position- Capello said the position is still open and discussion about the matter was scheduled for non-public session.

Power Cot- Horgan asked if the town has taken possession of the power cot approved for purchase at Town Meeting. Chairman King said the town has received the cot and it is currently being used. Discussion also included alternating the use of the ambulances and the ability to track their fuel usage.

Motorcycle Purchase Request - Horgan said the town received a letter from an individual interested in purchasing a 1984 Honda Rebel motorcycle that appears to have been abandoned on a property owned by the town by tax lien. He asked Capello to check into the legal requirements for disposal of items on the property.

Internal Review of Cash Controls- Chairman King suggested this item be put on the agenda for discussion after Capello becomes the full time Town Administrator on July 20 and has had a chance to review the report.

Air Conditioning Repairs- Horgan asked why the air conditioning has yet to be repaired. Chairman King said the town has received the check from the insurance company and he is not aware what is causing the delay of the repairs to the heating/cooling system. Capello said he would add the issue to his e-mail to Sprague.

Roof Leak at Municipal Building- Horgan asked about the status of the roof repairs. Chairman King said a contractor looked at the problem with Sprague but he has not received an estimate for the work. Capello said he will add the item to the e-mail to Sprague.

Fund Balance Policy- Chairman King said the board decided to go along with the Dept. of Revenue's recommendation for funds kept on hand which ranges from 5% to 17% of the budget he said.

Status of MetroCast Contract- Capello said the contract negotiations are in process and he is waiting to hear from the town's attorney.

SRPC Membership- Capello said he asked Cynthia Copeland of Strafford Regional Planning Commission to attend the board meeting next week to discuss the costs and benefits of membership. Discussion included the present cost of dues and that a number of towns dropped out when the dues were doubled several years ago.

8). Non-Public Session A:

Motion: (Horgan, second King) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) Discipline passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (King, Proulx, Horgan, McCarthy, St. Onge- yes) at 7:10 p.m. **Motion:** (King, second Horgan) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 7:25 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to seal the non-public minutes for up to six months passed 5-0.

9). New Business:

Selectmen discussed the Fire Dept. Administrative Assistant position. Discussion included the need for a full or part time secretary, present job description and assigned duties, how much time is devoted to each task, hiring a collection agency to perform billing tasks and what the job would consist of if the position is retained. The board then asked Capello to look into using a collection agency for billing and to request Interim Fire Chief Reinert provide a job description for the position and how to deal with the tasks involved until the board reaches a decision.

10). Non-Public Session B :

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) Hiring passed 5-0 by a

roll call vote (King, St.Onge, Proulx, McCarthy, Horgan- yes) at 7:35 p.m. **Motion:** (King, second St. Onge) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:20 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to seal the minutes until the hiring process is completed passed 5-0.

11). Non-Public Session C:

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (King, Proulx, St. Onge, Horgan, McCarthy –yes) at 8:20 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:25 p.m.

12). Adjournment:

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to adjourn the meeting passed 5-0 at 8:25 p.m.

Respectively submitted
Kathleen Magoon
Recording Secretary

Charlie King

Paula Proulx

Brian St. Onge

James Horgan

Gerry McCarthy