

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen – Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, , February 15, 2016
Selectmen’s Chambers
356 Main Street

Board Members Present:

Charlie King, Chairman

Paula Proulx, Vice Chairman

Jim Horgan

Neil Johnson

Others Present:

Town Administrator Arthur Capello

1). Call to Order:

Chairman King called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

2). Re-Vote on Warrant Articles:

Town Administrator Capello told the board the Budget Committee made changes to two warrant articles, Article 4 (operating budget) and Article 11 (Emergency Motorized Equipment CRF) necessitating a another vote by the board on whether to recommend the articles.

Article 4- Selectmen previously recommended a proposed operating budget of \$6,524,613. The Budget Committee made \$11,379 in additional cuts from the contribution to the Goodwin Library (\$10,000) and from the contribution to Coast Bus Company(\$1,379) resulting in a new bottom line of \$6,513,234. Discussion included the Selectmen level funded the library and all other agency requests, Bud Com vote to cut the budget was 3-2-1, the cuts were made with no justification, the library was cut due to hard feelings over treatment of Women’s Club members, three of members of the Bud Com are Women’s Club members, the total amount of library trust funds is unknown after three years of requesting the information, Trustees are trying to sort out a mess left by the previous administration, they have to fix their “hybrid” tax exemption status, the library doesn’t charge service fees because it is a “free” library, Women’s Club paid \$600 a year which was recorded as a donation not as a fee and why didn’t the Bud Com recommend cuts to the school district budget. Selectmen did not support either of the cuts.

Motion: (King, second Johnson) not to recommend Article 4 passed unanimously.

Article 11- Capello told Selectmen the Bud Com changed the way the \$40,000 deposit to the Emergency Motorized Equipment CRF would be funded. The article called for raising \$25,000 from ambulance billing revenue and \$15,000 through general taxation. By a 5-1 vote, the Bud Com voted to recommend funding the \$40,000 solely through ambulance billing revenues with zero dollars from general taxation. Discussion included total amount of revenue brought in each year from the billing, how much was anticipated, if Selectmen don’t recommend the article and voters don’t pass it nothing will go into the CRF, how the Bud Com can change the article “owned” by Selectmen, they changed the money amounts but not the wording or intent, the article can be changed from the floor of Town Meeting, the ambulance revenue total doesn’t included additional payments from Frisbie Hospital or the collection of overdue bills.

Motion: (King, second Johnson) to recommend Article 11 passed unanimously.

3). Other Business:

A) Invoice paid- Capello reported the invoice submitted by Tom DeJulio for materials purchased related to the maintenance of the Christmas lights has been paid. He noted the payment did not include the requested late fee.

B). Time-Off Request- Capello requested permission to take March 3rd and 4th off to attend his niece's graduation ceremony from the Coast Guard boot camp. Selectmen approved his request.

4). Non-Public Session:

Motion : (King, second Horgan) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) passed 4-0 at 7:30 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to come out of non-public session passed 4-0 at 7:40 p.m.

5). Additional Board Business:

A). Resignation- Selectmen received copies of a letter of resignation from Renee Tavarez on behalf of her father Firefighter Robert Richers. Mr. Richers suffered a stroke and is unable to return to the dept. due to the extent of his injuries. Capello said he will remain as an honorary member of the dept.

Motion: (Horgan, second Johnson) to accept the resignation of Firefighter Robert Richer from the Farmington Fire Dept. passed unanimously.

B). Second Bond Public Hearing- Selectmen discussed preparations for the Public Hearing on the proposed Public Safety Building and the \$2.363 million bond to fund it scheduled for Feb. 22 at 6 p.m. at the Town Hall. Discussion included the number of attendees expected, what information is available to the public and handouts will be available at the hearing.

C). Resignation: Capello told the board the new Planning Dept. Secretary submitted her resignation last week. After some discussion, the board requested the opening be re-posted.

6). Adjournment:

Motion: (Horgan, second Johnson) to adjourn the meeting passed 4-0 at 7:50 p.m.

Respectively submitted

Kathleen Magoon

Recording Secretary

Charlie King

Paula Proulx

Neil Johnson

James Horgan