

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 12, 2017

Board Members Present:

Paula Proulx, Chairman
Neil Johnson, Vice Chairman
Ann Titus

Board Members Absent:

Jim Horgan
Charlie King

Others Present:

Arthur Capello, Town Administrator
Fire Chief James Reinert
Recreation Director Rick Conway
Tom DeJulio, Farmington Preservation and Improvement Committee
Resident Jo Kinney

1). Call to Order:

Chairman Proulx called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

2). Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

3). Public Input: None

4). Review of Minutes:

June 5, 2017-Public Meeting Minutes- No errors or omissions.

Motion: (Johnson, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 3-0.

June 5, 2017-Non-Public Sessions A-E- No errors or omissions.

Motion: (Johnson, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 3-0.

5). Ambulance Repairs:

Mr. Capello told the board the 2006 Ford E450 known as Ambulance 1 (A-1) went into Granite Ford for the repairs approved at a previous meeting and additional work needing to be addressed was found. He asked the board to review the matter and decide if they wished to authorize the additional work.

Mr. Johnson asked what was authorized by the board at the previous meeting.

Fire Chief James Reinert said that \$9,800 in repair work was approved by the board at that meeting.

Chairman Proulx asked who prepared the list of needed work previously authorized by the board.

Mr. Capello said the list was compiled by the DPW in-house mechanic.

Chief Reinert said when Granite Ford began the work, they conducted a once over of the vehicle first and found other repairs that need to be completed. They then contacted him and DPW Deputy Director Jason Gagnon to see what the Town wanted to do about the \$2,392.53 in additional work needed.

Mr. Johnson asked about the notation at the bottom of the estimate that states "... several oil leaks are on hold until we hear back" and if any of the additional repairs would address the oil leak problems.

Chief Reinert said he told Granite Ford to hold off on the leaks as part of the original work needed until

he spoke to Selectmen because he did not want them to begin the work and not be able to complete everything without board approval.

Mr. Johnson said the repair work previously approved would overspend the Fire Dept. maintenance line of the budget and asked if they were just going to overspend it more.

Mr. Capello said if that is what the board chooses to do. He said the board has 2 choices- to repair this ambulance or to get a new one.

Chief Reinert said about \$13,000 has been put into the vehicle this year and about \$25,000 has been spent in ambulance repairs over 2 years.

Chairman Proulx recalled that there was an issue they were chasing where they could not find the problem that caused the ambulance to stop running while being driven.

Mr. Capello said the issue turned out to be an electrical issue.

Mr. Johnson said in his opinion they need to repair the ambulance and then at the end of this year begin planning to purchase a new ambulance next year.

Chief Reinert said he researched replacement prices for a new ambulance and they would probably only get about \$6,000 for trade-in of the vehicle and that he looks at it as a cost versus worth issue.

Mr. Johnson said the Town does not have the money to buy a new ambulance this year and if we don't have it fixed then it will have to be taken off the road and run with one ambulance.

Chief Reinert said the Town definitely needs 2 ambulances.

Mrs. Titus asked if the ambulance is at Granite Ford now and if there are things that have be done to it before it can be put back together.

Chief Reinert said the ambulance is at Granite Ford but he did not think it had been taken apart yet. He said he expected they put it on the lift to look at the items listed by our mechanic and then found the other items needing repair.

Mrs. Titus then asked if any of the additional work can be done in-house to save the Town some money.

Mr. Capello said the work could not be performed in-house in a timely manner.

Chief Reinert said that some of the work on the smaller town vehicles has been outsourced to other facilities to relieve some of the work load on the Town mechanic.

Mr. Capello said that from listening to the radio calls there is no doubt that the dept. needs 2 ambulances.

Motion: (Titus, second Johnson) to approve adding on \$2,392.53 to Granite Ford for the additional ambulance repair work acknowledging that this will further overspend the maintenance line by that amount passed 3-0.

Rescue Truck- Chief Reinert then told the board they have received the rescue truck purchased from Milton and that he planned to transfer the title and the license plates the next day. He said the Farmington Firefighters' Association has offered to donate the funds to repaint or vinyl wrap the truck whichever is most cost effective to match the rest of the town's fleet and asked their permission to move ahead with their offer.

Mr. Johnson said that Mr. King had stated previously that he did not favor re-painting the truck but that he did not have any problem with doing so as it needs to be changed to reflect that it is now part of the Farmington fleet.

Mr. Capello said it would not involve any taxpayers' funds.

Chief Reinert said the "Milton" designation is painted on and can be removed but he would like the

vehicle to portray an image as professional as possible. He said the Association requested he obtain the board's approval before launching into the fundraising process to come up with the money for the paint/vinyl wrap job.

Motion: (Johnson, second Titus) to allow the Firefighters' Association to move forward to get estimates for painting or vinyl wrapping the rescue truck and to complete the job with no taxpayer funding passed 3-0.

Howard Systems- Mr. Johnson asked if there are any open issues with Howard Systems at the Public Safety Building.

Chief Reinert said they are getting close to completion of their work and that they submitted the invoices to Mr. Capello. He said the Town is now about \$17,000 short of the in-kind match for the grant for the emergency operations generator.

Mr. Capello said he planned to go over the invoices with the Chief prior to sending out the payment. The Chief said he still needed to consult with them about the "phantom phone line" for the phone system and they are also having an issue with the air conditioning upstairs and suggested the room may need more air flow to address the issue.

Mr. Capello advised the Chief to contact Groen Construction about the air conditioning matter. Chief Reinert suggested placing a portable air conditioning unit there and to vent it out to assist with the problem until it can be resolved.

Mr. Johnson suggested they wait until the builder gives an opinion on the way to resolve the matter. The Chief added Howard Systems has been responsive whenever he has had to call them about something and that progress is being made.

6). Car Show:

Tom DeJulio came before the board representing the Farmington Preservation and Improvement Organization who are considering hosting a car show on Hay Day. He said he discussed the matter with Recreation Director Rick Conway who said the show could be set up in the old Fire Station parking lot with space available for about 15 or 20 cars.

Mr. DeJulio said he contacted an auto club and found that as many as 100 cars could attend the event if advertised correctly. He said he would need the entire old Fire Station parking lot to accommodate that size display and asked the board if he could have the whole parking lot for Hay Day or if he should follow Mr. Conway's advice to hold the show on the Friday night before Hay Day.

Mr. Capello said the issue with Hay Day is that the patrons and the emergency vehicles have always been parked there and to give up the entire parking lot would be problematic especially this late in the year.

Mr. DeJulio said that last year the only people who parked there were the people who had tents set up on Main Street and that the rest of the lot was empty.

Mr. Capello clarified that he did not say the lot was full but what it is used for including some of the residents that live there.

Mr. DeJulio said the lot is blocked off and that you can't get to it once Hay Day starts.

Mr. Capello said it is blocked off over by the gym and you have to go around the lot to get into it.

Recreation Director Rick Conway said the lot is blocked off by Garfield Street and the vendors who have a lot of stuff to bring in are allowed to park there and are not allowed to leave before 3 p.m. He said

there are some handicapped parking spaces there and the Police Dept. does allow handicapped individuals to access through the dirt road and park in those spots. He said you can get in Garfield Street and come around the back of the lot. They started doing that when they stopped holding activities in that lot he said.

Mr. Conway said the emergency vehicles have always been parked in the same area and he has not had an opportunity to meet with Chief Reinert to determine the best place to park the vehicles to allow for easy entry and exit of those vehicles.

Mr. DeJulio suggested the Fire truck and ambulance be parked on the end of Pleasant Street along side of the Post Office parking lot for easy access to Main Street.

Mr. Capello said Pleasant Street is also usually filled by patron parking. He added that most of the lots in the area are also full.

Chairman Proulx asked about the suggestion to hold the car show on Friday night.

Mr. Conway said the group is considering hosting the event as a fundraiser and he suggested that now that the fireworks are held on Saturday that the group could hold the show on Friday night so the community would still have an activity on Friday. The show could be listed as a Hay Day event in all of the publications and he would not care if they charged admission or had vendors. He said he suggested it because they would not have all the obstacles involved with Hay Day and that they would make out better financially by holding the show on Friday night.

Chairman Proulx referred to Mr. Capello's memo to the board which stated that food vendors should not be allowed at the car show if held on Hay Day as it is unfair to the other vendors who paid for a spot downtown.

Mr. DeJulio said the car club has a strict rule that their vendors must be within sight of the cars due to previous issues with people getting into/damaging the cars when the drivers went to get food. He said he told them they would have to be out on the street and pay a \$95 fee for the space and they said if they can't see their cars they would not come. They have already booked that Saturday night (Aug. 19) at another location he said.

Mr. Capello said it sounded like Friday night would be the best option for everyone.

Mr. DeJulio said he does not have a say on which night to schedule the show but that the organization's Board of Directors would vote on the matter at their next meeting. He said the organization wants to be part of Hay Day and to increase the traffic to the event so they did not want to hold the show on Friday. He said the auto club advised they should begin advertising 60 days before the event to result in a good turn-out for the show.

Mr. Capello said this year's Hay Day has been in the works since the day after Hay Day last year and it is now mid June. He said to try to put together this event at this point and deal with all of the other issues involved with it does not seem realistic. Friday night might be the best idea for this year and then look at what could be done for next year he said.

Mr. DeJulio said they lost the booking for the auto club with 100 cars and the next group does not have a vendor so that may not be an issue. He said Paul Turner of Liberty Insurance has offered to allow the use of his parking lot for Hay Day which could provide extra parking if the organization were allowed to use the old Fire Station lot for the car show.

Mr. Capello said the Town is not going to give up the spots for the emergency apparatus and that he didn't think it was fair to make the residents there who park in the old Fire Station lot now to give up the

spaces for Hay Day.

Chairman Proulx said that when the Planning Board considers apartments downtown the available parking is considered as part of the approval.

Mrs. Titus said there are some businesses open on Saturday that use the parking lot.

Mr. Capello said there are also easements that go to the homes in the rear of the lot which can't be blocked.

Ms. Proulx asked if the second auto club has even more cars than the first group with about 100 cars.

Mr. DeJulio said they have not found a second group to consider yet. He said he was advised to attend other car shows and put out flyers advertising for Hay Day and the drivers would respond to the advertisements.

Mrs. Titus suggested the Henry Wilson School, Kelley's County Kitchen and the TD Bank parking lot as possible locations for the show but all of the locations already have scheduled events planned there.

Mr. Conway said that previously a car show was held in the Peaslee Funeral Home parking lot and the Police Dept. was able to close off the road to accommodate the show.

Ms. Proulx recalled that the show was held by local drivers and was much smaller than 100 cars.

Mr. Johnson pointed out on a map some of the areas that would need to be reserved in the old fire station lot such as parking for emergency vehicles, entrance/exit lane, handicapped spaces near the Coast Bus enclosure, easements accesses and resident parking.

Mr. DeJulio said the Fire Chief told him the Firefighters' Association may be interested in displaying some antique fire trucks in the bays at the old fire station.

Mr. Capello said the Association can put the trucks in the car show if they choose to but they can't use a Town building without permission.

Mr. Johnson added that the condition of that building was the reason we got rid of it so he would not like to see the public going in and out of it.

He asked if the emergency vehicles could be located elsewhere besides the old Fire Station parking lot.

Mr. Capello said the issue with the emergency vehicles is the ease of getting out of where they are parked with easy access to Main Street and to Hay Day.

Mr. Johnson suggested the emergency vehicles could be parked in the Municipal Building parking lot.

Mr. Capello said that would be possible but then the available parking there would be lost.

Mr. Johnson then suggested they could ask Mr. Turner to allow the emergency vehicles to park in his lot instead of being open to the general public for parking. That way, they would have access to either end of Main Street he said.

Ms. Proulx agreed that would be a better solution.

Mr. Capello asked the board to consider not allowing vendors at the car show so as not to compete with the other vendors who have paid for a space on the street.

Mr. Johnson noted there is a non-competition/no duplicate vendors' agreement with the paid vendors so allowing them into the car show area could cause issues for the Town.

Ms. Proulx said a car show would be a draw to the other events and asked if the board felt comfortable having the Town Administrator, Rec. Director and Mr. DeJulio work together to reach a solution to allow the group to use the old Fire Station parking lot.

Mr. Johnson said they would need to figure out the number of cars that could be invited to take part in the show.

Mr. Capello said they would provide as much space as possible keeping in mind the spaces that need to be kept open.

Mr. Johnson said asked if the resident spaces could be blocked off for that one day.

Ms. Proulx said they need to leave that side of the lot alone because there has to be a place for the residents to park and to be able to get in and out. It was part of the approval process and we need to adhere to it she said.

Mrs. Titus asked Mr. DeJulio if he had an idea how many cars he expected to take part in the show.

Mr. DeJulio said he would not know until the day of the show.

Resident Jo Kinney arrived and said her apartment abuts the parking lot and the only entrance to her apartment is through the parking lot. She asked how the ambulance would get through to her apartment if 100 cars are parked there. She added that her car is the only car in the lot at night.

Mr. Capello said a lane would be kept open for access to the easement.

Mr. Johnson showed Mr. DeJulio some potential available spaces in the lot on the map and said he figured that there may be room for 50-60 cars.

Chairman Proulx said the matter would not be solved without looking at lot and suggested they keep the board's concerns in mind and visit the parking lot to determine what can happen there.

Mr. Capello said they could mark the boundaries of the areas that need to remain open with orange spray paint.

Mrs. Titus asked what would happen if 100 cars show up for the show and how they would monitor the situation.

Mr. Capello said if 100 cars show up they don't go in and he would stop it if he has to.

Ms. Proulx asked if the drivers could be required to RSVP stating their intention to come to the show.

Mr. Capello suggested the total amount be limited in the advertising to the first 50 cars to attend and then there may be a few extra spaces if needed. He said it would be up to Mr. DeJulio to figure out how to park the vehicles.

Ms. Proulx agreed but added it would be through direction from Mr. Capello and Mr. Conway making sure all of the safety issues and the board's concerns are covered.

Mr. Capello asked the board to address food vendors at the show in case another car club has similar requirements about having their own vendors.

Ms. Proulx said Mr. DeJulio is familiar with how Hay Day is set up and now knows that vendors will not be allowed there.

Mr. Capello said they also need to address asking for a donation instead of an admission fee and not walking around Hay Day to sell 50/50 raffle tickets.

Mr. Conway said it has been the rule for years that vendors may not walk around Hay Day selling raffle tickets.

Mr. Capello noted that this includes the Town.

Mr. DeJulio said they would like to set up a fence to charge admission to the show instead of a voluntary donation.

Discussion included whether voluntary donations would be more successful than requiring an admission fee, if the Town gets 10% of the admission receipts for use of the Town lots, to request voluntary donations and keep 100% of the receipts and what the funds will be used for.

Mr. Capello said the car show vendors should not be allowed to walk around Hay Day selling 50/50 raffle

tickets but he would allow them to sell the tickets inside the car show.

Mr. DeJulio said they plan to set up a tent on Main Street in front of the flag pole area and erect a fence to control the foot traffic to pass by their tent not only to pay admission/make donations but also to participate in voting for best of show with trophies awarded to the winners.

Mr. Capello said he would not want any fencing designed to direct people one way or another as that isn't fair to the rest of the Hay Day participants.

Mr. Conway asked what would prevent another Hay Day vendor from wandering around the car show selling raffle tickets. He said if they confront the vendor they would argue that it isn't fair to allow the car show vendors to sell raffle tickets there while other vendors can't sell them there.

Mrs. Titus advised that if Mr. DeJulio ropes or blocks off the entrance to the lot that people will find other ways to get in. She said if it was set up so people were corralled into a donation area to enter the show she would not go in there.

Mr. Capello remarked that Mrs. Titus could just walk right under any roping at the event.

He then asked the board for a motion to prohibit any corraling or roping off of the area.

Motion: (Titus, second Proulx) not to rope off or corral of the car show event for safety issues passed 3-0.

Ms. Proulx asked Mr. Capello and Mr. Conway to work with Mr. DeJulio to figure out the configuration of the car show and return the plan to the board for review.

Mr. Capello asked Mr. DeJulio to let him know of the committee's decision as to which day they wish to hold the show by next week as it will make a difference as to how the spaces are marked out.

Mr. Johnson said if the group decides to hold the show on Saturday the town would need approval from Mr. Turner to use his parking lot to park the emergency vehicles.

Ms. Proulx said authorization to use the old Fire Station lot on Saturday would be contingent on receiving the approval from Mr. Turner.

Christmas Light Bulbs/Calendar- Mrs. Titus asked if the organization plans to sell souvenir Christmas light bulbs again this year.

Mr. DeJulio said there are a lot less of them to be had this year as there are only about 100-150 of the original bulbs left as they are being replaced with new LED bulbs.

Mrs. Titus suggested they sell the bulbs at Hay Day. She also asked about the calendar the group is compiling for sale.

Mr. DeJulio said they are still looking for photos of scenic views of Farmington without any people included in the photos.

7). Town Administrator's Business:

A). Answers to Public Safety Building Questions- Mr. Capello gave the board copies of the e-mail response from Jeff Greenhalgh of Groen Construction regarding their questions at the last meeting. The response states that the lot striping will be completed next week weather permitting, the substantial completion date of the building is 3/1/17 and the downspout will be corrected next week so that the water goes into the drain.

B). Appraisal of Old Fire Station Lots- Mr. Capello said the appraisal process began on Friday after he and Peter Knight of Stanhope Group walked the site and Mr. Knight took pictures of the site.

C). Safe Routes to School- Selectmen received copies of the construction schedule for the Safe Routes

to School Project. Mr. Capello said a link to the project will also be included on the Town website so residents can keep track of the project as it proceeds.

Mr. Johnson said there is a problem with an improper link that is looking for software that doesn't exist.

Mr. Capello said he would inform the Selectmen's Secretary of the problem.

Mrs. Titus asked where the safe routes are going to go.

Mr. Capello said that after 11 years of waiting for the project to begin he was not sure of the final route but said he believed that it is pretty much wherever the "Tiger Paws" symbols are located now.

D). Lancelot Shores- The board received copies of the summons regarding the civil action by the Association in an attempt to change the Association by-laws and to have the court agree with the proposed changes.

Mr. Capello said the summons was sent to the Town Attorney for review.

He added that in the meantime the beaches at Lancelot Shores are open for use by Farmington residents.

8). Additional Board Business:

A). Water/Sewer Abatement- Mr. Johnson asked if there was more information regarding an abatement approved by the board following a request by the DPW for a resident to supply water to his neighbor whose service was interrupted due to a leak in their service.

Mr. Capello said he talked with the DPW Director Dale Sprague who said the break in the line was on the homeowner's side. Mr. Sprague said the line could have been metered and that the next time something similar happens the line will be metered. He said the homeowner did a good job of addressing the matter but that it was his responsibility to repair the problem.

Ms. Proulx asked that the DPW Deputy Director be informed how the matter will be handled in the future.

TDS – Mr. Johnson announced that TDS is now broadcasting the school PEG Channel on Channel 28 for their customers. He said he can hear and see it clearly although he has yet to see a broadcast of a School Board meeting.

Ms. Proulx said she was curious as to the broadcast clarity of the meetings.

Mr. Johnson said he would let the board know after he views a meeting.

NH Solar Garden- Ms. Proulx asked if the Town has heard from the company regarding the proposed project at the former Cardinal landfill or the Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) for the project.

Mr. Capello said he was contacted by the company who is anxious to move forward with the plan. He said he is holding off on a response until he receives a response from the Town Attorney regarding the proposed PILOT agreement.

Street Lights-Ms. Proulx asked for an update on the street light problems.

Mr. Capello said he is waiting to receive a memo from the Police Chief regarding the number and locations of the street lights that are not working properly in Town.

9). Next Meeting: Monday, June 19, 2017

The agenda will include a presentation by Virtual Town Hall regarding potential improvements to the Town website and a work session on the plans for the old Police Station.

10). Non-Public Session A :

Motion: (Johnson, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Compensation passed 3-0 by a roll call vote (Proulx, Johnson, Titus) at 7:12 p.m.

Motion: (Johnson, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 3-0 at 9:40 p.m.

Motion: Johnson, second Titus) to seal the minutes until the reviews are complete and approved passed 3-0.

Motion: (Johnson, second Titus) to accept the non-union salary increases with the changes made for 2017 passed 3-0.

11). Adjournment:

Motion: (Johnson, second Titus) to adjourn the meeting passed 3-0 at 9:40 p.m.

Respectively submitted
Kathleen Magoon
Recording Secretary

Paula Proulx, Chairman

Neil Johnson, Vice Chairman

Ann Titus