

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833
Ph. (978) 352-5755 □ Fax (978) 352-5727
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
Memorial Town Hall
5/19/14
7:00 PM – General Meeting, 3rd floor meeting room

Selectmen Present: Stuart M. Egenberg, Chairman; Gary Fowler, Clerk; Stephen Smith, C. David Surface; Philip Trapani

Others Present: Michael Farrell, Town Administrator; Janet Pantano, Administrative Assistant

Absent: Philip Trapani

Pledge of Allegiance

A joint meeting with the Planning Board is a part of this meeting

NEW BUSINESS

Reorganization of the board

Mr. Farrell congratulated Mr. Fowler and Mr. Egenberg on their reelection to the board. He went over the process for election of a new Selectman Chairman.

Nominations for Chair

Mr. Farrell asked for nomination for Chairman of the board.

Mr. Smith nominated Mr. Egenberg as Chair. No other nominations.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Fowler-yes

Mr. Smith-yes

Mr. Surface-yes

Mr. Egenberg-abstained

The nomination was approved by a roll call vote.

Mr. Egenberg thanked the board for the vote.

Mr. Egenberg asked for nominations for Clerk of the board.

Mr. Smith nominated Mr. Fowler as Clerk of the board. No other nominations.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Smith-yes

Mr. Surface-yes

Mr. Egenberg-yes

Mr. Fowler-abstained

The nomination was approved by a roll call vote.

Joint Meeting with the Planning Board to fill an unexpired term to May 2015

BoS Minutes
May 19, 2014

Harry LaCortiglia, Chair, Planning Board; Howard Snyder, Town Planner; Tim Howard, former Planning Board member were present

Mr. Surface stated that 5 votes are needed to appoint someone to fill the unexpired term.

Mr. Farrell explained the process

Mr. LaCortiglia moved to appoint *Tim Howard* to the *Planning Board* to fill an unexpired term until the next town election on May 11, 2015. Mr. Surface seconded the motion.

Mr. Fowler-yes

Mr. Surface-yes

Mr. Egenberg-yes

Mr. Smith-yes

Mr. LaCortiglia-yes

The motion was approved by a roll call vote.

Pratt Hobby Shop Proclamation-40 years in business

Mr. Egenberg read the proclamation for Mr. Pratt.

Carl Norloff of Rheebo, Inc.

Mr. Norloff stated he lives in town and gave a rundown of his company Rheebo, Inc. He stated that this is a social media company and has been two years in pilot stage and he is ready to roll out. He stated that his target is people, non-profits, and businesses. He is looking to see how to get the town involved in the program. He stated that the site can send out 30K emails a day. He stated that he already works with the School Store. He had a handout for members showing what the collaborative environment for the town would be. He asked about a partnership with the town. He stated that the group can be public, private, or by invitation. He stated that they can do fundraising on a larger scale. Mr. Surface asked if there would be an administrator for each group. Mr. Norloff stated that any member can post or it can be moderated. Mr. Smith stated that this is similar to wickedlocal.com. He stated to pick one over another would have to be discussed. He stated if similar sources would have to make our information available to all. Mr. Norloff stated they are creating awareness. Mr. Smith asked if they sell advertising. Mr. Norloff stated it is a membership. He stated for non-profits and communities it is free. Mr. Egenberg asked how he would add content. Mr. Norloff stated getting the town involved to combine civic with business. Mr. Surface stated that it seems more appropriate for GAA, or town groups. He stated he would have concerns on how you control the content. Mr. Smith stated that what is on our website is what is published. Mr. Surface asked if he talked to Scott Jones as he does Georgetown Fun. Mr. Norloff stated that Mr. Jones does not post his items as he is competition. Mr. Fowler asked if we could create a calendar that we can post to and boards can post. Mr. Egenberg stated talk with the Cable Committee as they also post events.

Camp Denison One-Day Liquor License

Mr. Morehouse explained the Friends of Camp Denison are hosting a Golf Tournament on June 7 with a dinner at Camp Denison and requesting a one-day liquor license for the dinner at the Camp.

Mr. Surface to approve the *One-Day Liquor License for the Friends of Camp Denison on June 7, 2014 from 2-7PM for the golf dinner. Mr. Smith seconded the motion.*

Mr. Fowler asked if they need additional insurance. Mr. Farrell stated that they do not.

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Fire Chief Beardsley staffing issue

Fire Chief Beardsley and Deputy Chief Moyer were present

Chief Beardsley thanked the Building Supply, Bianca Sausage and others for their involvement in the fundraiser on last Saturday for the Fire Department and Fallen Firefighters.

Chief Beardsley gave a handout to the board and stated that they are at a crossroads with the department and the ambulances. Chief stated that in 2012 they had 1304 responses and in 2013 had 1434 and that this is a 10% increase in service. He stated that since January to date you can see an increase already. He stated they have per diem staff 6AM to 4PM, some afternoons and Saturday and holidays. He stated that they are staffing with funds from the ambulance. He stated that from 4-9PM is a very busy time. He stated that they are having issues getting personnel to come back and a few times they have only had two on staff. He stated that right now they are staffed by 12 people of 35. He stated that they have some in college and grad school and will lose them soon. He stated that in the daytime getting one to two people around is difficult. He stated a few work close by and can make it to the call. He stated that they do not have a backup plan of people. He stated that with the training needed they need to do something to be consistent. He stated that he knows over the summer he loses some members who go away for the weekends. He stated half of his firefighters are EMT's and they have increased staff with ambulance funds. He stated that you get burnout with overusing staff. He stated that not at this time but we will be able to go to ALS in the near future. He stated under Obama Care they are looking at EMS providing house calls. He stated that threats are minimal and they did get funding for stretchers and is waiting for an announcement on funds for some hydraulic equipment. He stated that there has been a reduction in Medicare funds and this is having an impact.

Mr. Smith do you have a number or plan to fix the problem. Chief stated that in budget have the means to fund two full time firefighters and one out of per diem. He stated that he does not have the funds for benefits for those positions. He went over the figures. Mr. Smith stated that all departments go in cycles of who needs services and the need a five year plan. He stated that if this is about more money not just a request they need a plan of why and how. Mr. Surface stated have 35 call firefighters is that the limit. Chief Beardsley stated that they can have 40. Mr. Surface asked if they can recruit more members. Chief Beardsley stated that they are always looking. Mr. Surface asked the requirements. Chief Beardsley stated that they should live in town and be 18 years of age. He stated that they want to make 2 permanent shifts and one per diem. He stated they get someone trained and then they leave for a full time position someplace else. Mr. Surface stated that this should be a discussion with FinCom and did they have this conversation. Chief Beardsley stated that they did have the discussion. He stated his job is to keep the town safe. He stated that this is a big change for the department. He stated that he talked to Mr. Farrell on job descriptions. Mr. Surface asked if they have the funds for benefits. Chief Beardsley stated not at this time and that they are looking for Fiscal 2016 to fund the positions not Fiscal 2015. Board stated that it is nice to have the information ahead of time. Mr.

Surface stated that he is glad to see they are funding some positions with the ambulance funds. Chief Beardsley stated two years out will need to repair Ambulance 12 after repairing the Ambulance 11 this year. Mr. Surface stated that the deal when they approved the ambulances was to stay profitable and to replace ambulances with funds from the ambulances. Chief Beardsley stated that their goal was to bank \$40K a year for ambulance replacement.

Chief Beardsley stated next discussion is on rate increases and they need the boards input. He went over the statistics of the calls and where they go. He gave the billing information. He stated that they are working with a collection agency for some debt. He stated diesel is up and medical supply costs have increased. He stated have not increased rates since they started. He went over the chart of what other departments are billing. He stated that the insurances are moving to a bundled rate instead of al a carte. Discussion on rates and insurance costs. Chief stated looking to increase July 1.

Mr. Smith moved to authorize the chair to sign off on an increased rate at 3x column as proposed. Mr. Surface seconded the motion.

Mr. Surface would like to see the new rate against the old rate to see what the net discount you want to be. Mr. Egenberg stated he would like to see the Comstar rate also.

Mr. Smith moved to not increase rate until they see the proforma. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

The original motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Warrant & Minutes

Warrant to be signed

Minutes January 27, April 28, and May 5, 2014

Mr. Surface moved to approve the minutes of *January 27, 2014* as amended. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Fowler moved to approve the minutes of *April 28, 2014*. Mr. Smith seconded the motion

Mr. Fowler asked to strike a statement on page by Mr. Greenberg. Mr. Egenberg asked if they should change a comment made by someone else. Mr. Fowler stated that the minutes are not word for word just a description of discussions. Mr. Smith stated he and Mr. Surface were not present so the board should wait for Mr. Trapani to be present.

Mr. Fowler withdrew the motion.

Mr. Fowler moved to approve the minutes of *May 5, 2014*. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

Request from Scott Paganelli to discuss the Town Hall fence

Mr. Egenberg read the email from Mr. Paganelli regarding the Town Hall fence and options that he would like to see. He stated Mr. Paganelli talked to Mr. Durkee regarding taking the fence

down He stated that the cost for a historical fence is \$40k. He stated Mr. Durkee felt a safety factor to remove the fence.

Memorial Day Observance information and Selectmen invitation

Mr. Egenberg read the letter regarding the events for Memorial Day and the Parade. Mr. Surface stated that the funds for the replacement of flags fell through the cracks. He stated maybe they can take funds from the BoS account and use to purchase some new flags. Mr. Fowler asked if they could use funds from the Veterans' cemetery graves account. Mr. Farrell stated that he did not think that they could use the funds for something other than at the cemetery. Mr. Surface stated they will find a way to fund the flags.

Notice from Police Chief Cudmore on Re-Accreditation Assessment

Mr. Egenberg read letter from the Police Chief regarding re-accreditation

Request from American Cancer Fund for Children to proclaim June 1st – 7th as Childhood Cancer Awareness Week in Georgetown

Mr. Fowler moved to proclaim June 1st – 7th as Childhood Cancer Awareness Week in Georgetown. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Fire Chief Review

Mr. Farrell stated that there are several reviews for the board to do the Fire Chief, Town administrator, and Police Chief. He stated that the new bylaw puts the Town Administrator in charge of making sure the reviews are done. the board can have the TA do the review.

Mr. Smith recommended to have the Town Administrator do the reviews and then the BoS review and make adjustments or comments. He stated that the previous Town Administrator had done these reviews and this still gives the board final oversight. Mr. Farrell stated when he was Interim Town Administrator he did not do the reviews. Mr. Farrell stated that he sees staff daily and the board only sees staff monthly in a meeting setting. He stated he feels they go together with review and hiring and firing. Mr. Fowler stated that he and Mr. Egenberg spent a lot of time together at the poles talking and he feels this is taking process away from people. He stated as a Selectmen feels he is taken farther and farther away from town government. Mr. Surface stated that as a board they are not here all day and they are not personnel professionals. He stated any complaints of issues with staff they would know it. He stated that the town should be running in a professional manor. He stated Mr. Farrell just evaluate and the board set the goals.

Mr. Smith moved that the Selectmen delegate the Town Administrator to perform the personnel reviews and assemble reviews for the Selectmen's feedback for the Police and Fire Chief. Mr. Surface seconded the motion.

Mr. Farrell asked about the Building Inspector and if they wanted to include him in these reviews.

Mr. Smith amended his motion to include review of the Building Inspector. Mr. Surface seconded the amendment.

Mr. Fowler asked if they are setting the precedent for this year only. Mr. Farrell stated that the approval would be until it is rescinded by the Selectmen.

The amendment was approved by a unanimous vote.

The original motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Surface stated that the outgoing chair should do the review of the Town Administrator.

Mr. Smith moved that the outgoing chair do the review of the Town Administrator. Mr. Surface seconded the motion.

Mr. Smith stated that he would do the review in the same format as the Town Administrator uses for the Chief's and Building Inspector. Mr. Fowler asked if a part of the review is done in open session. Mr. Surface stated only the approval of final review is done in open session.

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

APPOINTMENTS & APPROVALS

Appointment list for reviews

Mr. Egenberg asked members to review the appointment list and they would start appointments at next meeting.

Request from the SBC to appoint Pam Lundquist term to expire June 30, 2015

Mr. Smith moved to appoint Pam Lundquist to the School Building Committee term to expire June 30, 2015. Mr. Surface seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Mr. Smith thanked Mr. Hoover for his time on the School Committee and School Building Committee.

NEXT MEETING

Monday, June 9, 2014 at 7:00PM, 3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall

Mr. Egenberg thank Joe Molis for putting together the GAA Beer Tasting event at Camp Denison he stated it was a very good time.

Mr. Surface moved to adjourn. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.