

BoS Minutes
January 5, 2015

Memorial Town Hall, 1 Library Street, Georgetown, MA 01833

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

Memorial Town Hall

1/5/15

6:30 PM – General Meeting, 3rd floor meeting room

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

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

Absent: C. David Surface

Pledge of Allegiance

Warrant to be signed

New Business

Discussion/Adoption of a 28-day pay period for the Fire Department

Chief Beardsley was present and explained the current pay for the fire department and the new 28-day schedule. Mr. Egenberg asked how he felt about the new pay period. Chief Beardsley stated he is in favor of the change and explained the current pay and why it is not current and unfair. Mr. Farrell stated that they have discussed the pay over a few years and have received different opinions on how to handle the call firefighters and feels this is the correct way to go. He stated that this will also put us in compliance with overtime pay and he explained. After 212 hours OT kicks in, in a 28-day period. He stated we have never budgeted for OT and being mid-year we may have to have some adjustments. Chief Beardsley stated that he looked at a 28 day cycle and has about 5 people that are the most active and only one staff member came close to 212 hours. Mr. Farrell stated that one other issue is that we have 3 full time town employees that are also call firefighters and the first hour that they work at the Fire Department is OT. He stated that the pay rate would be a blended rate of their full time and the fire department rate. Mr. Egenberg asked what would be the policy. Mr. Farrell stated that one is that you only allow them to work in one department and does not feel this would be the way to go. He stated that we have a history on these employees and would have to budget for these hours. Mr. Smith asked the Chief how he feels about this. Chief Beardsley stated that we may be in the position to say only one department. Mr. Fowler stated that this is a big change and does not want to see happen but with Federal laws must make the change. He stated that they want to keep the morale of the department. Mr. Farrell stated issue with per diem and call firefighter can only have one. Chief Beardsley stated that staff on with the ambulance is paid from the Enterprise fund with non town funds. Mr. Fowler asked if we can have a separate Ambulance and Fire Dept. Mr. Smith stated that the town has to follow the letter of the law need to pay the department correctly and the dept is growing with the town. He stated that they want to be competitive with other towns and have the best staff. Mr. Trapani stated a unique situation with our Fire Dept and an evolving

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department and they are on the way to a full time department in the next few years. He stated call firefighting is on the way out. Mr. Farrell stated policy issue as paying hourly not all calls are an hour and need to set a minimum pay for an hour for the call. We do not have to but does suggest that we do. Mr. Egenberg asked about shoveling hydrants and would this still be hourly as it was. Chief Beardsley stated that it would be. He stated that pay should be one hour minimum with and half hour segments. Mr. Smith stated there are many variables but this should work out. Mr. Trapani stated a policy can be changed at any time.

Mr. Smith moved to adopt an “alternative work period” of 28 days for all nonexempt members of the Georgetown Fire Department, pursuant to Section 207(k) of the Fair Labor Standards Act and 29 CFR Part 553. Effective with the pay period beginning January 4, 2015. Mr. Trapani seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote. 4-0

Mr. Smith moved to adopt a policy for call Fire Fighters with a one hour minimum and ½ hour pay increments for all calls. Effective with the pay period beginning January 4, 2015. Mr. Fowler seconded the motion.

Mr. Fowler stated that he has never felt unsafe with the Fire Department that we have had and the one we have. Mr. Egenberg stated that they do a great job and the standards are up to par with any department.

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote. 4-0

Joint meeting with the School Committee

Joint meeting with the School Committee to discuss Senior Center at Perley School

Barbie Linares, Chair; Pamela Lundquist, Laurene Polignone, Michael Hinchliffe, and Carol Jacobs, Superintendent were present. Colleen Ranshaw-Fiorello, CoA Director, Jeanne DesJardins, Chair COA, Ed DesJardins, and Esther Palardy and were also present.

Ms. Fiorello and Ms. DesJardins came forward and gave a handout to the board. Mr. Farrell stated he Ms. Fiorello and Ms. DesJardins met with the School Committee and had a productive meeting. He stated that they have also met with Ms. Jacobs and toured the school. He stated that to be on the same page as the School Committee he asked the Ms. Fiorello to give the same presentation. Mr. Trapani asked what would be a good outcome for her tonight. She stated she did not know that all would be present tonight. She stated that they are looking to have the use of the wing at Perley for a Senior Center. Ms. Fiorello gave her presentation on the CoA program and the growth of the senior population.

Mr. Fowler asked if you look at the presentation the CoA is asking for a budget increase and needs to know the town is behind the CoA. Mr. Trapani stated that the board has always been behind the CoA and they have always worked with what they have.

Ms. Fiorello stated that they have always made do with what we have and they will be able to work more efficiently with the School space. She stated that they need to make a welcoming place. She stated that she has never doubted the town's support. Mr. Smith stated the town has had a lot of priorities and now the spotlight is on the CoA and they have to work on this and look at everything.

Mr. DesJardins stated in the eyes of an architect he walked the space with Ms. Fiorello. He stated that he has been in town for 55 years and this has been talked about all these years. He stated that Ms. Fiorello goes from spot to spot and no other town does this. He stated that Newburyport is spending \$6.5M on a facility. He stated that it is frustrating that 55 years ago this was discussed and nothing has been done. He stated that the facilities at Perley are a great option. Ms. DesJardins stated that there are a lot of baby boomer parents coming to live with families. She stated that they need help and a place to go. Mr. Trapani asked how close are we to a decision on the space at Perley. Ms. Fiorello stated that we are looking at 5 classrooms and use of the Café, Kitchen and Gym and the possibility of more space later. She discussed tax incentive program and how grateful residents are.

Ed DesJardins stated that the CoA has an abundance of durable medical equipment and have to find space to store and he has talked with the Superintendent. Mr. Trapani stated a year from now will be moved in. Ms. Jacobs stated that she will know in the fall after the renovation of the M/H School if they need any additional space. Mr. Trapani stated that gives the Schools and CoA time to get all the logistics together on what is needed to make it work. Mr. Farrell stated that a MOU from the BoS and School Committee should be put together. He stated that Ms. Fiorello, Ms. Jacobs and himself can work on the logistics. He stated that there are not a lot of additional costs and this is a DIY project. He stated that the School is renting 3 Pods and need to move that into the School. He stated that for now they can bring some of the durable medical equipment over and the school janitorial staff could bring other items over as needed. He stated they need a general understanding and then they will work out the kinks. Ms. Jacobs stated that they will have tables, chairs from the old Penn Brook School and will clean and paint rooms and will work on divider walls. Mr. Smith asked if they need to formalize as a Senior Center with a vote so it cannot be reversed. Discussion.

Mr. Fowler stated that he is a little disappointed with the Senior Center not having the whole wing and is concerned with safety. Ms. Jacobs stated that this is part of the logistics. Mr. Fowler stated he would like to see the whole wing and no compromise. He stated that he is concerned with the shared use. Ms. Jacobs discussed use of rooms and her discussion with Ms. Fiorello. Mr. Trapani stated that they have to have separation from Pre-K and Seniors. Mr. Egenberg stated that the MoU will have details and there is the understanding of the need for growth.

Mr. Egenberg thanked the School Committee for coming and working with the CoA. Ms. Linares stated that she is glad Mr. Fowler left the School Committee meeting pleased. She stated that the School Committee does not want to give something away that they will need later. She stated she is glad that they agreed on the addition of a 5th room for the CoA. She stated the School Committee has their full support of the project. Mr. DesJardins asked that the Senior Center be announced at the ATM in May.

Warrant & Minutes

Warrant to be signed

Minutes Executive Session and General Meeting December 15, 2014

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Mr. Fowler moved to approve the Executive Session and General Meeting Minutes as amended of *December 15, 2014*. Mr. Trapani seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for Monday, May 4, 2015

Mr. Trapani moved to open the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for Monday, May 4, 2014. Mr. Smith seconded the motion

Mr. Farrell stated that we do not have a form on warrant articles for petitioners. He stated he will work with the Town Clerk as she interfaces with the petitioner and will bring back next meeting.

The motion was approved by a unanimous vote.

Selectmen's Report

Financial Management Review from DoR for discussion

- *Define the Purpose of the Spring Annual and Fall Town Meetings*

Mr. Egenberg stated Mr. Farrell has some information and will have at next meeting. Mr. Farrell stated that in the BoS handbook in Chapter 4 answers some issues. He stated in research of other towns he explained the different policies. DoR likes to see only financial issues at the ATM and he stated in our case we have the issue of a quorum at both ATM and STM. He stated that we may not want to have a habit of financial issues at a STM but if needed then we can.

Discussion on a SoP or a Bylaw. Mr. Trapani stated a bylaw with an allowance for special circumstances. Board asked Mr. Farrell to draft some language for the board.

Appointments & Approvals

License Renewals to expire December 31, 2015:

- *Class II-Used Car Sales: Georgetown Auto Repair and Sales, Inc.*

Mr. Smith moved to approve the *Class II-Used Car Sales* license for *Georgetown Auto Repair and Sales, Inc.* to expire **December 31, 2015. Mr. Trapani seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

- *Second Hand Shop: Sedler's Antiques*

Mr. Trapani moved to approve the *Second Hand Shop* license for *Sedler's Antiques* to expire **December 31, 2015. Mr. Smith seconded the motion and the motion was approved by a unanimous vote.**

ITEMS NOT REASONABLY ANTICIPATED BY THE CHAIR 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE MEETING

Mr. Fowler stated that he is hearing that joint maintenance/custodial services with the Schools is being discussed and he is not hearing it here. Mr. Farrell updated the board on the meetings he has had and stated that the custodial here at Town Hall is cost efficient with the company we use. He stated that we need joint maintenance at Town Hall. He stated that he has to work on a maintenance budget and they need a joint maintenance department. He stated that what has been discussed is that the Town would contribute to the School maintenance and they would supply staff. He stated that ideally they need to get a HVAC person as this is the highest maintenance cost.

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Next Meeting

Monday, January 26, 2015 at 6:30PM, 3rd floor meeting room, Town Hall

Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:50PM.

Minutes transcribed by J. Pantano.

Minutes approved January 26, 2015.