

Agenda Tuesday February 3, 2015

Bette Gorski, Chair

William Dunn

Joseph D'Amore

Denise Dembkoski, Finance Director

WARRANTS:

PW # 15-31 \$ 142,948.60 MOTION for: Dunn SECOND : D'Amore
VOTED for ABSTAIN: Gorski

DW # 15-29 A \$ 24,600.18 MOTION for: Dunn SECOND : D'Amore
VOTED for : Unanimous

BW # 15-31 & 15-31 AA \$ 2,217, 779.89 MOTION for: Dunn SECOND: D'Amore
VOTED for: Unanimous

APPOINTMENTS & VOTES TAKEN:

Appointment: Officer Joshua Sindoni as full-time police officer at a rate of \$980.71 per week.
Presented: Chief Robert Kirmeliwicz reviewed process in details iterating that 7 candidates submitted applications and that two front runners were in a competitive position (Greg Pekarski-candidate and Joshua Sindoni- candidate) Process included written examination , interview with area police chiefs, police officers formed as a board and interview with Police Chief and Deputy Jeffrey Gillen . 1 year probationary appointment as is customarily offered was made.

MOTION to Appoint: Dunn SECOND : D'Amore VOTE in favor : Unanimous

Appointment of till time Highway Senior Laborer, Laurence S. White , 39 Rollins Street Groveland, MA

MOTION to Appoint: Dunn SECOND: D'Amore VOTE in favor: Unanimous

VOTES OF THE BOARD

Vote to dispose of old Fire Department Turnout Gear and old 32 “

MOTION for : Dunn SECOND: D’Amore VOTE in favor: Unanimous

Acceptance of Traffic Light and Streetlights at Bates Bridge contingent on Board receiving schematics – needed for emergencies and management

MOTION for : Dunn SECOND: D’Amore VOTE in favor: Unanimous

Vote to charge Alex Johnson with task to formulate Center Street Greenway Planning Committee

Purpose to develop an advisory committee with special charge from Board of Selectman to study and make recommendations for open space, recreational, developmental and commercial use of Bussing Property (aka Strawberry Fields) recently acquired by the town . 16 members to be formed with representative board/ commission members , “at –large” members and Finance Director as “ex-officio” . Consensus to meet in late March and April with nominations so that Board can secure appointments and deliver a charge.

MOTION for : D’Amore SECOND: Dunn: VOTE in favor: Unanimous

Mike Dempsey presented Wetland By Law proposed changes; see attached. Modifications requested prior to vote:

- Board directed non-criminal enforcement orders are allowed. Strike as originally proposed : Individual Commission members can act independently
- Conservation permitting and appeal processes to be applied to requests made for building structures within 200 foot buffer zones of all streams, brooks, creeks and only if such waterways are clearly delineated as “perennial”

MOTION for with contingency of above modifications to be evidence in final Warrant Article:

Dunn:

SECOND: D’Amore

VOTE in favor: Unanimous

Acceptance requirement by Board for the following resignations

- Resignation of Officer Greg Pekarski from the Police Department effective February 1, 2013

- Resignation of Highway Department employee Jonathan Riopelle effective January 11, 2015
- Resignation of Library Trustee, Heidi Snyder, effective January 15, 2015

MOTION for acceptance of resignations: Dunn SECOND: D'Amore VOTE for :
Unanimous

Acceptance of minutes from December 29, 2015 meeting

Amended with attachment herein of rebuttal statement from Chair Gorski , directed to Selectman D'Amore

MOTION for acceptance with amendment and attached letter from Chair Gorski: DUNN SECOND:
D'Amore Vote for: Unanimous

DISCUSSION ITEMS- NO VOTES TAKEN

Police Deputy Jeff Gillen , Emergency Management Director presented protocols completed , procedures adhered to and conditions experienced regarding Emergency Management pertaining to recent Blizzard: Engagement was summarized with Highway Dept, Light Department, Municipal Dept Heads, Superintendent of Schools, Salvation Army Trinity Ambulance, Council on Aging (COA) , American Red Cross, MEMA. Updates provided by e mail and disseminated by Finance Director to all boards/ commissions/ departments. Consensus : Adherence to directives , Governor's Executive order and experience of departments was a largely incident-free. Protocols are intact and preparedness of the town was exemplary. The general public also contributed with compliance to conditions established by authorities .

Capital Budget and 5 Year Capital Plan .

Consensus established by Board to set an initial dollar value of \$300,000 for Fire / Ladder Truck line item to be implemented for FY 2016. Board iterated support of CIC and welcomes comment and input from Finance Committee. However, at this time the Board established a consensus opinion- without vote- to accept the Capital Improvement Committee 5 year plan but to modify the line item for the Fire/ Ladder truck FROM : \$850,000 TO : \$300,000 , with possible adjustments made forward based on opportunities for available equipment on the market.

Board of Selectman Policies:

Selectman D'Amore offered the following DRAFT versions of policy with request made for Board members to review them, prepare for discussion of them on February 9th , make modifications as desired and to vote on final version on February 23rd

- Resident / Public Comment Policy
- Membership of Board and Commissions By Selectman
- Attendance at Public Meetings By Board of Selectman

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Chair determined and advised by discretion that an Executive Session was warranted regarding the purchase, exchange, lease and valuation of real property (299/301 Main Street) and that otherwise discussion in Open Meeting would be detrimental on the negotiating position of the town. A VOTE WAS TAKEN.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S TIME

- Updated on FY 2016. Concern expressed by Board members that un-named departments, commissions and board have exceeded deadline to comply to Finance Director's directive to complete budgetary request form(s)
- Development of new hires/ CORI requirements to include screenings for physical and drug and alcohol- details forthcoming at upcoming meetings
- Development of Code of Conduct & Social Networking Policies- details forthcoming at upcoming meetings
- Budgetary issues: A) \$10,000 or more required to adequately budget for cemetery commission operations . B) restructure cemetery commission operations by eliminating long-standing and non-compliant practice of retaining revenues for deployment to cover operational expenses. C) several departments & commissions are expected to report needs and budgetary increases for both raises (some to exceed 2.5%) and additional staffing. D) liability and title insurance costs exceed budgetary expectations previously made and were not factored in adequately when Town Meeting was presented with costs for acquisition of Mattingly and Angelini property – approximately \$20,000 in unanticipated costs incurred. E) Underfunded liabilities exist including- but not limited to the following: E 1) 9-11% underfunded portion of GIC from Commonwealth E2) #1,200 per month for new veteran which impacts both FY 2015 and FY 2016.

SELECTMAN'S TIME

Chair Gorski presented need for discussion with Police Department to address the department's readiness to cope with socially driven issues regarding drug abuse . Specifically, exploratory discussions regarding use of Narcan and other measures to protect citizens is warranted. Selectman D'Amore expressed concern of monetary / budgetary requirements. Selectman Dunn concurred and general consensus of the Board is to engage directly with Chief of Policy and/ or Deputy to explore options and costs

Selectman D'Amore updated Board of Cable / TV technical issues; specifically - failure of audio attributable to last BOS meeting was related to vendor to support new equipment purchase – Hewlett Packard- committed an error in re-wiring equipment during the process of transporting and retrofitting Central Fire Station with older equipment. The matter is expected to be fully resolved and the town's technician Chris Liquori was fully appraised and enabled with procedural responses to ensure the problem will not be repeated going forward.

Selectman D'Amore complimented Chair Gorski for her leadership and demeanor in engaging with the Police Department and inviting the department's leadership in light of publicly disclosed ethics case and dispute with Police Department Chief and Deputy .

Selectman Dunn; complimented Highway Department and offered details of work completed in addressing conditions during the Blizzard

CORRESPONDENCE

Summarized by Agenda : Attached

Prepared and Submitted by Selectman Joe D'Amore.

Minutes Unanimously Approved on March 9, 2015