

Meeting convened at 6:30 pm, Room 203, Hadley Town Hall

Present: Acting Chair Joyce Chunglo, Daniel Dudkiewicz, David Moskin, Brian West **Absent:** Gloria DiFulvio

Also in Attendance: David Nixon (Town Administrator); Peg Jekanowski, (Administrative Assistant); Richard Trueswell (TV-5); John S. Mieczkowski, Sr., Willy Danylieko; Linda Sanderson (Finance Committee; Molly Keegan, Linda Dunlavy (School Committee); Ben Storrow, Daily Hampshire Gazette

<u>Call to Order</u>: Meeting called to order at 6:30 pm by Acting Chair Chunglo.

Ms. Chunglo read a note of thanks to the Hadley Fire & Police Department from the Hampshire County Farm Bureau.

New Business

1. MMAAB Inc. dba Carmelina's

The Board reviewed applications from MMAAB Inc. regarding Carmelina's on the Commons at 96 Russell Street. *Brian West made a motion, seconded by Dan Dudkiewicz, to approve the following:*

- a. Petition to change dba from Carmelina's to Alina's Ristorante
- b. Application for Common Victualer License for Alina's Ristorante
- c. Application for Entertainment License for Alina's Ristorante

Motion was approved by a vote of 3-0-0.

Other: Joyce Chunglo read an announcement from the Police log that a bear has been seen in the location of Rocky Hill Road and North Maple Street. It does not seem to fear people, so do not leave out any garbage or bird feeders out, nor try to take pictures.

Old Business

1. Special Town Meeting: Budget Discussion

The Board reviewed the current school revenue/expenses as presented by Molly Keegan and Linda Dunlavy of the School Committee. Discussion ensued regarding the request from the school in the spring of 2012 for \$5.8 million for the school budget. At that time the Town approved \$5.6 million, with the understanding that schools would be given first consideration of Free Cash above and beyond capital stabilization. Ms. Keegan stated that the School Committee was concerned that schools had not been notified that there was Free Cash prior to the Fall Town Meeting.

School's budget figures were reviewed for FY 2012 compared to 2013. Discussion ensued regarding school choice funds and the use of these funds in operational funds. The school stressed that they are still in the discovery phase relative to the original budget, and are still looking for ways to save. They are focusing on operational effectiveness and efficiency. Ms. Keegan stated that they (School Committee) are in front of the Board today as "a commitment was made and it is not being adhered to."

Discussion ensued regarding budget numbers and impact of school choice on the budget. Linda Dunlavy stated that using incoming school choice to fund operations may be okay, the problem is when you use more than what is coming in...never use reserves to fund operating.

Ms. Keegan reiterated that the School Committee was looking for follow through on what the commitment that was made in the spring and that they are looking for more money. Their concern was that other town departments were asked to back fill departments, and the same consideration was not offered the school department. The Board stated that they did not have the certified free cash number until last week.



Ms. Keegan stated that she has been hearing around town that grant money has been lost. She stated that grants received are in order with other schools, these grants are formula driven, and may fluctuate based on things such as population. In the past the government offered one time stimulus money but these funds have disappeared across the board, as they were one time grants.

Ms. Keegan questioned whether the School department received the same consideration as other departments, and asked if other departments' budgets had been increased. Ongoing discussion of budget adjustments ensued.

David Moskin made a motion, seconded by Brian West, to add \$100,000.00 from Free Cash to the School Department's Operating Budget. Motion passed by a vote of 4-0-0.

Other: Concerns about the Russell School and a recent article about safety concerns that appeared in the Daily Hampshire Gazette were raised; the Board is going to address these concerns at a dedicated meeting to be scheduled for the near future.

Adjournment

At 8:10 pm Brian West made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Dan Dudkiewicz, and passed 4-0-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Margaret J. Jekanowski Administrative Assistant