Town of Hadley Select Board October 1, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Pursuant to notice duly filed with the Town Clerk, a meeting of the Select Board was held at 6:00 pm in Room 203, Hadley Town Hall.

Present were: Guilford Mooring, Chair; Joyce Chunglo, Clerk; Molly Keegan, John Waskiewicz and Brian West who came at 7:00 pm.

Also present were David Nixon, Town Administrator, Linda Sanderson (FinCom), Howard Koski (FinCom) and Frank Aquadro (FinCom)

Mr. Mooring called the meeting to order and announced that it is being recorded.

Tri Board:

<u>1. OPEB – Continued discussion of Other Post-Employment Benefits funding options.</u> Board feels it would help to have Dory Huard come in to speak about OPEB. She takes care of our investment policy and can help explain OPEB (i.e. how funds are invested and the contributions needed to fund this option). Howard also thinks it would be helpful to have Elmore Parker, the actuary to also come in to explain how this is calculated. Will set this up for a meeting in November.

2. 5 Year Budget. Discussion of projections and report of the subcommittee.

The 5 year budget has been updated to show the following:

General:

1. Free Cash and other similar monies have been presented as Transfers from Other Available Funds (Not "revenue") on the summary sheet.

2. The capital stabilization transfer is shown as a separate transfer of Free Cash, equivalent to the meals tax income. (Meals tax income has been revised as per the vote of the Select Board).

3. The most recent State Aid figures have been updated. NB: This is listed both as revenue and as expense.

4. The debt schedule has been updated to reflect the new borrowing. NB: This is listed both as revenue and an expense.

5. FY17 begins the first of the transfers from the OPEB Trust to cover retiree health insurance costs. <u>Revenue:</u>

1. Select Board revenue has been revised to show a new revenue stream of \$18,000 annual rental of the Public Safety Complex tower.

Expense:

1. The Select Board's budget has been amended to reflect a new hire.

2. The Police Department budget has been updated to reflect the new salary range approved by the Select Board for the future chief of police.

3. The Sewer budget has been updated to reflect the new sewer debt.

4. Benefits have been updated to show the revised OPEB figures.

3. Employee Breakdown by department. Discussion of staffing levels.

Looking at the employee breakdown, there is a strong desire to add staff to public safety. It is felt that police and fire are stretched thin. This may in part be due to call volume plus staffing levels not being in sync. Need to take a close look at this and hopefully the new chief can reign in the overtime. The police department is way beyond what its overtime pay should be. Keegan stated that a detailed analysis of this will be done to help us move forward. Sanderson stated it is necessary to demonstrate we have done all we can to tighten things up before looking for additional revenue.

Select Board:Approval of Minutes:August 27, 2014September 17,2014September 24, 2014Motion to approve all meeting minutes: ChungloSecond: KeeganVote: 5-0-0Approval of Warrants:14Z, 16, 16S, 27, 16A

Motion to approve all warrants: Chunglo Second: West Vote: 5-0-0

Appointment:

7:00 Kopelman and Paige, P.C. Ms. Lauren Goldberg and Mr. Joel Bard. Discussion of legal services. Kopelmand and Paige, P.C. has served as our Town Counsel for 25 years. They have a low cost hourly rate with high levels of experience. Their office is 98% municipal work representing 125 municipalities. There are 40 attorneys at Kopelman and Paige and each pursues an area of interest. They primarily deal with the Town Administrator but sometimes the Select Boar Chair. They rarely encounter situations where they have a conflict of interest. They often hold webinars or send out email blasts with important information. They also provide quick answers to questions with the expertise of their attorneys.

Old Business:

1. Special Town Meeting discussion continued.

a. Article 2 (Omnibus Budget 2015)

No changes to this article. Also decided that we would handle the OPEB at the Annual Town Meeting.

Motion to approve this article: ChungloSecond: KeeganVote: 4-0-1(Waskiewicz abstained).

b. Article 4 (Transfer to Stabilization)

To see if the Town will vote to transfer from Free Cash \$84,688 to the Stabilization Account, or take any action relative thereto.

Motion to leave money in Free Cash: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 5-0-0

c. Article 5 (Municipal Buildings Critical Needs)

Would like to table this article until the next meeting.

- d. Article 7 (Municipal Buildings Project Consultant)
- *Motion to recommend hiring a project consultant: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 5-0-0* e. Article 8 (Land Acquisition)
- Motion to alter the language of this article: Keegan Second: ChungloVote: 5-0-0f. Article 9 (North Hadley Village Hall repairs) Incorporate into #5?
- Motion to approve with amended amount of \$9895: Keegan Second: West Vote: 4-1-0 (Chunglo dissenting)
- g. Article 14 (Route 9 water lines) Capital Planning voted to defer this article to ATM.
- h. Article 15 (Middle Street easement)
- i. Article 16 (Private hydrant maintenance fees) Tabled until more information is received.

New Business:

1. Warrant for State Election. Signature required to post warrant for November 4th General Election. *Motion to approve the state election warrant as presented: Keegan* Second: West Vote: 5-0-0

2. Water and Sewer Abatement – Joseph and Michelle Boisvert – 6 Mt. Warner Rd.

This was an error on the town's part.

Motion to approve abatement for the Boisvert's: Chunglo Second: Keegan Vote: 4-0-1 (Waskiewicz abstained).

Announcements:

Chunglo announced this is the start of breast cancer awareness month so please wear pink and support the cause.

Chunglo also passed along condolences for the family of Megan Huckowicz who passed away on September 25th.

Motion to end regular scheduled Select Board Meeting: West Second: Keegan Vote: 5-0-0

Guilford states: As Chair of the Hadley Select Board I state that the Board has moved and seconded to enter into Executive Session and I state that the discussion of the matter in open session would have an adverse effect on the town of Hadley.

Roll Call Vote: Waskiewicz - Yes West - Yes Mooring - Yes Chunglo - Yes Keegan - Yes

Respectfully submitted,

Bridget S. Rodrigue