

PRESENT: Richard P. McDermott, Chairman; Larry M. Smith, Vice Chairman; Maryann Kasprzak, Selectwoman; Lori A. Ruest, Town Administrator; Susan H. Ayer, Secretary

BUDGET WORK SESSION: L. Ruest reported that Road Agent Richard Robinson is present to address the matter of an opportunity for the Town to obtain excess fill from the I-95 over Taylor River Bridge project at no cost to the Town. The questions at hand are: how much material, what type of projects is it used for and where would the material be stored. Suggestion was made to store it at the back area of the Gov. Weare Park parcel as well as some at the Brush Dump; immediately some could be placed on Brown Road to fill locations lacking adequate road shoulder area. The contractor for the DOT will truck and deliver the material at no cost to the Town because it is easier and cheaper for them to bring it to designated locations in Town rather than to transport it elsewhere.

The road shoulder areas of Brown Road were identified as a first priority. The Road Agent said that the total amount available is 5,000 yards and it was agreed that the Town should make use of as much of the material as possible.

The Road Agent said that there is some space available for storage at the Brush Dump, but his concern is that it would ultimately need to be moved at a cost at some point. Discussion centered on a parking lot that could be accessed from both the Gov. Weare Park and the Hampton Falls Baptist Church. D. Robinson said the fill in question would be suitable for a project such as the sub-base of a parking lot. To complete the parking lot, a top coat of DOT gravel would be needed and purchased at a later time. The no-cost material would be delivered over three years.

There was a lengthy discussion of areas where the fill might be used, the nature of the material, its ability to stand up to moisture and the need to take down trees to make room for the creation of a parking lot.

The Board agreed to take enough fill in the first year to use for areas of road shoulders on Brown Road and store an amount that can be accommodated at the Brush Dump. Plans for a parking lot were referred to the Town Improvement Committee. L. Smith said he felt the plan for a parking area needs to be developed further before any decisions are made.

TAX RATE PAPERWORK: The Board reviewed the unofficial preliminary 2015 tax rate information from the Department of Revenue Administration in conjunction with a number of scenarios with regard to applying an overlay amount to reduce the tax rate.

An amount of \$215,000 was used as overlay leaving an Unassigned Fund balance of \$427,476 or 4.16% of General Operating Expenditures (less than the 5% recommended by the Department of Revenue Administration).

DRAFT WARRANT: The Board reviewed the draft warrant outlining items resulting from the Capital Improvement Plan Committee's review. The Capital Improvement Plan for 2016-2021 is scheduled to be presented to the Board of Selectmen at its November 4 meeting. Changes may

result after this presentation. Once all information is available, the draft warrant will be revised for additional consideration of the Board.

L. Ruest will begin working on default budget information as well as a spreadsheet outlining the increases and decreases in budget lines over the previous year and other budget documents prepared for the upcoming budget hearing and deliberative session.

SALARY PAY PLAN: The draft 2015 Salary Pay Plan was reviewed. The Board acknowledged that there remains a need to address the steps for certain employee positions and determined that a Cost of Living Adjustment would not be included for 2016. It was requested that the CPI increase of .3% for September 2015 be kept in mind when considering a Cost of Living Adjustment for 2017.

MOTION: To go into non-public session at 11:15 a.m. in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Personnel,

**MOTION: L. M. SMITH
SECOND: M. KASPRZAK
UNANIMOUS**

MOTION: To seal the minutes of the non-public session, go out of nonpublic session at 11:30 a.m. and adjourn.

**MOTION: L. M. SMITH
SECOND: M. KASPRZAK
UNANIMOUS**