

Official

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES Regular Meeting Wednesday, December 15, 2010

CALL TO ORDER: Acting Chair Gorton called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRESENT: David Boutin, James Gorton, Vincent Lembo, Jr., James Levesque, George Longfellow, Daniel Paradis, Michael Pischetola, Nancy VanScoy, Chairman William Gahara (excused) and Carol Granfield (Town Administrator)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

December 1, 2010 – *G. Longfellow moved to approve the December 1, 2010 minutes as amended. Motion seconded by D. Boutin.*

G. Longfellow stated he did not mean to vote “no” on a motion made. He requested for the vote to be rescinded and vote again.

Motion carried unanimously.

N. VanScoy moved to rescind the vote to accept the Town Administrator's report to the Council, which indicated that no illegal meeting was held and the Police Commission did not violate the law. Motion seconded by D. Boutin. Motion carried unanimously.

N. VanScoy moved to accept the Town Administrator's report to the Council, which indicated that no illegal meeting was held and the Police Commission did not violate the law. Motion seconded by D. Boutin. Motion carried unanimously.

December 1, 2010 Non-Public – *D. Boutin moved to approve the December 1, 2010 non-public minutes. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy. Motion carried unanimously.*

NOMINATIONS/APPOINTMENTS

Available Board Positions

Heritage Commission – Alternate Member, exp. 6/2012

Town Hall Preservation Committee

Conservation Commission Council Representative

Economic Development Committee

The Economic Development Committee submitted a slate of candidates for appointment. There is an issue with membership as some members are non-residents and based on the Town Charter, non-residents cannot be appointed to the EDC. A charter amendment is needed in order to allow non-residents to serve as members.

Bill Sirak recommended a process of appointing new members on an annual basis. He also recommended giving some consideration to non-resident business owners to be able to serve on the committee as advisors until the charter is amended.

D. Boutin nominated Debra Campbell, John Gryval, Mark Sanborn and David John Scarpetti as members.

D. Boutin nominated Andy Lynch, Nicholas Mercier and Mike Reed as advisory members.

RECOGNITION

Adam Gianunzio, Operation Snow Angel

The Council presented an "Outstanding Service Award" to Mr. Gianunzio for starting a charity organization that gives new jackets to needy children in Hooksett. Mr. Gianunzio raised money with a golf charity tournament and two 5K road races.

SCHEDULED APPOINTMENTS

Economic Development Committee Update

Bill Sirak thanked past members who served on the committee, Alden Beauchemin, Steve Kozzyniowski, Keith Moon, Jack Dowd and former Town Council Representative, Paul Loiselle. He also thanked the staff, Carol Granfield, Jo Ann Duffy and Evelyn Horn. He gave an update of current developments in Town. The board will continue its efforts in exploring possible developments for Exit 11.

D. Boutin thanked Bill Sirak and all committee members for all their diligent work.

NEW BUSINESS

CIP

Total CIP request for this year is \$875,550.

Robert Duhaime, CIP Chair stated the numbers that were approved last year had changed this year. No school requests for this year but will be getting requests for the next six years. He explained CIP looks at the projects from a planning point of view. Numbers do not concern CIP. *It bridges the gap between planning and spending.* They are concerned about the Master Plan and try to reach that goal while balancing the tax rate over a six year period.

Marc Miville, CIP member added that CIP is charged by the Town Charter to examine a plan and be able to present a viable plan for six years.

New requests for this year include requests from the School District and Future Land Purchase for Conservation. Land purchases were paid out of Conservation Funds and did not go through CIP.

N. VanScoy stated there were discussions relating to changing CIP's scope of time.

The Beaubesne Drainage project was removed from the plan. The committee decided to look at the infrastructure need as a town-wide basis and not concentrated on a particular location. The Town Council could add the item back.

The CIP use the Master Plan as a tool and a guide for planning to back up the CIP requests. R. Duhaime stressed that the Master Plan needs to be updated on a regular basis.

OLD BUSINESS

Budget

C. Granfield stated the Council provided a budget guidance of a 1% budget reduction for all departments to consider. The departments presented their "bare-bones" budget. Some departments have expressed concerns with the Council further reducing the budget. C. Granfield stated this somewhat sends the wrong message to all departments.

D. Boutin suggested cutting all Training and Dues line items across the board to accommodate non-union employees merit raises. Information on Training & Dues was provided to the Council.

Building

Overall increase of \$590. Building revenue is down. Vacation coverage was reduced.

Discussion regarding Professional Service line. Peter Rowell, Code Enforcement Officer explained this is for items beyond the CEO's capabilities.

G. Longfellow moved to reduce the Training & Dues by \$620 (20%). Motion seconded by D. Boutin.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | Yes | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 5-3 | <u>Motion carried.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to reduce Training & Dues (ZBA) by \$120 (20%). Motion seconded by M. Pischetola.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 5-3 | <u>Motion carried.</u> |

M. Pischetola moved to remove the Mileage (ZBA) line item for \$1,500. Motion seconded by G. Longfellow.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | No | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 4-4 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

Discussion on board members' stipend/mileage. This subject will be revisited in the future.

D. Boutin moved to approve the budget in the amount of \$161,290. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Community Development

Overall reduction of \$17,904.

Jo Ann Duffy, Town Planner presented the budget and states she sharpened her pencil and came up with 5% reduction. This is a tight budget with no room for adjustments. Property Records Maintenance is actually going to be short for this year. This is for recording documents. The applicants pay for this but the department has to pay for it and the money is put back into the general funds to offset taxes.

N. VanScoy moved to increase the Property Records Maintenance line item by \$200. Motion seconded by D. Boutin. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Training & Dues line to \$1,160 (20%). Motion seconded by M. Pischetola.

Roll call vote

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|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | Yes | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | Yes | N. VanScoy | No | 7-1 | <u>Motion carried.</u> |

N. VanScoy moved to approve the total budget including Planning Board in the amount of \$197,674. Motion seconded by D. Paradis.

D. Paradis withdrew his second.

No second the motion dies.

D. Boutin moved to reduce Training to \$800 (20%). Motion seconded by J. Levesque.

Roll call vote

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|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | Yes | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | Yes | N. VanScoy | No | 7-1 | <u>Motion carried.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to approve the total budget in the amount of \$197,474. Motion seconded by M. Pischetola. Roll call carried unanimously.

Family Services

Joy Buzzell, Family Services Director presented the budget.

Discussion on the Town Welfare line item.

D. Boutin moved to increase Town Welfare to \$170,000. Motion seconded by G. Longfellow. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Training & Dues line to \$320 (20%). Motion seconded by J. Levesque. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Boutin moved to approve the total department budget in the amount of \$211,536. Motion seconded by M. Pischetola. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Tax Collector

Kimberly Blichmann presented the budget.

D. Boutin reduced Training & Dues line to \$400 (20%). Motion seconded by V. Lembo.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | No | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 4-4 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to approve the total department budget in the amount of \$232,652. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Roll call vote

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|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | Yes | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | No | | |
| J. Levesque | Yes | N. VanScoy | Yes | 7-1 | <u>Motion carried.</u> |

Town Clerk

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Training & Dues line to \$400 (20%). Motion seconded by V. Lembo.

Roll call vote

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----------|-------------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | Yes | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | abstained | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 4-3-1 <u>Motion carried.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to approve the total department budget of \$19,716. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy. Roll call vote carried. M. Pischetola abstained.

Administration

Increase of \$39,405.

Discussion Pension, Legal Fees, Contingency (previously, Unanticipated Expenses) and Economic Development.

\$6,000 Pension is for the retired firefighter's spouse the Council approved.

Legal Fees are mainly for ongoing legal issues with Planning and Zoning.

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Legal Services line to \$60,000. Motion seconded by M. Pischetola.

Roll call vote

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|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | No | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | Yes | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | Yes | 4-4 <u>Motion failed.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Economic Development line to \$1,500. Motion seconded by M. Pischetola. Motion carried unanimously.

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Farmer's Market line to zero. Motion seconded by G. Longfellow.

The money being requested is for start up costs. Farmer's Market should be self-sustaining next year.

Roll call vote

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|----------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | No | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | No | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 2-6 <u>Motion failed.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Amoskeag Rowing to zero. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Discussion on the matter ensued.

The motion and the second were withdrawn.

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Amoskeag Rowing to \$1. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Roll call vote

| | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | No | |
| J. Gorton | Yes | D. Paradis | Yes | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | Yes | |
| J. Levesque | Yes | N. VanScoy | Yes | 7-1 <u>Motion carried.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Volunteer Appreciation Night line to \$1. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | No | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | Yes | 4-4 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

G. Longfellow moved to increase the Old Home Day line to \$1,000. Motion seconded by J. Levesque.

D. Boutin suggested taking \$3,000 out of Legal and putting \$2,000 for Volunteers Appreciation Night line and \$1,000 for Old Home Day line.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----------|-------|-------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | No | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | Yes | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | No | | |
| J. Levesque | Yes | N. VanScoy | abstained | 5-2-1 | <u>Motion carried.</u> |

N. VanScoy moved to reduce the Legal Fees line to \$67,000 and increase Volunteers Appreciation Night to \$2,500. Motion seconded by D. Boutin.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----------------|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | (left the room) | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | Yes | 4-3 | <u>Motion carried</u> |

M. Pischetola moved to increase Farmer's Market by \$1,000. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|----|---------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | No | G. Longfellow | No | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | No | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 1-7 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Legal Fees line by \$2,000. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | No | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | No | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | Yes | 3-5 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Contingency line to \$3,000. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | No | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | Yes | 4-4 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to adopt the total department budget in the amount of \$929,763. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

D. Boutin requested for the Town Administrator to decide where to cut.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | No | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | No | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | No | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 1-7 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

M. Pischetola moved to adopt the total department budget in the amount of \$934,763. Motion seconded by G. Longfellow.

V. Lembo moved to amend to reduce the total department budget by \$1,080 to be taken out of the total Administration Training & Dues (20%). Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | Yes | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | No | | |
| J. Levesque | Yes | N. VanScoy | Yes | 7-1 | <u>Motion carried.</u> |

Roll call vote on the amended motion to adopt the total budget in the amount of \$933,683.

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|-------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | No | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | Yes | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | Yes | M. Pischetola | Yes | | |
| J. Levesque | Yes | N. VanScoy | Yes | 7-1 | <u>Motion carried.</u> |

Budget Committee

To be discussed on January 8th.

Cemetery Commission

To be discussed on January 8th.

Conservation Commission

Increase of \$4,036 due to recording secretary's salary. Blended overtime rate paid to an employee serving as the secretary.

Discussion on the Secretarial Services, Training & Dues and Scholarship line items.

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Training & Dues line by \$219 (20%). Motion seconded by N. VanScoy. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

D. Boutin moved to zero out the Scholarship line. Motion seconded by M. Pischetola.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|-----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | Yes | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | Yes | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | No | | |
| J. Levesque | Yes | N. VanScoy | No | 4-4 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

D. Boutin moved to reduce the Secretarial Services line to \$4,100. Motion seconded by N. VanScoy.

Roll call vote

| | | | | | |
|-------------|-----|---------------|----|-----|------------------------------|
| D. Boutin | Yes | G. Longfellow | No | | |
| J. Gorton | No | D. Paradis | No | | |
| V. Lembo | No | M. Pischetola | No | | |
| J. Levesque | No | N. VanScoy | No | 1-7 | <u>Motion failed.</u> |

D. moved to approve the total department budget in the amount of \$10,348. Motion seconded by G. Longfellow. Roll call vote carried unanimously.

Finance

To be discussed on January 8th.

Debt

To be discussed on January 8th.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

C. Granfield informed the Council of the following:

1. The Town's computer server will be switched on Friday, December 17th. Computers will be down all day. Notices were posted.
2. Closing on 21 Leonard Avenue was done. The Town no longer owns it.
3. The draft agreement on School Property Maintenance was sent to the School Board to be reviewed.
4. Street lights are being evaluated. The Town Hall Preservation Committee is not interested in receiving funds from street lights savings.

N. VanScoy explained the general consensus on the Town Hall Preservation Committee was not to have direct association with street lights being shut off for money to be used on preserving the old Town Hall. They felt it would be a mark against the committee in the public eye. They found the feedback to be negative. The committee is appreciative of the fact that the Council is looking for ways to fund the project.

D. Boutin stated the Council should continue pursuing the matter.

5. Budget Workshop will be held on Saturday, January 8, 2011.
6. Holiday decorations contest is on-going and will be judged on Friday, December 17th. There are 13 Town departments participating. The public was encouraged to view the decorations.

SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS

Planning Board

1. Manchester Sand & Gravel will be coming whether or not the Town would accept the land for the school.
2. Brox Industries presented a master plan for property development.

Budget Committee

The committee went over the School budget.

Police Commission

1. The commission met on December 7th. A motion was made to schedule the non-public meeting in January.
2. Discussion on the budget, vehicle maintenance and repair.
3. Reduction of fleet from 12 to 8.
4. Discussion on manifest items and secretarial situation.
5. There was discussion regarding packets distributed to the Council liaison.
6. E-mail accounts were set up for the Chief and the Executive Assistant.
7. They went into a non-public session after a motion was made to reinstate Officer Defina as the School Resource Officer.
8. Discussion on CIP items.
9. They will look into making caller ID available.
10. The commission met today at 11 am to finalize the budget.
11. The job description for the recording secretary was accepted.
12. Discussion on union negotiations, whether the Chief could be appointed as union negotiation representative.

PUBLIC INPUT

Todd Lizotte, 21 Post Road: The fact there was a vote taken with regards to sneaking a legislation to remove the Police Commission. Some level of reform is under way. The Council failed to articulate on the problem it's trying to solve. The Town needs some clarity on that. This creates uncertainty on the Police Commission. The Council missed that in 2009 there was a mass exodus of police officers. This year it died down. The department has reached an equilibrium. I'd like to commend Councilors Levesque and Lembo on their stance on keeping the recording secretaries on Conservation Commission and Budget Committee. I put value on the know-how.

Marc Miville, Budget Committee Chair: The Budget Committee's budget request increased this year because of the recording secretary. My thought about the corporate sponsorship is a great idea. Corporations have funds to do that. Perhaps have corporate funding for Farmer's Market. Regarding the vote to rescind RSA 4.12. The Council's vote, in my opinion translates to doubling down, on what is a flawed law when it was first adopted, making matters worse. The Council perhaps should further clarify the decision to rescind the statute. What has the current Police Commission done wrong to warrant this action? Please advise the voters so they can make an informed decision come May election.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Evelyn F. Horn
Administrative Assistant

Vincent F. Lembo, Jr.
Town Council Secretary