

Board members present: Chairman Cedarholm, Selectwoman Dennis and Selectman Bugbee

Others present: Joe Bassett, Bill Callen, Phil Stetson, Pat Barbour, Ron Pitkin, Larry Kindberg, Corinne George, Linda Kahn, Andy Lelio, Red and Judy MacDonald, John Tappan, Roger Rice, Laura Scheibel, Dick Karsens, Carla Wilson, Kimball Thompson, Randy Stevens, John Hubbard, Peg Dolan, Paul and Annie Gasowski, Jim and Lou Ann Griswold, Chief Dronsfield, Chief Nemet, Caren Rossi, Town Secretary Denise Duval and Town Administrator Julie Glover.

1. Chairman Cedarholm calls the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Chairman Cedarholm opens the Racetrack Public Hearing and welcomes a representative from the Racetrack to speak first.

Bill Callen, Racetrack General Manager, has a few things to point out from the last year. He believes they have come a long way in their communications with the Board regarding the things that they have accomplished at the Racetrack in the last year. They have worked very well with the upkeep at the track and repainted virtually everything. They caught up with all of the electrical pieces and other requirements. This year they will do the bleacher piece. Last year's schedule is basically the same as this year's schedule as far as types of shows running. The only thing different would be the Vehicle Control School. They ran 3 trial schools in September and October which were successful. There was no feedback from the public. The school is a driving school for police, first responders, etc. for teaching driving techniques and tactics. They use rental cars such as Toyotas and Fords. The schools are Monday through Thursday, 9 – 4:30 pm.

Chairman Cedarholm opens the Hearing up to public comment.

Andy Lelio asks what cars will be racing during the after season schedule. Mr. Callen indicates that these are the same cars as the ones that are run during a normal week. Mr. Callen keeps referring to last year's schedule as being the same when in fact things are named differently this year and that seems to be the confusing factor. Mr. Lelio is concerned with the increased number of Saturday and Sunday races. Last year there were 5 races on Saturday and most of the years prior to that there were 3. The opening and closing are typically held on Saturdays, but he is seeing and what makes him uncomfortable is a growth in the Saturday and Sunday racing in Lee. This has been proposed before in 2007, 2009 and 2010. The Boards at that time were firm in their belief that Saturday and Sunday racing was detrimental to most of the residents of Lee. Mr. Lelio asks that Board to remove all Saturday and Sunday races except the ACT Cup and the Oktoberfest weekends.

Bill Callen states that there is an agreement that the Racetrack will not use Saturdays and Sundays in June, July and August, but September is ok.

Ron Pitkin speaks in favor of letting the Racetrack use Saturdays and Sundays before or after June, July and August. Mr. Pitkin states that they only have x amount of dates available for a full year. We are only talking 3-4 Saturdays and if it is indeed permitted then he does not see a reason why the Board would be against approving it.

John Hubbard does not have an issue with the race dates; however, he has an issue with the school. He is afraid that they are going to just willy nilly pick weeks that they are going to keep expanding the school to include other vehicles. It sounds like they do not need to set dates or times for approval. He does not want to see an overall expansion of schools and noise. He does not want to open the door and give them carte blanche approval because they ran a few dates last fall and no one complained. He doubts the Board even knew it when it was happening. Mr. Callen points out that he used the directions from the Select Board when he scheduled the school and it was not done in a way to slip anything by the public. As far as the number of the schools are concerned, Mr. Callen will produce a schedule for the Board to approve.

Linda Kahn says that she only has so many dates in her summer. Friday nights they understand they cannot entertain outside due to the noise. The weekend days are when everyone can enjoy their property on the outside.

Chairman Cedarholm is scanning the Racetrack Ordinance trying to find reference to the schedule limiting Saturdays and Sundays to certain months. He asks Mr. Callen if it was an ordinance or an agreement. Mr. Callen believes it was an agreement with the Selectmen when there were concerns voiced in the past that they wouldn't use Saturdays and Sundays in June, July and August so that they wouldn't impact the prime months of the summertime. He is not sure if it was written in the ordinance or in the minutes, but this has been a guideline for the last 18 years that he has always gone by and worked around. Chairman Cedarholm is struggling to find even Fridays mentioned in the Ordinance. TA Glover and Chairman Cedarholm agree that the Ordinance does not limit the days of the week. There is discussion back and forth. The Racetrack is giving up the first two Fridays in May in exchange for a Saturday and Sunday in May and they also took away Memorial Day weekend so there is no racing scheduled on the holiday weekend. Fridays in September and October can be chilly and school is back in so it's tough for the families to go from school to the events at night. The Board agrees that there should be a compromise and moving two events from Saturday to Friday. Chairman Cedarholm suggests moving Saturday September 19th to Friday September 18th and moving Saturday September 26th to Friday September 25th. Bill Callen is fine with this.

Mr. Pitkin doesn't think they should lose any Saturdays. This is a money making day. They only get 23 racing days per year. They are always making improvements. They try to get the shows off as fast as they can. They are only asking for a few more Saturdays to maybe be more successful. Mr. Pitkin reminds the Board that the Racetrack has been there long before anyone in the room has been there and they care about their facility.

Mr. Callen wants to point out that their average show/run time has been reduced from last year. They are proud of their hard work to make this happen.

Chairman Cedarholm moves to accept the Lee USA Speedway's 2015 revised schedule with the following changes: Friday September 18th instead of Saturday September 19th and Friday September 25th instead of Saturday September 26th and grant them a license, subject to the conditions imposed by the Lee Racetrack Ordinance, including inspections by the Building Inspector, Fire Chief, Police Chief and submission of certificate of insurance to the Town Administrator. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

3. Chairman Cedarholm opens 3rd Budget Public Hearing.
4. Chairman Cedarholm opens the Budget Public Hearing up to public comment.

Ron Pitkin wants the total valuation for the Town of Lee and asks where he can find this. TA Glover states come to Town Hall. He asks if whether or not those people that were not sworn in to various elected or appointed position have taken care of this yet. TA informed the Board that two people came in and there is still one more that needs to come in. Mr. Pitkin asks if this has had any effect on any decisions or votes that have taken place. TA Glover says she is not sure. She would have to check with the individual Commissions to ask that question.

Selectman Bugbee states that the Town's valuation is \$418,878,532. The State's valuation is \$412,463,532. They do not include utilities.

TA Glover informs the Board that the Transfer Station Manager will be requesting an additional \$2000 for disposal fees.

Chairman Cedarholm moves to close the Public Hearing. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

5. FY16 Budget Discussion

TA Glover goes through the Proposed Budget item by item.

4130 – Selectmen: Department Total Request is \$130,140.51. No changes.

4140 – W1 – Elections & Registrations/Moderator Wages: Department Line Request + \$240. Department Total is \$9800.

4141 – Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Department Total Request is \$85273.34. No changes.

4150 – Financial Administration: Department Total Request is \$93,116.00. No changes.

4151 – 40 Information Technology/Computer Hardware: Department Line Request \$18,000. Chairman Cedarholm proposes \$3000 and adding this to CIP for next year. Chairman Cedarholm acknowledges that the CH 13 system is substandard. The Board could decide to do something later in the year with funds that are left over. The Board agrees.

4151 – 14 Information Technology/Training: Department Line Request is \$1000. Selectman Bugbee proposes cutting this completely. The Board agrees. Department Total Request is now \$76,900.

4152 – Property Valuation: Department Total Request is \$30,600. No changes.

4153 – Legal Expenses: Department Total Request is \$17,000 and to move \$25,000 to P&Z.

4155 – 42 Personnel Administration/Group I Retirement: This increase is due to the increase in ancillary costs for the proposed new full-time police officer and fire fighter. Health insurance premiums have gone down slightly. Chairman Cedarholm does not object to either addition. All of these include the full-time position for maintenance and transfer station position which equals \$24,000 for health insurance and \$2810 for retirement costs.

4155 – W1 Personnel Administration/Bonus: Selectman Bugbee wants to remove this. Selectwoman Dennis agrees. It is taken out. Chairman Cedarholm indicates that it is a great idea, but budgeting for it is a challenge. The Contingency Fund would be used in the future. Department Total Request is \$779,087.

4191 – 42 Planning & Zoning/Legal Fees: Proposed addition of \$25,000 to the \$5000 equals a total of \$30,000.

4191 – WS Planning & Zoning/Building Inspector: Caren Rossi was asked by the Board for further information from the developers regarding their building plans and schedule. The subdivision on Hayes Road would like to build 5-6 homes each year. The subdivision on Kelsey Road would like to build 7 homes this year and 6 next year. Walter Cheney who submitted for a 36 lot subdivision, would like to build 6 homes per year. This subdivision has just been submitted.

Ms. Rossi would like to see this line item stay at \$31,200. Currently the Building Inspector is averaging 16 hrs per week with just what is going on now. Chairman Cedarholm suggests leaving it at the \$31,200 as well. Selectman Bugbee disagrees. He wants to see it at \$25,000 and if the need comes then find the funds from someplace else.

Ms. Rossi suggests getting the \$2000 for the EMD position and put that into the building inspector line item. Selectman Bugbee would be amenable to move that \$2000 into the building inspector line to make it \$27,000. Chairman Cedarholm proposes \$28,000. Selectman Bugbee is ok with this.

Department Total Request is \$135,408.03.

4194 – W2 Government Buildings/Janitor Assistant: There is back and forth discussion amongst the Board regarding giving the part-timers more money per hour. Selectman Bugbee asks Roger Rice to speak on the subject. Mr. Rice states that from the NRRA meetings he's coming up with people that have similar wages some towns are around the twelve. He had a flat off the cuff from he thinks it was Merrimack she said she pays \$16 in order to get good people there. He further says certainly environment for them to work in especially this time of year is very uncomfortable and sometimes in July and August although you are out of the sun it is still uncomfortable. He says that they have been fortunate with staff. They got no answer to ads that they ran but with a little luck and word of mouth they came up with somebody that walked in and then they had a person who came back so the problem is usually these people have other jobs. Right now they are not desperate but the pay of \$12ish is less than what it should be when they are getting no benefits. Across the country there are a lot of companies and for that matter municipalities that are cutting the benefits and having people work two and three part-time jobs. He felt good about Lee stepping up to the plate and willing to spend the money to give benefits to a person because that's what people need that are out there earning a living and having a family. He thinks the combined position is a good idea. Mr. Rice states that he is also

a tax payer in Lee. If we end up saving money by not paying benefits but pay more to the part-time people then he has a feeling that they would be able from what he sees and knows of the people that he has and those that are out looking at the job for custodial he thinks he would have to say as a taxpayer he would vote towards the pay increase for part-time people and not maybe go for that full-time position. But it really would be a good thing for town employees to have one more person to have the benefits.

Selectwoman Dennis agrees with Selectman Bugbee that \$12 is not a lot of money; however, she does not think they are in a position at this point to be raising part-time pay. She states that in light of the police officer and fire fighter full-time positions, they have other things that are probably a little more important right now. She suggests putting this subject on a future agenda to discuss further. They agree to leave line 4194 – W2 at \$12,500.

Department Total Request is \$87,730.96. No changes.

4195 – 09 Cemetery/Office Supplies: Department Line Request is increased to \$800. They are looking to buy a fire proof filing cabinet. Department Total Request is \$13,114.

4196 – 42 b Insurance/Insurance Deductible: Department Line Request is \$2000. Selectman Bugbee wants to reduce or zero this item out. 2nd time around Chairman Cedarholm agrees. Department Total Request is now \$92,078.

4199 – Other General Government has been eliminated.

4210 – 09 Police Department/Supplies: Department Line Request says \$4000 but can stay at \$2500. Department Total Request is now \$604,271.45.

4211 – 41 Dispatch Center/Strafford County Dispatch: Agency Line Request says \$7065 but it should read \$6712. Department Total Request is now \$16,712.

4215 – Ambulance: Agency Line Total has increased to \$20,179.

4220 – W9 Fire Department/Incentive Pay: Department Line Request is \$26,000 to cover Monday – Friday 6pm – 6am 52 weeks a year instead of just midnight – 6am.

4220 – 42 Fire Department/Personal Protective Equipment: Department Line Request is increasing from \$10,000 to \$20,000. NFPA requires the replacement of equipment after 10 years regardless of its condition. This item is not in the CIP because it does not meet the requirement of costing at least \$5000 per item.

Selectwoman Dennis suggests reducing 4220 – W9 to \$23,000. The incentive pay has been effective but it does create a 9% increase in their overall budget. Chairman Cedarholm suggests starting at 8pm instead of 6pm. Selectman Bugbee does not want to agree to this at this time. Not his first choice. 2nd time around Selectman Bugbee wants to leave at \$26,000. Selectwoman Dennis wants to reduce to \$23,000 and Chairman Cedarholm agrees. Department Total Request is now \$336,227.20.

4290 – W1 Emergency Management/Emergency Management Wages: Department Line Request is a \$2000 stipend by the ABC as opposed to the \$1000 hourly budget Request by the Department. Caren Rossi makes a suggestion as the EM Assistant. She suggests that the Director and herself split it and make them stipends as opposed to hourly. The Board agrees to a \$500 stipend to be paid to each the EM Director and Assistant. Department Total Request remains at \$7000.

4311 – 44 Highway Department/Paving & Asphalt Products: Department Line Request is increasing from \$170,000 to \$190,000. Randy Stevens states that they are behind in the paving plan and he would like to get caught up. Mr. Stevens is willing to give back \$20,000 from this line item. Department Total Request is \$483,603.08.

4321 – Transfer Station: No changes. Department Total Request is \$162,445.54.

4324 – 40 Solid Waste Disposal/MSW & Bulky: Department Line Request is \$90,000. Mr. Rice had entered an amount based on a lower cost from Lamprey and seeing what should happen according to Mr. Rice he made a small decrease in the budget. Mr. Rice fears he may not get the savings he was hoping for. Chairman Cedarholm asks Mr. Rice if he is asking for an increase from \$90,000 to \$92,000. This is acceptable with the Board. Department Total Request is \$148,600.

The part-time wages remain the same.

4414 – Animal Control. No changes. Department Total Request is \$1650.

4415 – Public Health Agcy & Hospitals. No changes. Department Total Request is \$10,791.

4441 – W1 General Assistance/Welfare Officer Salary: Department Line Request is \$8,000. Chairman Cedarholm recommends reducing this to \$5000. Department Total Request \$5600.

4442 – Direct Welfare Assistance. No changes. Department Line Request is \$17,500.

4444 – Intergovernmental Agencies. No changes. Department Line Request is \$3624.80.

4445 – Private Public Assistance Facilities: Department Line Request for American Red Cross is \$1962.00. TA Glover previously asked the Red Cross for an explanation for the requested amount of \$1962 but did not receive one. The ABC recommends \$500. The Board agrees with the \$500. Department Total Request is now \$4000.

4520 – Parks & Recreation: Department Line Item (Fair) is zeroed out. It is anticipated that the Lee Fair Committee will donate funds to the Town Lee Fair Trust Fund once it is created. Department Line Total is \$30,800.

Chairman Cedarholm calls for a 5 minute break before the Library budget discussion.

Chairman Cedarholm calls the meeting back to order at 8:29pm.

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4550 – S1 Library/Library Director Salary: Department Line Request is increasing from \$50,430.84 to \$55,057.60.

4550 – Library Expenses Paid by Town Administrator/Ancillary Payroll Expenses: Department Line Request is increasing from \$26,649.64 to \$46,900.00. 2nd time around Selectman Bugbee supports increasing the position to full-time status.

Selectwoman Dennis repeats what she has said in the past and that is that is does not sound as though this increase of 2 hours was specific to services to the community vs. the need for retirement benefits. She states that the cost of these 2 hours annually does not balance out real well with the services that the community is going to receive.

Peg Dolan speaks on behalf of increasing the hours for this position and states that the 2 hours will contribute a lot to the Town and benefit the Library.

Chairman Cedarholm asks Ms. Dolan if this person is interested in being the Director. Ms. Dolan says no. Chairman Cedarholm asks if the position has been offered to her and it has not.

Katrinka Pellecchia states that the person in this position has been here for 20 years and has done a really good job. This is a way to reward someone who has served the Town loyally and faithfully for 20 years and say thank you.

4619 – Conservation Commission: Department Line Request is \$4050.

4912 – Heritage Commission: Department Line Request is \$27,700. ABC recommendation is to reduce to \$17,700. Chairman Cedarholm proposes \$10,000 in the Heritage Commission Line and set \$7700 as a fundraising goal. Selectwoman Dennis agrees. Selectman Bugbee believes that the Board needs to distribute the money into each group.

TA Glover suggests going back through and checking all the changes and totals. Town Secretary adds any Department Line Request totals that are missing.

Chairman Cedarholm states that with keeping the \$46,900 in the Library's Ancillary Payroll Expenses, the total budget increase is 3%.

Chairman Cedarholm agrees with Selectman Bugbee and suggests leaving the request at \$46,900. The Total is \$3,773,870.03. This does not include any of the Warrants.

WARRANTS

Articles 1 – Articles 6: Cannot be changed.

Article 7 – (Library Bond) - The Trustees have requested to reduce the amount coming from the Library Capital Reserve Fund from \$80,000 to \$60,000. Chairman Cedarholm would recommend adding the word 'former' between aka and Bricker. TA Glover informs that Bond Counsel at Divine Millimet and Terry Knowles both state that the sentence "No construction shall begin until all funds have been secured from the sources indicated" could be problematic.

They suggest re-writing or eliminating. TA Glover reiterates that this warrant is requesting the authority to go out and get a bond. Once the authority is granted it remains solely with the Board of Selectmen to determine how and when the bond funds are issued. Therefore the sentence relative to construction may not be necessary because the authority lies within the Board of Selectmen. In other words if the foundation has not raised enough funds then the Board wouldn't secure the bond. Annie Gasowski and Lou Ann Griswold both state that would like to see this sentence taken out. There is discussion back and forth regarding this sentence. Chairman Cedarholm proposes the following sentence: "No construction shall begin until the balance of funds required to complete the project is raised through private donations, in-kind contributions and grants." Also, strike the word "fundraising" from the previous sentence in the warrant. The Select Board does not recommend this warrant article. Selectman Bugbee, seconds.

Selectman Bugbee proposes a friendly motion to add the language to the warrant article if the bond funds are received in FY16: "and in addition to raise and appropriate the sum of \$23,112 for the first year's interest payment on the bonds or notes," Chairman Cedarholm agrees.

All in favor with the Select Board not making this recommendation. **Motion Carries.**

Article 8 – (New Tanker). Selectman Bugbee asks if "Raise and Appropriate" means raise by taxes. TA Glover explains that the two words combined mean authorize the expenditure and identify the source of the fund. Chairman Cedarholm moves to recommend this appropriation. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Article 9 – (Bricker House) Chairman Cedarholm moves to indicate that the Select Board recommends this appropriation. Selectwoman Dennis states that this is a want and not a need. She does not support given the 11% increase in the budget. Selectman Bugbee is in favor of the warrant article but not in favor of saying that the Board approves it. The motion to recommend fails but the WA moves forward.

Article 10 – (Operating Budget) Fill in the budget total amount of \$3,773,870.03. Chairman Cedarholm moves that the Select Board indicate that they recommend this appropriation. Selectman Bugbee asks to table this until the end.

Article 11 – (CIP) There is discussion regarding the Library Capital Reserve Fund. Chairman Cedarholm asks John Tappan, the Trustee of the Trust Fund Chair, if the monies from this fund can be used for something that is slated for some other building. The committee briefly considered this question and they would not want to say yes at this point because money is fungible. Mr. Tappan states that when looking at the history they saw when there was one year where \$60,000 was put into the fund and what was being considered that year was very definitely a new building on another piece of property that was much bigger and more expensive than the existing library. If a new building was built and the books are all moved there and the library is there functionally and this fund is still in existence then he does not see any reason why at that time some Trustees might not say to use the money on that library. But to say that you could do that right now would not be the same.

Selectman Bugbee suggests splitting up this Article and giving each item its own separate Warrant Article. There is a short discussion. Selectwoman Dennis prefers to leave it the way it is. John Tappan thinks that the Articles should be listed separately. There is further discussion. Chairman Cedarholm and Selectwoman Dennis do not have an issue with separating them.

Selectman Bugbee moves to split out each item into separate Warrant Articles. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Chairman Cedarholm moves to remove the \$7000 Library CRF item. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Chairman Cedarholm moves that the Select Board recommends the Appropriation for each of the remaining 8 CIP items. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Article 12 (Petition – Library Capital Reserve Fund) – Chairman Cedarholm moves that the Select Board not recommend this Appropriation. No second. He believes that the Board met the intent by raising about \$500,000. Selectman Bugbee believes that the original proposal was for 5 years and this would be the 5th year. TA Glover asks for a second before the discussion should continue. The other Board members do not wish to second. Selectman Bugbee moves that the Select Board support this Warrant Article. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. Chairman Cedarholm, nay. **Motion Carries.**

Article 13 – (Recreation Capital Reserve Fund) The Board agrees to remove this Warrant Article.

Article 14 – (Police Cruiser) Chairman Cedarholm moves that the Select Board recommend this Appropriation. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Article 15 – (Contingency Fund)Tabled until XX dollars may be filled in.

Article 16 – (Pavilion/Fence at LRP) The Board reviews plans for a pavilion similar to one that the Town would be considering and discuss the areas in which a fence needs to be installed at LRP. Chairman Cedarholm moves that the Select Board recommend this Appropriation. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Article 17 – (Special Duty Revolving Fund) Chairman Cedarholm moves that the Select Board recommend this Appropriation. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Article 18 – (Webster Selectmen School Funding) The Board agrees to remove this Warrant Article.

10:30pm

The Board goes back to discuss Articles that were either not decided earlier or were vulnerable.

Selectwoman Dennis asks about deleting Article 9 which is for \$281,000. There is a short discussion. Taking this out would reduce the tax rate by 67 cents. Selectwoman Dennis moves

to not put forth Article #9. Chairman Cedarholm, seconds. All in favor. Selectman Bugbee, nay. **Motion Carries.**

Chairman Cedarholm started to suggest reducing Article 16, but then was reminded that this money has already been raised and is in the Recreation CRF. Reducing this will not affect the tax rate.

Selectman Bugbee asks how things get put on the CIP. Caren Rossi explains that the department heads supply a list of things that are needed or wanted to the CIP Committee.

Selectman Bugbee moves to reduce the Fire Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to \$70,000; Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to \$20,000; the Highway Department Road/Bridge Improvement CRF to \$40,000 and the Town Building CRF to -0-. Chairman Cedarholm, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Article 15 – Chairman Cedarholm moves to recommend \$20,000 for a contingency, to come out of the Unassigned Fund Balance. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Chairman Cedarholm moves to complete the budget. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

6. No TA report
7. Chairman Cedarholm moves to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Selectman Bugbee, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
8. Chairman Cedarholm moves to accept the Manifest #14 and Weeks Payroll ending January 18, 2015. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
9. Chairman Cedarholm moves to accept the Public and Non-Public Meeting Minutes dated December 22, 2014.

At the next meeting the Board will discuss the issue with Roger Rice commissioning a 14 foot sculpture to be built with things found at the transfer station for free.

10. Chairman Cedarholm motions to adjourn at 11:10 pm. Selectwoman Dennis, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

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Minutes transcribed by:

Denise Duval, Town Secretary

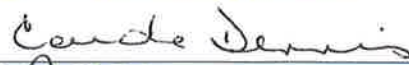
Date

2/17/15

Minutes accepted by The Lee Select Board:



David Cedarholm, Chairman



Carole Dennis



Scott Bugbee