

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN MEETING FINAL
February 20, 2009
Sanford Hall, Medway Town Hall 6:00pm

Present: Chairman Glenn Trindade, Selectmen Andrew Espinosa, John Foresto and Dennis Crowley, Town Administrator, Suzanne Kennedy and Board Secretary, Wendy Harrington was present.

Absent: *Richard Dunne*

6:09 p.m. – Chairman Trindade called the Selectmen’s meeting to order in Sanford Hall, Medway Town Hall

The purpose of this meeting is for the Selectmen to review departmental budgets.

Animal Control-Brenda Hamlin (page 121)

Ms. Hamlin reminded the Board that her budget is shared by the Town of Millis. Millis pays her salary and there is no salary increases reflected in this budget. There is however a \$570 reduction in the budget and she has reflected that by eliminating her beeper line item and has increased her equipment line item to cover the cost of the beepers.

Ms. Hamlin gave some history of her department and says that historically Medway uses more services than Millis. Many more residents are taking advantage of having a microchip implanted in their pet and equipment upkeep is necessary to help those residents. Her vehicle is maintained by the Town of Millis, the kennel is housed in Millis and Medway is responsible for upkeep of her office which is located in the Village Street fire station.

Police Department-Chief Tingley (page 114)

There is an officer that will be retiring, a discussion took place regarding replacing that officer. The department will continue to use permanent intermittent officers/dispatchers to fill those open positions, but Chief Tingley explained it is becoming more and more difficult to place those officers in an academy and with lay off’s the civil service department may start to require that open positions be filled with more senior, laid off, police officers.

A discussion took place regarding the IT needs for the police department. Currently Officer Reardon is fulfilling those needs but the discussion geared towards involving the IT Director in the day to day standardization of all departments. Mr. Boucher will need to become acclimated with the police operations etc.

Chief Tingley explained his level service plus would include a new K2 vehicle.

(Selectman Foresto arrived at 6:40pm)

When asked whether he would choose an additional officer or a detective if given the opportunity, Chief Tingley explained that it was a tough call. His detective is very busy due to the amount of identity theft. Chief Tingley also explained that Community Policing has been cut

by the State, so continuing to provide services to parades and events is important and they would be put in the level service plus category as well.

Police and Fire Communications-LT. Boltonhouse (page 118)

Permanent Intermittent (dispatcher) will continue to be offered a program to train in the cruisers with the patrolmen. This aides the patrolmen as well as serve as valuable training for the dispatchers.

Telephone-IT Director Boucher is looking into replacing the entire telephone system for the town. This will be looked at in the near future.

Fire Department-Interim Chief Paul Trufant (page 110)

Interim Chief Trufant explained he has reorganized the department. He's doing more inspections, changing the vehicles being used, not sending the ambulance out when doing inspections, a car is being used to conserve gas. All positive improvements, which show in the budget.

There is a reduction in heat and electric expenses, which are figures that were obtained by Dave D'Amico. Administrator Kennedy wants to be sure the heat and electric bills are paid up to date before moving excess money from those line items.

Administrator Kennedy and Interim Chief Trufant will tweak the budget and Chairman Trindade has asked that an YTD call report/incident report be prepared as it relates to last year.

Once Chief Trufant is appointed, he will need to replace one on call person.

EMS-Interim Chief Trufant (page, last page in packet)

This budget requires careful monitoring as it is an enterprise account and is running behind on revenues. Comstar is paid to do the billing for this account and it appears that the collection rate is lower. Selectman Crowley has asked the Chief to do another evaluation of projections and collections for the Board's review. Chief Trufant will be looking into a cheaper billing system or possibly doing it in house in the future.

Chief Trufant explained that everything in the fire and ems groups is going smoothly; moral is high, everyone is happy and most are almost finished with their training. The department is run as a team effort.

Selectman Foresto moved that the board adjourn regular session meeting; Selectman Espinosa seconded; no discussion; all ayes 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Harrington
Executive Assistant
*Approved 4/13/09