

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes-Final
Tuesday February 23, 2010
7:00pm
Medway Senior Center, Medway

Present: Chairman Espinosa, Selectmen John Foresto, Dennis Crowley and Rich Dunne, Town Administrator Suzanne Kennedy and Board Secretary Wendy Harrington

Absent: Glenn Trindade

Public Comment: None

At 7:06 pm Selectman Dunne moved that the Board adjourn to Executive Session for exemption reason number 3 “To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation” with the intent to return to open session; Selectman Crowley second; Roll call vote; Foresto-aye, Crowley-aye, Dunne-aye; Espinosa-aye

At 7:42 pm Selectman Dunne moved that the Board adjourn Executive Session and return to open session; Selectman Crowley second; Roll call vote; Foresto-aye, Crowley-aye, Dunne-aye; Espinosa-aye

The Selectmen returned to open session at 7:42pm.

At 7:43 pm Selectman Crowley moved that the Board adjourn to Executive Session for exemption reason number 6 “To consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property” with the intent to return to open session; Selectman Foresto second; Roll call vote; Foresto-aye, Crowley-aye, Dunne-aye; Espinosa-aye

At 7:47 pm Selectman Crowley moved that the Board adjourn to Executive Session and return to open session; Selectman Foresto second; Roll call vote; Foresto-aye, Crowley-aye, Dunne-aye; Espinosa-aye

Chairman Espinosa explained the basis of the meeting is for an informal, yet productive conversation regarding the budget and to answer any questions. How do we manage the budget so we have some control over what the free cash will be, affectively spending the free cash and how we spend money relative to capital should be addressed tonight.

The Department of Public Service reorganization cost was discussed and its impact on the budget

Selectman Crowley clarified that this is the Selectmen’s budget and not the Town Administrator’s budget and we should work in conjunction. He would like to look at some parts of the budget that may possibly be changed, and would like the Town Administrator and her staff to consider these changes.

Selectman Foresto explained that the Selectmen all understand why there is a lot of free cash every year, but wonders if it has to be this high every year.

A discussion on Free cash and how to avoid a large amount this year was discussed. Selectman Crowley suggested putting more realistic numbers into the equation and believes that we should be trying to project what we think the revenues are going to be so that we can base the budget on that. As starters increase the levy limit by \$100K in new growth.

Selectmen Crowley reviewed items of interest that he would like to have reviewed during the budget process.

Expenses were discussed and possible reductions as well as increases were reviewed.

Chairman Espinosa asked when the budget is presented to have line items that are at risk be identified. (i.e. The numbers that are going to increase or eat our free cash, benefit numbers, salary numbers).

Administrator Kennedy proposed changes to the budget calendar so that the budget can be submitted a bit later. The selectmen reiterated that they do not want to talk to each department.

Selectman Dunne proposed moving \$800,000 from free cash to the operational reserve. Selectman Crowley would like to see the budget numbers first, but generally agrees.

Selectman Crowley would prefer to have a STM in May to transfer funds and then the TM as another meeting in June, he thinks it will look better. Mr. D'Amico offered that residents are aware that STM is for FY10 and TM is FY11.

Selectman Dunne offered other suggestions on specific amounts that could be used from free cash.

CIPC will be presenting their plan on 3/1/10

It was clarified that Administrator Kennedy should send the budget policy to the school as stated at the last meeting.

At 9:08pm Selectman Foresto moved that the Board adjourn for the evening; Selectman Dunne second; No Discussion; All ayes 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Harrington
Board Secretary
*Approved 3/1/10