

**Town of Princeton, MA
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Regular Meeting
January 22, 2007**

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM. Present were Chairman -Alan Sentkowski, Members - Raymond Dennehy and Joe O'Brien and Town Administrator - Dennis Rindone.

FY07 Warrant #15

The Board reviewed and signed the payroll and vendor warrants from the Treasurer & Accountant.

Minutes:

January 8, 2007- Regular Meeting – Alan made a motion to accept the minutes with changes. Joe seconded. All were in favor (3-0).

Animal Control Budget

Dennis combined the animal control officer and dog officer under one category and reduced the salary and expense. A cruiser held back from the surplus property list will be available for use by the dog officer.

FY08 Budget Update and CIP Process

There will be some adjustments in salaries due to extra work hours in the FY08 calendar. CIP will work from their minutes for tonight's presentation.

Update - Paint Interior of Town Hall

Colors have been decided with assistance from a professional interior decorator. Both Town Hall employees and the Historical Commission are pleased with the decision.

Chapter 62, 61S, 61B Amended

All are being amended and DOR will send out bulletin publicizing changes.

Bedford Land Acquisition Program

The Annual Awards Ceremony was held on January 13th. Three towns were awarded the Pickard Innovation Award. The Town of Bedford received the award for their Land Acquisition Program. Dennis provided a handout detailing the program.

Surplus Property Bid Results

Three of six items were sold. The remaining items are still available.

FY06 Audit Exit Conference – Roselli, Clark & Associates

Roselli, Clark & Associates presented the following:

- The town received an upgrade in its bond rating from Baa1 to A3. This rating improvement is due to the increase in the stabilization fund.
- All issues in past years have been resolved.
- Ambulance receivables – recommends communication to the Town Accountant and turn over for monthly reconciliation.

- Highway funds – expedite the reimbursement process by immediately submitting the check number rather than waiting to submit cancelled check. This will result in quicker reimbursement from the state.
- Fixed assets – start recording governmental fixed assets relative to infrastructure beginning with FY08.
- GASB 45 pronouncements (unfunded benefits) must be done by an actuary.
- Tax rate setting process – recommends a quarterly billing system.
- Departmental receipts policy – recommends redistributing the policy as a reminder explaining turn over of funds to all employees.

Class II Licnese

Alan made a motion to approve the Class II Agent & Sellers license for Steve Zottoli, owner of Steven's Auto, to expire in January 2008. Raymond seconded. All in favor (3-0).

Signatures

Letter of congratulations to Lieutenant Governor Tim Murray

MMA Annual Conference

Joe, Alan and Dennis attended the conference. Alan was nominated and elected as the Region V Representative to the Massachusetts Select Board Association. He will also sit on the Board of the MMA and the local government Advisory Commission. The Board is pleased to have a Princeton resident serving in this capacity and congratulated Alan.

Other Business

Arthur Allen sent letter of interest to serve on the Board of Health. There are no openings at this time. Dennis believes he would be an asset as a representative for the Wachusett Earthyday. The Board agrees.

Upcoming Dates and

The Regional Selectmen's Meeting will be held on January 31st at the Thomas Prince School. Agenda topics will include Regional Health Insurance, CMRPC-MPO, and MORE. Time will be reserved for the legislatures.

Selectmen February Schedule: Regular meetings will take place on Monday, February 5th and Tuesday, February 20th.

State Representative Lew Evangelidis

Representative Evangelidis discussed the state budget with the Board. It is consistent with last year with no huge increases or revenues. Chapter 70 and PILOT are Princeton's concerns. Lew offered to work with Dennis regarding any specific concerns.

Short and Long Term Goals

The Board reviewed the goals for FY06 and FY07 and noted they are on schedule.

Thomas Prince School Roof Update

Joe and Dennis met with the representative from Thomas Prince School. The leaking roof has been an ongoing problem due to material used. An engineering survey will be done to determine the course of action. More details will be available after that date.

Kingston Board of Selectmen Correspondence

The Board reviewed a letter from the Town of Kingston regarding statutory obligations of liquor licensees as state policy or regulation and believes this does not impact Princeton.

The Board discussed the Governor's proposal regarding the option of assessing 1-3% meal tax to aid local communities. This may be discussed further in the future.

Parks and Recreation Department Request

Ed Carlson, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee presented his request to hire a Parks and Recreation Director. The Committee recommends a part-time position with a salary of \$16,000.00 per year. The goal is to fund the position entirely from facility and program receipts within four years. Currently \$4000.00 is available in the Field Maintenance account. The Committee requests the Board's approval to place the remaining \$12,000.00 on the May Town Warrant.

Community Appreciation Award Committee

Three people are needed on this committee.

Committee for Land Preservation

This may be task specific and short term and eventually become part of an existing committee.

Capital Improvement Planning Committee Presentation

See Attached.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 PM. All were in favor (3-0).

The Selectmen met with the Advisory board from 7:30 to 8:30 PM to discuss the FY08 budget.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Secretary