**Board of Selectmen**

**Meeting Minutes**

**April 10, 2016**

**Rutland Public Library**

**Present:** Stephanie Bacon, Leroy Clark, Wayne Walker, Sheila Dibb, Michael Pantos

**Others:** Margaret Nartowicz, Town Administrator and Abby Benoit, Administrative Secretary

Ms. Bacon opened the meeting at 5:19 P.M.

Ms. Dibb moved to enter in to **Executive Session Reason #2:** To conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel. (Fire Chief, Treasurer/Collector) **Executive Session Reason #3:** To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. (Police Department). Mr. Pantos 2nd. Roll call vote: Mr. Clark aye, Ms. Bacon aye, Ms. Dibb aye, Mr. Pantos aye.

The Board entered Executive Session at 5:19 p.m.

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:19.

Mr. Walker joined the meeting at this time.

There was a moment of silence for Ray Becker.

Mr. Clark moved to sign warrant #21 and payrolls. Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous.

**Dispatch Recognition**

RRECC Director, Mike Moriarity, discussed a call that was received on March 4, 2017. Dispatchers Michelle Jones and Jeffrey Makela were able to dispatch the call in 36 seconds for a residential structural fire. All of the family members and pets were saved, damage was mostly kept to the outside porch. Barre Fire Chief Rogowski also spoke and expressed his gratitude for the dispatch service that they receive.

The Board presented each dispatcher with an award.

**Rebecca Tuttle, Treasurer/Collector** Ms. Bacon thanked Ms. Tuttle for making concessions to her contract due to the Town’s financial hardships

Mr. Pantos moved to accept and sign the Treasurer/Collector’s contract for a three year term. Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous.

The Board thanked Ms. Tuttle for her service, Ms. Tuttle also thanked the Board for their support and she looks forward to another 3 years.

**Pole Hearing, Swartz Ave**

The public hearing was opened at 6:28 P.M.

Paul Davis introduced himself and explained that he was present representing Verizon. The petition is for three poles to be placed on Swartz Ave., which will be used in conjunction with the solar farm. The poles have already been placed in the ground.

Mr. Kellaher stated that the poles are in place and are at the edge of pavement causing a dangerous intersection. There are fixtures already attached to the poles as well. The poles will need to be moved at least four feet off the edge of the pavement.

Ms. Nartowicz recommended that a notice of rejection be sent to Verizon and National Grid. There was discussion about the petition.

The hearing was closed at 6:39 P.M.

Mr. Pantos moved to reject the pole location and submitted petition. Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous.

Gary will follow up with Verizon.

**Joint Meeting with the Planning Board**

The Planning Board had a quorum present, their meeting opened at 6:40 p.m.

Norm Anderson, Planning Board, nominated Shawn Moore to fill the Planning Board vacancy. There were no other nominations, nominations were closed. A roll call vote was taken for the nomination of Shawn Moore and his appointment to the Planning Board. Roll call vote: Mr. Clark aye, Ms. Dibb aye, Mr. Nahrwold aye, Mr. Pantos aye, Ms. Sidoti aye, Mr. Williams aye, Mr. Walker aye, Mr. Anderson aye, Ms. Bacon aye.

The vote was 9-0 in favor of the appointment of Shawn Moore, to fill the vacancy on the Planning Board until the next annual town election.

**Department Updates**

**Gary Kellaher**

Ms. Nartowicz and Mr. Kellaher met with Dan Daniska to discuss the Complete Streets, they will begin the inspection process and discuss the needs of bike and pedestrian paths.

Street sweeping is beginning Friday the 14th, they will begin with the schools on Tuesday the 18th and the streets Monday the 24th. They will be starting in the center of town and working to the outskirts.

The sports leagues are asking for the fields to be opened, their schedules start this weekend. Mr. Kellaher will be inspecting them this week and will advise the leagues when they are ready to be opened.

**Mike Moriarty, Direct of Communications**

Mr. Moriarty explained that the new full time employee has started, during their first pay period, payroll costs have been reduced by $1500.00. There was discussion about a recent meeting with the State 911 Director, they will be looking to regionalize dispatch centers. Mr. Moriarty discussed an idea to remodel the Annex building for a dispatch center, which would give Rutland 10-15 consoles, versus the existing 5. There is a grant available for renovations, however they will not invest money in new construction.

Ms. Nartowicz explained that a lot of things would need to occur before this could happen, including an elevator for the Community Hall for expanded office space.

Mr. Moriarty thanked all of the dispatch staff as it is National Communicator week.

**Public Comment**:

Steven Sherman, Paddock road, discussed an article from the telegram last week. It concerns school funding and the inequities in funding from the state. Worcester is looking for partners to initiate a law suit to change the funding formula.

Ms. Dibb recommended that the school committee be contacted because they would need to join the lawsuit. There was discussion of city funding versus district funding and regional transportation funding.

Dick Williams, Overlook Road, discussed DCR and their intent to educate backyard farmers.

He also asked about the Board of Selectmen’s Goals and Objectives, and thinks it’s important that the Board start to plan for Gary Kelleher’s retirement

Mr. Kellaher spoke about the Department of Public Works being more than a Department of Public Works, as they also manage community maintenance and development. Mr. Kellaher also stated that he enjoys what he does and is not planning on retiring in the near future.

**61 A Redfield Property**

Mr. Clark moved to sign the waiver of rights for the Redfield property, currently assessed under 61A, and will be converted to residential use. Mr. Pantos 2nd.

Ms. Dibb had a question regarding comments on the notice and if confirmation was received that the notice is indeed sufficient.

Ms. Nartowicz stated that she has not sought an additional legal opinion because we have a legal opinion that the notice is sufficient. After Town Counsel advised that the notice was sufficient a letter came in from the Land Conservancy regarding a contingency on the purchase and sale agreement.

Mr. Clark did not withdraw his motion.

Mr. Clark moved to sign the waiver of rights for the Redfield property, currently assessed under 61A, which will be converted to residential use. Mr. Pantos 2nd. Vote 3-2.

Ms. Dibb opposed because she wished we had time to review the one questions that was asked, and believes it will fall on the town. She thanked Mr. Redfield for offering to wait.

Ms. Bacon thanked Mr. Redfield for all of the work that he has done for the town.

**Town Building Committee**

In the Fiscal Year 2018, CIPC recommended that the Board establish a committee for the Town Buildings. Ms. Nartowicz asked that the board review the proposal.

**Glenwood Place**

Mr. Kellaher said that the condition of the road is the same, he has spoken to Mr. Blair and he has accommodated and has stopped hauling. He has also agreed to put the road back to the original condition. There will be a planning board site visit in a couple of days. There was discussion about resident concerns.

Mr. Anderson stated that the planning board was scheduled to have a public hearing for the estate lots, it has been requested, and however they will be doing a site walk tomorrow evening. He believes that the neighbors concern is that these lots are going to change their neighborhood dramatically. Ms. Dibb asked about the abutter’s foundation. There was discussion about having the building inspector look at the home.

**RRG Contract**

RRG has presented a new one year contract, there are no increases from current costs.

Mr. Pantos moved to approve the RRG contract renewal for one year. Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous

Mr. Clark authorized the board to sign the contract with RRG. Mr. Walker 2nd. Vote unanimous.

**Margaret Nartowicz**

Ms. Nartowicz explained that she will be meeting with the resume screening group for the police chief applicants. They will determine which applicants meet minimum qualifications per the job description. There are 22 applicants and 5 resume screening committee members.

The assessment center will cost $5800.00 and will be on the special town meeting warrant. She is also setting up an interview team.

 There is an approximate gap in the FY18 budget of $388,963.93. Ms. Nartowicz will be looking at additional budget reductions.

She recommended that the board consider showing the contingent reductions in the event the school budget passes.

**Special Town Meeting**

**Loader**

There was discussion regarding the DPW loader and debt payoff.

Mr. Pantos moved to place the DPW Loader payoff on the Special Town Meeting Warrant with the full payoff amount. Mr. Walker 2nd. Vote 4-1.

Ms. Dibb wished that the dollar amount would not be listed in the article.

**RDIC Request**

After clarification it is determined that both articles from citizen petition and RDIC are seeking the same thing. Ms. Nartowicz recommends that the RDIC request be pulled from the warrant and only the citizen petition be placed.

Mr. Pantos moved to not include the RDIC article on the Special Town Meeting Warrant, the citizen petition will be placed. Ms. Dibb 2nd. Vote unanimous.

**Annual Town Meeting**

Article 12 is proposed to be a capital budget article. There are two capital budget items that the town can afford, the Fire Department UTV, which will be grant funded for approximately $40,000 and the Infiltration and Inflow Work for approximately $325,000.

Mr. Pantos moved to place Article 12 as amended. Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous.

Article 15 has already been placed.

Article 24 was discussed and determined to leave the amount set by the governor. There was discussion about adding a line item to the budget.

Mr. Pantos moved to place Article 24. Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous.

Article 25, Revolving Fund Bylaw

Mr. Pantos moved to place Article 25, Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous.

The Board signed the warrant for posting.

**Town Administrator Contract**

The Town Administrator has agreed to a concession in wages in fiscal year 2018 due to the town’s financial difficulties.

Mr. Pantos moved to accept and execute the Town Administrator’s contract with the reductions. Ms. Dibb 2nd. Vote unanimous.

**WRSD Maintenance Agreement**

Mr. Pantos moved to sign the maintenance agreement as presented. Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous.

There was discussion about recognizing Addison Redfield.

Mr. Pantos moved to adjourn. Mr. Clark 2nd. Vote unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Abby Benoit

Administrative Secretary

Board of Selectmen *Approved \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_*