

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
FEBRUARY 28, 12012
WORK SESSION

Members Present: David Parker, Francis Cavaco, Robert McLintock, William Rice

Absent: John Whelan

Town Administrator: Pamela T. Nolan

Chairman Parker called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

He advised the meeting was taped video and audio. He asked if anybody in the audience was taping. None.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the Department of Public Works budget.

DPW Superintendent Robert Lamoureux and Melissa Cota, secretary, were in attendance.

Chairman Parker stated the total proposed Highways and Streets budget amount is \$1,098,173. He questioned why the resurfacing expense for last year was \$45,900, and the amount requested for next year is \$88,000.

Mr. Lamoureux said that he has increased the amount of money for police details. Also, last year Mr. Carroll took money out of DPW in order to balance the budget.

Mr. McLintock asked about Chapter 90 money.

Mr. Lamoureux responded that account is currently \$300,000 short until the Chapter 90 money is received at the end of March or early April. Those funds will be used to fulfill the road improvements for this year. Chapter 90 funds are supplemented by the road improvement budget in order to run a successful road improvement program.

Chairman Parker noted that money was cut last year.

Mr. Lamoureux advised the Town has been doing more paving work. He asked for an additional \$2,000 in the Resurfacing Expense line item.

Chairman Parker stated the cost of snow removal through December 31, 2011 is \$1,300.

Mr. Lamoureux said that budget is approximately 62% spent.

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Mr. McLintock talked about electricity. He felt there should be a separate line item for the different buildings. He asked how the contract varies from this year to next year.

Mr. Lamoureux advised that Finance Director Bruce Alexander does the contract. It is the same level of service and the cost of electricity will not increase for next year.

He noted that new lighting was installed at the library last year but they also put in additional lighting.

Mr. Cavaco asked about the amount of surplus re: the public safety complex.

Mr. Lamoureux said Mr. Alexander would know that amount.

Mr. Lamoureux noted that a cleaning contract replaced a full time employee. There is one person who cleans five hours per week at DPW.

Chairman Parker noted that the Swansea School Department was able to realize a \$117,000 savings at Case High School by changing the gymnasium lights. The money was from a National Grid grant.

He felt this should be explored by the newly-formed Energy Committee.

A motion was made by Mr. Rice, seconded by Mr. Cavaco, and it was

VOTED: 3 Ayes; 1 Abstention; To dissolve the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

The vote: Mr. Rice – Aye; Mr. Cavaco – Aye; Chairman Parker – Aye; Mr. McLintock – Abstained.

Respectfully submitted,

John Whelan, Clerk

Patricia Gamer, Secretary