

2013 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chairman David Canada, Selectmen Bruno Federico and Tim Copeland, and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

At 7:36 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck reported that there is \$4,102,800.18 in the general checking account. Mr. Peck stated they are still working on putting together the RFP for the Town's banking needs.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

ASSESSING: Town Assessor Andrea Lewy was present at the meeting and informed the Board, per their request at the last meeting, that Greenland will be using Stephen Traub of Property Valuation Advisors to appraise their portion of the Golf Club of New England. The Board agreed to use Mr. Traub and to have Ms. Lewy keep the Board updated on his progress.

Ms. Lewy stated that the Department of Revenue Administration is beginning the equalization process. This is so they can bring the level of assessment for each municipality to 100% of market value. The DRA has changed the data collection process which they believe will allow the ratio study to be completed in a more efficient and time effective manner. In order to establish an equalization ratio, the DRA requires certain 2012 and 2013 assessment data and other information for each sale within the town. The equalization ratio is determined by using sales that occurred between October 1, 2012 and September 30, 2013. The completion date for municipalities has been moved up a month to November 15, 2013.

Ms. Lewy presented a draft form to be used when a property owner requests to suppress their online property assessment information to the Board. The Board had no objection.

Ms. Lewy then presented the MS-1 data for setting the tax rate to the Board. The total assessment for all properties in Town is \$1,294,282,058.

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Assistant Fire Chief Matt Larrabee was present at the meeting to update the Board on routine Department activities.

The group discussed possibly changing the dates of the annual Stratham Fair.

Mr. Larrabee stated that he has been working with IT on the server issues at the Fire Department.

Mr. Larrabee stated it seems the new boiler is working fine.

The Board informed Mr. Larrabee that they will be handling the Fire Department detail pay issue on an ad hoc basis for now and can hopefully revisit this issue next year.

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Canada moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

MEETINGS: The Chair then reviewed the meetings scheduled for the coming week and reviewed the meetings held this past week.

PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:

The following Park permits and Municipal Center rentals were discussed and acted upon:

Samantha Green requested the use of the Park on October 11, 2014 for a wedding. The request was approved.

Steve Miller requested the use of the Municipal Center on December 12, 2013 for an annual condo association meeting. Mr. Federico moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Laura Kelly requested the use of the Firehouse on January 5, 2014 for an Eagle Scout ceremony. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Emily Rowe requested the use of the Municipal Center on October 27, 2013 for a birthday party. The request was approved.

John Sapienza requested the use of the Firehouse on December 7, 2013 for a Christmas party. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the use with an alcohol waiver, and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Shelley Blood requested the use of the Firehouse for several dates for Cub Scouts meetings. Mr. Canada moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine stated he has made several attempts to contact Mr. Murphy and Mr. Hyland regarding their standing on the Board or Commission on which they serve but has had no luck. Mr. Canada moved to have Mr. Deschaine send each of them a certified letter asking for their resignation and if necessary, to have a hearing on November 4th to propose removing them from office. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine presented several items to the Board for their signatures.

Mr. Deschaine then presented the MS-5 along with the audit to the Board. After some discussion, Mr. Copeland moved to implement the document. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Board had no objection with keeping the overlay at \$150,000.

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representing AT&T has done a site assessment and would place a tower next to the ice skating rink at the Park. The Board agreed that they do not want to accept their proposal, but would consider placing it in the Gifford fields and asked Mr. Deschaine to relay that to them. Mr. Canada commented that a decision on a cell tower would not be made without going to Town Meeting first.

Mr. Deschaine stated that the Regional Economic Development Center (REDC) is asking that the Town appoint someone to serve on the committee for the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS). Mr. Canada stated he will speak to Mike Houghton regarding this matter.

Mr. Deschaine stated the Rockingham Planning Commission has requested to post a survey link on the Town's website. The Board had no objection.

Mr. Deschaine stated the Town received the proposed medical insurance rates for 2014 from the Health Trust. The dental rate is staying the same and the medical rate is increasing by 7.9%. The Board agreed to reconvene the Health Insurance Committee to research plans and costs and report back to the Board no later than December 2nd.

Mr. Canada asked the other Board members if they had any objection to him taking an old wheelbarrow from the Cushman property in lieu of submitting a bill for work he did there. The Board had no objection.

Mr. Canada moved to appoint Mr. Federico as the Selectmen's representative to the SMS Budget Advisory Committee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The group discussed the collection box for books and clothing that has recently been placed in front of the Municipal Center. Mr. Canada moved to have the collection box removed from Town property. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the monthly e-newsletter to go out this week.

Mr. Canada stated that a local businessman has made a proposal to fund a significant amount of money to put towards the installation of a traffic light at Winnicutt Rd. and Portsmouth Ave. Mr. Canada and Mr. Federico are willing to listen to the plan and Mr. Copeland is against the installation of the traffic light because it will create a traffic problem with the circle traffic.

The group briefly discussed the boundaries for hunting at the Town Forest and Park.

At 9:16 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss contract negotiations. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:04 pm, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the nature of the items discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.



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ourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey J. Grella
Executive Assistant