

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 9, 2015 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MEMBER'S PRESENT: Chairman David Canada, Tim Copeland, Bruno Federico and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

At 7:31 pm the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

NEW BUSINESS:

Police Chief John Scippa stated he would publically like to commend officers for their meritorious work over the past year and a half. He recognized Officer Law, Officer Holbrook, Corp. Emerson, Officer Doucette, Officer Fotheringham, and Detective Sgt. Pierce for their outstanding police work.

Police Chief Scippa indicated completion of the equitable sharing agreement and certification for the drug asset forfeiture account. He noted there had been no spending in FY '14 and that there was a current balance of \$5,051.52.

Police Chief Scippa noted there was an issue with a dog who had attacked another dog in the Park and that this was the second incident with the dog. He continued they wanted to take proactive measures to make sure this did not happen again and it would be up to the Board to decide what action was taken. Police Chief Scippa stated his suggestion was to either require the owner to muzzle the dog or to issue a trespass warrant so the dog could not enter the Park. Mr. Canada moved to issue a Notice of Trespass to the owner and dog at issue, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously. Chief Scippa stated he would serve that Notice as soon as possible.

Town Administrator Deschaine indicated they needed to reappoint the Highway Safety Committee and the current members were Colin Laverty, Tim Copeland and John Scippa. Mr. Canada moved to reappoint Colin Laverty, Tim Copeland and John Scippa to the Highway Safety Committee, seconded by Mr. Federico, which passed unanimously.

Fire Chief Rob Cook stated they had responded to 66 calls so far this year.

Fire Chief Cook indicated there were three individuals from the Department who were interested in taking the advanced EMT class in East Kingston, which would be a cost of \$1200 per person. Mr. Canada moved to authorize the expenditure of \$3600 for three individuals to take the advanced EMT class, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Federico noted they had been having an issue with the trim at the Police Department. He continued the trim had started deteriorating and they were going to have to replace it. He asked if they were experiencing any similar issues at the Fire Department. Fire Chief Cook responded they had some minor issues but nothing of that sort. Mr. Deschaine stated that this was premature aging and that a representative of the construction company should be called to look at the work that was done.

Public Hearing on 2015 Warrant

Mr. Canada opened the public hearing on the 2015 Town Warrant. Mr. Deschaine noted this public hearing had been publically advertised 7 days prior.

Mr. Canada stated that Article A was relative to the budget. He continued it was an overall flat budget in the amount of \$5,969,111.00 and went over the major increases and decreases in the budget. Mr. Canada stated that Article B was for the CIP in the amount of \$1,537,500.00 and Mr. Federico went over some of the larger changes and purchases that would be taking place. Mr. Canada stated that Article C was relative to a conservation easement on land owned by the Short family and was in an amount of \$175,000.00. Pat Elwell from the Conservation Commission spoke about the purchase of the easement and why it was important. She continued that the parcel was adjacent to the Park and would allow for access to the trails and would not allow for any development on the parcel. Mr. Canada stated that Article D was a special warrant article in the amount of \$10,000 to defray the costs of the Town's 300th Anniversary Celebration. He continued this money would not be spent if enough money was raised by fundraising. Mr. Copeland indicated that he would not vote in favor of this Article because he thought they should be able to stay within their budget and did not think taxpayers should have to foot the bills for this. John Sapienza stated this was a milestone for the Town and thought they should not have to solicit donations for the event. He requested that the Board endorse this Article. Mr. Canada noted this would add less than one cent to the tax rate and thought they should vote in favor of it. Mr. Canada indicated that Article E was for the Town Buildings and Maintenance Trust Fund in the amount of \$25,000 and would be to cover any unforeseen emergency costs. Mr. Canada stated that Article F was for the Stratham Fire Department EMS Special Revenue Fund in the amount of \$59,000.00. He continued that \$14,000.00 was for EMS/EMT First Responder Training, \$10,000 was for the ALS Services Contract and \$35,000.00 to fund the purchase of two stretchers. Mr. Canada indicated that Article G was for the Accrued Benefits Liability Expendable Trust in the amount of \$10,000.00 and would cover any unfunded obligations of the Town. With no further input coming from the public in attendance, Mr. Canada then closed the public hearing.

Mr. Canada moved to recommend Article A of the 2015 Warrant, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to recommend Article B of the 2015 Warrant, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to recommend Article C of the 2015 Warrant, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to recommend Article D of the 2015 Warrant, seconded by Mr. Federico, with Mr. Copeland opposed.

Mr. Canada moved to recommend Article E of the 2015 Warrant, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to recommend Article F of the 2015 Warrant, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to recommend Article G of the 2015 Warrant, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: The Minutes of 1/12/15, 1/26/15 and 2/2/15 meeting were approved as amended.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Mr. Deschaine reported that there is \$6,679,610.63 in the general checking account.

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:

Joseph Roche requested use of the Stratham Hill Park on August 23, 2015 for a family reunion. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Stacey Grella requested use of Municipal Center on April 26, 2015 for the Chief Maloney Run and requested that the fee be waived. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mary Lou Sirios requested use of Municipal Center on March 24, 2015 for a condo meeting. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Leslie Blaney requested use the Firehouse on March 8, 2015 for the Girl Scouts and requested that the fee be waived. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Tommy Oliver requested use of the Municipal Center for every Sunday in 2015 for the New Life Baptist Church. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Richard Rugg requested use of the 4H Pavilion on September 13, 2015 for the Greenland Vets. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Rebecca Nash Pannella had a permit approved at the 1/12/15 Selectmen's Meeting for the Collie Rescue League of NH and was now requesting that the fee be waived. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine stated he had received a notice from the State Fire Marshal relative to a model fireworks ordinance. He asked if anyone had any interest in changing the current ordinance. No interest was received.

Mr. Deschaine indicated he had received a Raffle Permit request by the Parks and Recreation Department on behalf of the Cooperstown 2015 Team. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the request, seconded by Mr. Canada, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine stated the air conditioner unit in the IT Department had failed. He continued that he was currently looking into how much it would cost to replace the compressor and also to replace the entire unit with something smaller. Mr. Deschaine noted he would report back to the Board with the most cost effective way of fixing the problem.

Mr. Deschaine requested a non-public session for a personnel issue. Mr. Federico moved to go into a non-public session to discuss a personnel matter at 8:44 P.M., seconded by Mr. Canada, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session at 8:56 P.M., seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada indicated that it had come to his attention that the last ZBA agenda was posted in November and the last ZBA minutes were from October. Mr. Deschaine responded that he hoped they were all caught up and just had not been posted on the website and would look into the matter. He continued that there was a ZBA meeting scheduled for the following night.

At 9:02 pm Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Rodier
Recording Secretary