

MINUTES OF THE MAY 23, 2016 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MEMBER'S PRESENT: Board Members Joe Lovejoy, David Canada and Bruno Federico and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

At 7:32 pm Mr. Canada opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Ms. Bronson reported that the current balance was \$2,016,881.67.

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Mr. Lovejoy moved to approve the minutes of April 18th, May 9th and May 16th as amended. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

300th COMMITTEE REQUESTS

Liz Chisolm, representing the 300th Anniversary Committee, went over Brett Walker's requests for expense reimbursement and indicated that the Committee had offered him \$1500 for his expenses associated with his presentations at the Fair, which he had accepted.

Mr. Federico moved to approve expending \$1500 for Mr. Walker's requests for the duration of the Fair. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Chisholm discussed purchasing 350 souvenir wine glasses for the guests at the June 25 dinner/dance. She continued that each glass would cost \$2.85 and shipping was \$250.00 and they would be using the money from the raffle to purchase them. Ms. Chisholm noted that if they ended up with more glasses than guests, they would sell the glasses at the Fair. Mr. Lovejoy indicated that he would like to know what they were planning to resell the glasses at the Fair for. Ms. Chisholm responded that they did not have a figure set at currently. Mr. Canada stated that the dinner/dance was already way over budget, and he could not support the request.

Mr. Lovejoy moved to allow the purchase of 350 wine glasses at a cost of \$1247.50. Mr. Federico seconded the motion. The motion passed 2-1 with Mr. Canada opposed.

Ms. Chisholm noted that they had reduced the number of tickets for the dinner/dance from 500 to 350. She explained that they had been having trouble getting in contact with Marshalls whom they had contracted with for the tent and dinner accouterments. The Committee would like to reduce the size of the tent and fixtures to a 350 person event capacity. Ms. Chisholm noted that they had given Marshalls a \$1000 deposit. She was not sure of the total amount of the contract but it is around \$22,000. Due to the unresponsiveness of Marshalls they would like the Board's approval to negotiate with Exeter Rental. Exeter Rentals has quoted \$24,493 for a 350 capacity tent with fixtures. Caren Gallagher, who was in the audience as a Fair Director, offered to contact Marshalls, a Fair vendor, and try to prompt a response.

Mr. Canada moved to allow the 300th Committee to negotiate with Exeter Rental for tent rental for an amount not to exceed \$24,495.63 if they could not reach a prompt accommodation with

Marshalls. Due to a timeliness issue, Mr. Deschaine was given authority to make the final decision.. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Chisholm indicated that they had talked with Atlantic Parking Services for help with parking the night of the dinner/dance. She continued that there was an option for 4 attendants who would stay until 8:30 P.M. for \$1040.00 or 6 attendants who would stay until the event was over for \$2730.00. She continued that the Committee was hoping for 6 attendants as that would be the nicest entrance and exits for the guests. A discussion on where to park ensued with it being decided that there would be sufficient room at the Route 33 entrance when considering the availability of parking on grassy areas and along Route 33.

Mr. Federico moved to hire four parking attendants for \$1040 for the dinner/dance. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Chisholm stated that they had contracted with Granite Catering Meal Services for a total of \$19,310.66. She continued that they had paid a \$1000.00 deposit and the next payment of \$5193.09 was due that Wednesday and they needed a head count by June 11th.

Mr. Canada moved to authorize payment to Granite Catering Meal Services. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

STRATHAM FAIR:

Directors of the Stratham Fair were in attendance at the Board's request to discuss the Fair's Treasurer position. Concern had been expressed that financial reports had not been presented in a format acceptable to the Town's 2015 auditors. Francisco Marin explained a new Treasurer had been appointed who was eager to get started and was familiar and comfortable with the Fair's accounting software package. The Board was satisfied with the arrangement.

ASSESSING:

Town Assessor Andrea Lewy indicated that she had an abatement request from Daniel Platte of 6 Wingate Court. She recommended approving an abatement of \$204.97..

Mr. Canada moved to approve the abatement. Mr. Federico seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy indicated that she had another abatement for David and Dorothy Verani of 23 Spruce Lane in the amount of \$69.95 and she recommended approval.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the abatement. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy stated that she had a solar exemption for Rachel Jefferson and Brent Scott of 8 Fifield Lane and recommended approval in the amount of \$20,000.00.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the exemption. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy noted that she had a yield tax – report of cut tax warrant for Lucy and Frank Perry of 111 Stratham Heights Road in the amount of \$553.73 and that she recommended approval.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy indicated that she had another yield tax – report of cut tax warrant for Lindt and Sprungli in the amount of \$30.86 and that she recommended approval.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the warrant. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy stated that she had the 2016 GIS Service Maintenance agreement for the Building and Planning Departments for a cost of \$1800.00 to be split by the two departments.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the agreement. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:35 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a litigation matter. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:39 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and seal the minutes. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Recreation Director Seth Hickey gave updates on the repairs going on and projects around town that they were currently working on.

Mr. Canada moved to hire Prime Roofing for the electrical shed roof at a cost of \$1,122.00 and the shack at the baseball field at a cost of \$3,075.00. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Hickey stated that he had a request to hang three banners at Steven's Park for \$300.00 per banner, per year. The Board discussed that amount was less than the banners that they had previously approved.

Mr. Federico moved to allow Mr. Hickey to contract for space for the three banners at the current square footage rate paid by Convenient MD. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Improvements to the SMS ball field are planned including installation of an irrigation system. The cost of the system is \$3509 and would be split between the school and the Recreation Revolving Fund.

Mr. Hickey discussed an upcoming Senior trip to the Peabody-Essex Museum and requested to expend not more than \$1,200.00 for the bus to Salem, MA on June 29th.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to hire a contractor on a fee and material basis to work on the Bartlett Cushman House at a rate of \$45.00 per hour plus materials. 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.

RESERVATIONS:

Robert Sombric requested use of the Scamman Pavilion on July 30th for a baby shower.

Melissa Tobey requested use of the Scamman Pavilion on June 19th for a birthday party.

Both requests were approved.

ADMINISTRATION:

Town Administrator Paul Deschaine stated that he had sent out an email relative to the TAP 1st round grant applications were opening on June 1st and were closing on July 1st. The Board discussed the grants and decided it should be sent along to the Town Center Committee and discussed the project in detail.

Mr. Deschaine indicated that the Board had approved a request for a fireworks permit and they had only been provided with the cover sheet for the required proof of an insurance policy and asked if the Board needed the actual certificate of insurance. The Board responded that they needed the certificate to determine the liability.

Mr. Deschaine noted that there was a change order number 3 relative to rebuilding the walkway around the Historical Society building. He continued that DOT had not officially approved the change order but it looked as though they were going to. Mr. Deschaine stated that the entire cost was \$7,154.59 and the town's portion was \$1430.92 and that \$2,500.00 had been previously budgeted for repaving this walk in 2016.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the change order. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:49 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss litigation issues. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:00 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public and seal the minutes. Mr. Federico seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

At 10:01 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Rodier
Recording Secretary