

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES –April 22, 2014**

### **SUNDERLAND TOWN OFFICES**

**Present: Mr. Bergeron Mr. Fydenkevez, and Mr. Pierce**

**Others: Margaret Nartowicz, Town Administrator; Town Moderator, Robert Duby**

**Behind the Camera: FCAT**

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- Call to order at 7:03pm.
- Mr. Bergeron gave an overview of the agenda.
- Board of Selectmen Updates - Mr. Fydenkevez-Regional EMS. Deerfield Ambulance will begin responding to calls in the three towns 16 hours per day. Sunderland and Whately calls will be routed to Deerfield and Deerfield will respond. If a second call comes in, Sunderland and Whately will cover Deerfield. Mr. Bergeron-Sugarbush discussions update.
- FY15 Budget – Ms. Nartowicz gave an overview of additional budget reductions and state aid projections. Discussion regarding use of Free Cash.
- FY15 Capital – Mr. Bergeron gave an overview of requests from Capital Stabilization and funding limitations. Discussion regarding need to fund capital projects; programmatic funding need through Capital Stabilization override; collaboration to provide services; borrowing.
- Town Meeting Motions –
  - Article 2 (Elected Official Salaries) – 1% adjustment built into Town Clerk and Board of Assessors.
  - Article 4 (FY14 Snow & Ice Deficit) – Appreciation for Highway Department’s work over this challenging winter.
  - Article 7 (Teacher Contract Retirement Payouts) – Mr. Bergeron-Sunderland Elementary School Committee voted to apply \$10,000 in electricity savings from the FY14 SES budget to the total \$83,290 cost, reducing funding from Free Cash. Mr. Fydenkevez-understands how the number came forward, but will not support it after this year. May be able to be addressed through contract negotiations to mitigate these costs. Motion to recommend by Mr. Pierce, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  - Article 10 (FY15 Budget) – Mr. Bergeron-overview of use of Ambulance Reserve, no longer recurring revenue to offset ambulance operating costs. Ms. Nartowicz-overview of draft budget motion. Discussion regarding budget growth since FY09. Mr. Fydenkevez read cumulative FY09-FY15 percent changes for each budget segment. Common perception may be budget growth in all budget segments, but growth is restricted to very few. Discussion regarding operating and capital funding; use of Free Cash in excess of guidelines. Motion to recommend budget motion by Mr. Pierce, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez for discussion. Frontier Regional School applied Excess and Deficiency funds in prior years but couldn’t this year, which has created a greater burden on Town assessments. Next year is going to be very difficult. Need to start thinking now about next year. Revenue won’t be available. Mr. Pierce- would like to come up with good concise budget reporting in the coming year. Vote 3-0.
  - Article 12 (Capital Stabilization Funding) – Discussion regarding \$40,000 funding to Stabilization vs. Capital Stabilization. Funding Stabilization will require amendment. Motion to fund Stabilization through amendment by Mr. Fydenkevez, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Bergeron. Vote 3-0. Amendment will be included on motions sheet under main motion.
  - Article 13 (Capital Budget) – Discussion regarding requests and insufficient Capital Stabilization funding. Mr. Fydenkevez-propose funding Highway Radio Equipment \$3,500, and \$15,000 of the \$20,000 request for storm drain repair from Capital Stabilization balance \$19,527. WWTP Bar Rack Assembly \$6,000 to be funded from Sewer Reserve. Motion to recommending \$24,500 Capital budget by Mr. Pierce, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.
  - Article 24 (FY15 CPA administrative and reserves) – Motion to recommend by Mr. Pierce, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0.

- Reminders – Town Meeting this Friday, 6:30pm at the elementary school gym.
- Discussion regarding Town Meeting handouts. Tax rate impacts of debt payoff and Capital Stabilization override. Mr. Fydenkevez expressed appreciation to Chairman Bergeron for the open conversation and discussion of divergent opinions. Discussion regarding number of warrant articles.

Warrant and correspondence by signature.

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Pierce, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 3-0. Adjourned at 8:34pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret Z. Nartowicz  
Town Administrator