

Present: Mr. Bergeron, Mr. Fydenkevez, Mr. Pierce, Ms. Patch, Town Administrator  
Guests: Sergeant Brendan Lyons, Officer Brenda Tozloski, Officer Devin Melnik; Finance Committee members: Bruce Bennett, Aleks Kajstura, Francis Mozea and Dan Murphy; Fire Chief Steven Benjamin  
Behind the Camera: FCAT/Lacey

#### Call to Order

Mr. Bergeron called the meeting called to order at

Mr. Bergeron extended apologies for cancellation of meeting scheduled January 19<sup>th</sup>. The Board did not have quorum to proceed with the meeting.

#### Appointments

- Letter read by Mr. Pierce regarding Police Chief Gilbert's retirement from his position effective February 15, 2016. Chief Gilbert stated he enjoyed working in the town and appreciates his time in Sunderland not only during his many years as an officer in the department but as Police Chief as well. He will miss the community interactions. The Chief stated he would welcome part-time opportunities in the department as allowed. Board members thanked him for his service. Mr. Fydenkevez stated a new chief search would have to include someone who embraces and knows the community. Bruce Bennett, Finance Committee member also thanked Chief Gilbert for a good job during his service. Sergeant Lyons commended Police Chief Gilbert's qualities and offered support and assistance along with the other officers during this department transition. Mr. Bergeron stated path moving forward include the Board's review of the Police Chief position advertisement that was placed previously, job description review and discussion regarding OIC for the interim period. Mr. Fydenkevez Motion to accept Police Chief's retirement notification, Mr. Pierce 2<sup>nd</sup>, Vote 3-0. Request to put notice out for individuals interested in serving on the screen committee of no more than 3-5 people which will be discussed at the next Board meeting. The Police Chief expressed his interest to be on the screening committee if it was allowed.
- Budget Presentation: Police Department as presented by Police Chief Gilbert. Capital items were discussed and it was noted a cruiser replacement was not requested for the upcoming fiscal year. The department's seven (7) Police radios are getting old and are in need of replacement. The department is exploring a grant opportunity; board suggested the radios be put in on Capital in case the grant is not received. The other option for capital replacement would be to do it incrementally to ease the budget burden. Police Chief introduced new Police Clerk, Michelle who has been with the department for a month. Mr. Mozea stated he would like to see educational incentives for all employees and not limit to certain positions. Current department's goal is to offer full-time police coverage which is achieved most days but approximately 15 shifts per month are not current covered. Some issues with staffing is required mandates, trainings, officer's earned time off, etc.
- Fire Chief Steve Benjamin presented the Fire Department and Public Safety Building budgets. A replacement fire truck was discussed at length for capital budgeting. The fire truck has been on the capital plan in previous submissions.

#### Minutes, January 11, 2016

- Motion to accept the minutes of the meeting dated January 11, 2016, Vote 3-0.

#### Selectmen Updates

- Board members reported on the various workshops they attended at the Massachusetts Municipal Association (MMA) meeting this past weekend in Boston. The workshops were very informative and

the Governor spoke to the group regarding his intentions for the next year. The meetings are always a great networking opportunity with various towns, vendors and other groups the town may work with.

Town Administrator Updates

- Ms. Patch also noted the workshops she attended at the MMA meetings.
- Ms. Patch will be submitting Capital, Regional Planning and Complete Streets proposal for the Compact program.

Other Business and Announcements

- Mr. Fydenkevez noted the Town Caucus will be on March 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM in the Town Office Building. Motion by Mr. Fydenkevez to sign the Town Caucus Warrant, Mr. Pierce 2<sup>nd</sup>, Vote 3-0.
- Motion Mr. Pierce to sign the Presidential Primary Warrant, Mr. Fydenkevez 2<sup>nd</sup>, Vote 3-0.
- Mr. Fydenkevez also reminded residents to return their Census Forms they received from the Town Clerk to be sure no one misses voting opportunities. If you have any questions, please call the Town Clerk's Office.
- Motion Mr. Pierce to adjourn, Mr. Fydenkevez 2<sup>nd</sup>, Vote 3-0 at 8:47PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sherry Patch