

**Board of Selectmen's Meeting**  
Sunderland Town Office Building  
**April 11, 2016**  
**MINUTES**

Present: Mr. Bergeron, Mr. Fydenkevez, Mr. Pierce, Ms. Patch, Town Administrator  
Guests: Behind the Camera: FCAT: Marina Korpita

Call to Order at 6:36PM

Mr. Fydenkevez met with Sophie Buczynski's daughter over the weekend and shared many photographs of "early" Sunderland including the bridge and still houses. There was a "welcome back invitation" for an event in 1947 for the men and women who served in the war were returning home.

Appointments

- Chris Collins, FCAT Director re: Town Office space for FCAT operations on behalf of the Board. Tom Zimnowski, Vice Chair of the FCAT Board of Directors attended with Mr. Collins as well. FCAT is looking for a new home base and would like to revisit the opportunity in Sunderland again. The Senior Center in South Deerfield was looked at again, however due to the various conditions in the building, moving into the top floor may not be an option for 2-3 years at the earliest so other options need to be explored. FCAT Reps revisited Sunderland the Town Office building again which offers handicap accessibility for users, heating, room for editing, studio, office space, etc. Mr. Bergeron acknowledged that three rooms may be available with details, including "rent" and other options as discussed with prior Town Administrator. FCAT is attracted to having closer working relationship with the Library as well. Mr. Collins acknowledged concern of being farther away from Frontier but they have a good person coordinating with Frontier and don't feel they'll lose any connection there. Mr. Fydenkevez also expressed concern coordinating with Frontier and covering expenses for being in the town office building would be necessary. Consensus is the FCAT operation needs to be within the viewing area and not necessary in any particular town. Mr. Bergeron asked about the timeline. Mr. Collins feels after negotiating a deal with could move in the summer, if possible. Mr. Bergeron suggestion Mr. Collins and Ms. Patch discuss particulars for space and costs, etc. to move option forward.

Minutes

- Mr. Fydenkevez motion, Mr. Pierce second, accept Minutes of April 4, 2016, Vote 3-0

Selectmen Updates

- Mr. Pierce noted the Personnel Committee met. They are reviewing salaries compared to the peer groups.
- Capital Planning Improvement Committee meeting last week. Had some homework related to lease arrangement of the dump truck and engineering studies for the North Main Street Reconstruction regarding state contribution timeline, etc. for the TIP.
- Solar: Beth Greenblatt and Ms. Patch sent letters to Eversource but still no word. There is a waiver if the utility company is holding up progress of system implementation.
- Mr. Fydenkevez announced the Baker-Polito administration awards PATH grant to Sunderland and the Town of Beverly. It was through the Town Administrator's hard work to allow us to get this grant for the 120 North Main Street property. It is a great opportunity to compete and receive this outstanding grant.
- SCEMS concern from the Deerfield Finance Committee about how the budget was prepared. FRCOG assistance is being sought to look at this and look for better ways to prepare the budget differently.
- Another 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee was held and it was noted by an acquaintance that Sunderland is older than the United States.

Old Business

- FY17 Budget: Community Pathways Committee re: options offered by Town Counsel related to the triangle parcel on School Street. The committee noted a history of the triangle piece of property on School Street by the boat ramp. It was presumed the property belonged to the town but after extensive research, it was realized the town is not the owner. The MA State Fish and Game Department plans to pave the boat ramp once the property ownership is finalized and acquired by the Town. Mr. Warner noted the ANR plan dated March 15, 2016 is the map being used and other maps referenced should use the same dates and may need "as amended" noted by the surveyor. Parcel A has had title research and is the property proposed for improvement. Mr. Fydenkevez noted the locations of the runs, meets and bounds should be noted in the warrant article for definition purposes and historical notations. Pins can be set once we own the parcel but other information should be noted for town meeting. Parcel B: land swap negotiations - alternate article language was withdrawn, i.e. ~~deleted M~~ and insert N; Ms. Patch read article proposed by counsel, noting date would need to be changed. Ms. Patch read the notes from counsel regarding changing the article language. Current owners have a porch which encroaches on town property (noted as "green" parcel on map). In exchange for that piece, the town would acquire the "blue" parcel noted on map which would be contiguous. Owners of the blue parcel are in agreement with the swap but disagree with the value however, they will be doing their own appraisal. CPA funds will be paying for "town's" portion of appraisal done. The land swap would allow for steps to go down to the river. Ms. Snyder asked if the warrant article can move forward without the parcels clarified if the funding is coming from CPA to the Community Pathways Committee. Mr. Bergeron noted the warrant article defines the plan and allows the board to enter into the transaction. Mr. Bergeron noted the second article "N18" if the board is allowed to continue negotiations. Article C was deleted by counsel and replaced with a more inclusive article "N." For Town Meeting, map needs to have color and letter identifiers. Planning Board must vote on recommendation. Mr. Bergeron revisit article numbers, Article 17 (road discontinuance) and Article 16 (parcel A) be before "parcel" B article on warrant. Ms. Patch to get together with the Community Pathways Committee, Town Counsel and surveyor for clarifications. Mr. Warner suggested when the Moderator introduces the articles to note that when completed, the Town will own the following

Mr. Fydenkevez was researching and the Town may be able to discontinue the road themselves with a Public Hearing and registered letter to the abutters. Some items need to be addressed before the Board's next meeting on Tuesday.

Reviewed Articles 1 and 2, hold articles 3 and 4. Article 6 Capital Stabilization article. Mr. Bergeron wanted to discuss since we have free cash guidelines and how would the board like to distribute the funds. Mr. Fydenkevez suggests putting all funds in Stabilization which would be Article 5 and remove Article 6 since Ms. Patch had both "capital stabilization" and "stabilization" articles. Articles 7-15 have had action. Article 16, 17, and 18 which was part of tonight's discussion. Motion Mr. Fydenkevez to include Article 16, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0 and Motion Mr. Pierce to recommend Article 16, second Mr. Fydenkevez, Vote 3-0. Articles 17 and 18 which is the discontinuance and B parcel – hold articles until next week. Article 19 is a clarification article of a prior article from ATM 2015. Article 20 had some wording change on the article by Town Counsel, article was voted previously to include and voted on. Mr. Bergeron asked Ms. Patch to verify with the Library Trustees that the article reflects the intent of the trustees accurately. The remaining articles are consent articles which were voted on previously. The need is to utilize some building funds the trustees cannot access and they would like to be able use remaining funds to continue to equip the building.

- FY17 Budget: Request to add two additional hours to the payroll clerk position totaling an additional \$2,000. This is to allow additional time to address increasing reporting responsibilities. Additional request for Library support staff increases to bring in line with comp towns. Mr. Fydenkevez

questioned by one segment of employees is being looked at as “falling behind” versus all other town employees. Trustees set the position salaries for library personnel but not for those that do not have the longevity as some other town employees. Mr. Fydenkevez said he would not vote for some employees to be increased without the others not being considered. Mr. Pierce noted a recommendation from the Personnel Committee is a 1% COLA increase across the board for all employees. Dr. Pierce noted since the Trustees hire, etc., does the Personnel Committee contribute to the Library personnel salaries. It was note Police Department budget has been adjusted to split the shift differential line out from the current salary line item. Mr. Bergeron wants shift differential incorporated back into the salary line since this is a tracking function and not a new salary line. Article 13 - 300<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee voted to have \$5,000 funded in the budget, if available. Operating Budget \$7,209,960 and increase of \$114,237 which does not include the COLAs. Library increase of \$5,706 was discussed but would need to be included in the budget since it was asked for by the Trustees. Mr. Fydenkevez feels one department shouldn't be increased over all employees and feels the Library Trustees should have discussed this matter when they made their budget presentation and as the budget is being finalized. Final budget numbers will be discussed Tuesday night. Funding appropriations spreadsheet was reviewed. Mr. Fydenkevez would like to speak with the Highway Superintendent regarding plow options when it is time to purchase regarding what he is considering even though the appropriation will be put forward on the budget.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

- Appointment of Robert Warner, Jr. to the Capital Planning Improvement Committee in an at-large position with an appointment period through June 30, 2016 and renewable for the reappointment cycle July, 1, 2016. Mr. Fydenkevez motion, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.

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#### Other Business and Announcements

- Last of town reports received today and the final version will be available online hopefully by the end of the week.
- Town Offices closed Monday, April 18<sup>th</sup> for Patriot's Day
- Next Board of Selectmen's meeting: April 19, 2016, 6:30PM
- April 29<sup>th</sup> 7PM – Annual Town Meeting – Sunderland Elementary School
- May 7<sup>th</sup> 8AM-3PM – Annual Town Election – Sunderland Elementary School
- Mr. Pierce Motion Mr. Fydenkevez Second, Vote 3-0 to adjourn at 8:18PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherry Patch

