

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – APRIL 20, 2016**

**ATTENDEES: Scott Bergeron, Thomas Fydenkevez, David Pierce, Sherry Patch – Town Administrator**

**Behind the Camera: Lacey Arnold**

**Guests: Bob DUBY, Moderator**

Meeting called to order 6:35PM.

- Mr. Bergeron stated the main purpose of tonight's meeting is to review the Annual Town Meeting warrant for posting which is time sensitive.
- Announcement was made that Kinder Morgan has suspended their project in Western Mass, which was reported on MassLive.

### **BUDGET REVIEW**

- Open items from previous meeting were COLAs for Town employees in the amounts of a 1% vs. 2% increase. Discussion included increasing all employees by 2% rather than certain positions or groups. Further reviews of positions will be examined by the Personnel Committee for more equitable increases. Total bottom line for budget with 1% COLA is: \$7,209,252 and with 2% COLA: \$7,212,867. Mr. Fydenkevez Motion to recommend 2% COLA increase for Town employees, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0. With final budget total being a 1.8% increase overall.
- Mr. Fydenkevez expressed concern related to sustainability of the Elementary School Budget with \$219,000 increase this year and \$250,000 for Frontier.
- Discussion related to increase Police Chief wages per discussion from Police Chief Search Committee who recommend \$72,000 for position that is a \$7,000 increase. Mr. Fydenkevez Motion to add \$5,000 to Police Salary Budget line, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 2-1. This addition would bring the total budget to \$7,217,867.
- Article 3 - Elected Officials salaries: Budget does reflect a 2% increase which would increase Town Clerk salary to \$41,223 and Assessor's to \$8,721. The Board of Selectmen will not take an increase. Planning Board and Moderator will remain level funded. Mr. Pierce Motion, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0 in support of Elected Officials salary increases.
- Article 4 – Budget: Ms. Patch to changes budget document to reflect COLAs and Elected Officials salary increases. Mr. Pierce Motion, Mr. Fydenkevez second, to recommend Article 4, Vote 3-0.
- Article 6 – Capital Budget: by funding source. It was noted that additional language was included in article beyond "Town Clerk" on written article. Mr. Pierce Motion to recommend with language correction Mr. Fydenkevez, second, Vote 3-0.
- Article 15 – CPA funding was voted previously. Mr. Bergeron gave an overview of the Boat Ramp articles 15-17 and related Parcels identified as A, B, C, D.
- Article 17 (temporarily labeled Article 16 on working document) which will be corrected relating to eminent domain taking for a piece of land for purchase. Mr. Fydenkevez Motion to recommend, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
- Article 16 (temporarily labeled Article 17 on working document) which will be corrected which relates to the discontinuance of a portion of School Street. Mr. Pierce Motion to recommend Articles 15-17 as noted, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0.

- Article 20 and 24 are part of the consent articles and are not required articles per Town Counsel as the Board already has authority to act. Motion to remove articles will be made on town meeting floor.
- Overall vote will be taken for Articles 1, 2, 3, 4 to reflect change to 2% and update total, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12,13, 14, 15, 16,17, 18, 19, 20, with Articles 21-27 being consent articles. Mr. Fydenkevez Motion to accept Motions as noted and amended, Mr. Pierce second, Vote 3-0.
- Free Cash balance will be \$158,826 and Stabilization balance will be: \$471,903.
- Mr. Bergeron gave an overview of the Capital Improvement Planning Committee meeting held prior to the Board's meeting. Discussions included design and engineering services for the North Main Street project and the Highway truck lease costs.
- Upcoming events reminder:
  - Next Board of Selectmen's meeting April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:30PM.
  - Annual Town Meeting is April 29<sup>th</sup> at 7PM at the Elementary School
  - Town Elections May 7<sup>th</sup> 8am-3pm at the Elementary School also. If you are not a registered voter, you may not participate, registration is closed.
  - Thank you to all individuals on the ballot who have agreed to serve or continue to serve the town.
- Mr. Pierce Motion to adjourn, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0 at 7:46PM.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Sherry Patch

