

## **BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING – APRIL 25, 2016**

**ATTENDEES: Scott Bergeron, Thomas Fydenkevez, David Pierce, Sherry Patch – Town Administrator  
Behind the Camera: Marina Korpita**

**Guests: Gary Briere, Bruce Bennett-Police Chief Search Committee**

Meeting called to order 6:35PM.

- Mr. Bergeron announced reminder of Annual Town Meeting Friday, April 29, 2016 at 7PM at the Sunderland Elementary School.
- Next Board of Selectmen's Meeting will be Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30PM.

Police Chief Search Committee: Gary Briere appeared before the Board with the committee recommendations for the Police Chief position. The individuals are: Erik Dimetropoulous, Thomas Harding, and Jane Jalbert. Mr. Briere thanked all the members that served on the committee who brought a variety of experience and expertise to the committee. Committee began meeting mid-March and reviewed 30 candidate submissions for the position. Many were consciously sought small-town Chief position for the sense of community and non-animosity. Discussion if candidates indicated how they heard of position since newspaper advertising has gotten so costly. Sunderland's ad did use online professional organizations to advertise as well as local newspaper and town online option as well. Candidates were from Vermont and New Hampshire down to Virginia and many used online professional organizations. It was suggested the Board re-examine the budget for the position moving forward in an effort to attract and keep quality personnel. Questions asked of the committee mostly required follow-up by the candidate which allowed to learn management and community style which was helpful in learning about the candidate's fit for the Town. Other questions asked by candidates if the town had a residency requirement which it does not. Discussion regarding residency and response time for emergencies by a Chief were discussed and feasibility of such a requirement. The Board's timeline will not be a pause in the process. Candidates who were not selected to move forward have been notified prior to tonight's meeting.

- Mr. Pierce Motion to accept Minutes of April 11, 2016, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0.

### **BOARD UPDATES**

- Mr. Bergeron noted there was a Capital Improvement Planning Meeting prior to the Board's meeting tonight. Two items needed follow-up. The following projects were reviewed: Highway Truck Replacement for lease or borrow purchase; Holder least payment which was approved at last year's Annual Town Meeting; Repaving Swampfield Drive; HVAC work at the Library for the geo-thermal compressor units replacement phase-in plan; 3-year capital improvement plan submitted by the Graves Memorial Library of which the committee approved the 1<sup>st</sup> year plan; Police radios which will be done incrementally per plan submission; phone system upgrade in the Town Office Building per DLS audit infrastructure recommendation. \$78,678 would come from Stabilization, \$15,000 for contract extension, \$65,000 for WWTP which would come from the Sewer Budget for a total of \$304, 689. Only Article 6 addresses Capital items. Mr. Pierce Motion to Recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0.

- Next capital discussion involved engineering for the 75% of the North Main Street construction. CHA has asked for a \$15,000 increase for additional hours needed to address questions and design change exploration and submission requested by town.
- Mr. Fydenkevez reported on SCEMS Administrative fees that was being reviewed by Deerfield has been satisfied and there are no changes in the fees as original presented.

#### TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

- The office finishing articles and handouts for town meeting.
- Will be working with Committees and Departments for FY17 projects
- Annual Report is online. Dedication copy will be delivered this evening or tomorrow which is the first copy that goes out. Then copies are send to "In Memoriam" family members. Revised version will be updated online.
- Article 4 – Budget article includes 2% COLA increase for Town employees and funding sources have been verified. Total Operating Budget is: \$7,222,574 which is a 3.3% total increase. Mr. Pierce Motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0.
- Mutual Aid Opt-In MOU for Fire state-wide Mutual Aid services requires signature acceptance will be tabled until May 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting.
- Planning Board meet on April 12<sup>th</sup> and voted to endorse School Street Parcel D proposed changes.
- Town Clerk requested appointment of Victor Zumbrusko as Election Officer by May 7<sup>th</sup> election. Mr. Pierce Motion to appoint, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0.
- Town Meeting will vote on single-page budget presentation, however, detailed budget may be available if requested. Budgets will be put online.
- Mr. Pierce Motion to adjourn, Mr. Fydenkevez second, Vote 3-0 at 7:44PM.

*Shirley Davis*