

Selectmen's Meeting
January 29, 2018-Minutes
Town Office Bldg.
Sunderland, MA

Attending: David Pierce, Tom Fydenkevez, Sherry Patch
Absent: Scott Bergeron
Others: Mike Zeoli, Jim Bielunis, Susan Warriner, Teresa Foster, Wendy Houle, Caitlyn Rock, Mary Ann Kowaleck, Jim Kowaleck, Mike Skibiski
Behind the Camera: FCAT

Meeting called to order at 6:45 PM.

Mr. Pierce announced that Mr. Bergeron would not be attending tonight due to a capital planning meeting for the Frontier Regional School District.

Fire Department Invitation

Captain Mike Zeoli and Lt. Jim Bielunis of the Sunderland Fire Department extended an invitation to the board and town residents to attend the 85th birthday celebration of the Sunderland Fire Department to be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2018 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm at the Public Safety Complex.

FY 19 Budget Presentations

Treasurer/Collector budget highlights:

- Expense budget slight increase in software, and postage. Treasurer's bond will be included in expense budget this year. Cost previously included in professional development line.
- Debt schedule interest down. Also, noted final payment in debt schedule this year for reference
- Retirement increase. Assessment
- Health insurance costs up due to increase in enrollment, increase in plan costs approximately 4.9%. Hampshire Trust has voted to implement plan changes to help keep costs down, which will result in increased co-pays and out-of-pocket costs for employees. Noted without plan changes health insurance increase would have increased by 16%.
- Medicare more accurately reflects actual increase in wages.

Mr. Fydenkevez inquired about the HR duties that the Treasurer is also responsible for. Ms. Warriner acknowledged that it is a lot to keep up on, and that she is hoping to have the Payroll Assistant assume more duties in the future, which will improve the efficiency of the office.

Assessors' budget highlights:

- Level funded budget. No increase in request. Next revaluation of town 2022.

Town Clerk budget highlights:

- Elections and Registrations budget increase due to additional elections. Three elections will be held this year.
- Town Clerk has also submitted a capital request for two new voting machines this year. The old one will no longer be serviced. Additional voting machine is being requested for early voting. The Town Clerk would like to hold voting at the library. Highway Superintendent has volunteered to construct voting booths. Change in voting place would have to be voted by board.

Board of Health budget highlights:

- Board of Health secretary wages to be paid entirely from revolving account this year.

- Revolving fund also pays cost for Public Health nurse as needed. Two new cases since December. Adequate funding is available in the revolving fund. Fees have been reviewed are comparable with other communities, a little less but are paying costs. Not trying to make money just sustain existing services provided by the department.

Mr. Fydenkevez inquired if the Board of Health has looked at joining the Mosquito Consortium. Ms. Rock has discussed with the Deerfield Board of Health Chair. Ms. Rock stated that they are reluctant to incur the additional costs as the program is expensive. Ms. Rock stated that they board would be happy to revisit the program in the future.

Approval of Minutes 1/22/18

Motion: Mr. Fydenkevez to approve the Minutes. Second: Mr. Pierce. Voted: 2-0

Updates

- Mr. Fydenkevez noted that the state Department of Housing and Community Development has approved the tax credit program for the 120 North Main Street Senior Affordable Housing Project.
- Mr. Pierce noted ongoing discussions regarding personnel matters relative to wage and salary increases, cost of living adjustments and employee benefits and how to fund. Mr. Pierce also noted that we are trying to coordinate a meeting with DOT/FRCOG and residents regarding the North Main Street Reconstruction Project. Potential dates discussed 2/12/18 or 2/13/18 at 5:00 PM.
- Town Administrator noted budget preparations ongoing. Waiting for bids for sludge hauling. Ms. Patch noted that she and Mr. Bergeron met with Joe Markarian to review the long range planning and forecasting plan last week. Revisions are being finalized.

Snow & Ice Expense Deficit

Highway Superintendent request to spend up to \$15,000 in excess of FY 18 Snow & Ice Expense appropriation for supplies and materials for snow removal.

Motion: Mr. Fydenkevez to approve as requested. Second: Mr. Pierce. Voted: 2-0.

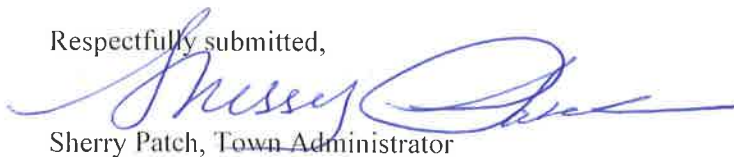
FRCOG/DLTA Request

Under advisement until next meeting.

Motion: Mr. Fydenkevez to adjourn the meeting. Second: Mr. Pierce. Voted: 2-0.

Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Sherry Patch, Town Administrator