

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
OPEN & EXECUTIVE SESSION
MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2016

Present: Chairman Dario Nardi, Vice-Chairman Robert E. Lavash, Sr., Clerk James A. Gagner and Selectmen's Assistant, Rebecca Acerra

Chairman Nardi called the Meeting to Order at 3PM

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Motion made to close the Executive Session portion and reconvene in Open Session made by Mr. Lavash; second: Mr. Gagner – unanimous at 3:30PM. Roll Call Vote Taken 3 Yey Votes

Motion to sign the invoice for Scot Mansfield as Electrical Inspector as presented for the commercial fees (Alltown and Spring Street Solar) in accordance with the 80/20 fee schedule approved by the Board of Selectmen on July 2, 2013 made by Mr. Lavash; second: Mr. Gagner – unanimous.

SENIOR TAX ABATEMENT

Minor questions arose surrounding the “pay” associated with the Senior Tax Write-Off Program. As of January 1, 2016, the minimum wage in Massachusetts rose to \$10.00/hour. Currently, the program requires senior to work 62.5 hours. The Town of Warren is well within the guidelines of the Federal requirements to which this program falls under. Motion to keep the program “status quo” made by Mr. Gagner; second: Mr. Lavash – unanimous.

FY17 BUDGET

Chairman Nardi has been working on the wage classification in order to present it to the voters at the Annual Town Meeting in May. He provided a spreadsheet which showed his proposals. Additional discussion will take place on the matter at next week’s meeting.

FIRE DEPARTMENT MANDATORY RETIREMENT

It was recently brought to the attention of the Board of Selectmen that an active member of the department has exceeded the age of 65, which under the provisions of M.G.L. c 32, the position of a paid call firefighter is subject to the mandatory retirement age. Earlier today, Mrs. Acerra was asked by Chairman Nardi to contact Town Counsel on the matter for clarification. Atty. Timothy Zessin provided his opinion on the matter to which copies were provided for the members to review and discuss. Mr. Gagner feels that this individual must retire immediately, however the Fire Chief can propose special legislation in order to seek a waiver. Chairman Nardi expressed concern over the town’s liability should something happen. Mr. Gagner and Mr. Lavash agree.

After a brief discussion, the following motion was made: Motion to instruct the Fire Chief to place Lt. Dennis Desrosiers on a leave of absence effective immediately from any and all duties associated with the Warren Fire Department based on the advice of Town Counsel and the town’s unknown liability made by Mr. Lavash; second: Mr. Nardi – 2 Yes, 1 Abstention (Mr. Gagner abstained)

Mrs. Acerra will draft a letter and hand deliver to the Fire Chief this afternoon. Additionally, Chairman Nardi approved the request of the Fire Chief to contact Town Counsel directly with any further questions. Mrs. Acerra will provide copies of all correspondence regarding this matter to Chief Lavoie. With no further discussion or business at hand, the following motion was made:

Motion to Adjourn made by Mr. Lavash; second; Mr. Gagner – unanimous at 4:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Acerra
Selectmen’s Assistant

James A. Gagner, Jr., Clerk

