

Board of Selectmen
March 25, 1997
Library Meeting Room
Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 a.m. by Chairwoman Carolina Kiggins. Selectmen present included Cynthia Paine and David Ernst. Selectmen John Ryerson and Ira Wood were absent. Acting Town Administrator Bill Hinchey also attended.

The Board discussed Town Meeting matters as follows:

a) article for reclassification of non-union employees - Personnel Board members Zel Levin, Joel Fox, Howard Grossman and Alan Platt attended. Mr. Levin recommended that the Board accept the Personnel Board's job evaluations. Mr. Hinchey indicated that he could not support the proposed article at this time noting the need for more time to research wages for comparable positions in other towns and suggesting that the article be delayed until the fall special town meeting. There was consensus of the Board that an article not be placed on the warrant at this time and to choose a target date of fall special town meeting to readdress this matter. It was suggested that any wage adjustments, if approved at the fall special town meeting, be retroactive to July 1, 1997. Mr. Hinchey will follow through with written information to employees regarding the Board's decision.

b) article establishing position of Town Collector - Tax Collector Marianne Nickerson attended. Last year's audit recommendation was noted. On a motion duly made and seconded the Board VOTED unanimously to place this article on the warrant. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to recommend the article.

c) article for bylaw regarding road brushing - Captain Alan Hight and DPW Assistant Director Luke Fox attended. Captain Hight noted the need for a bylaw establishing road parameters for emergency vehicle access. It was noted that portions of this proposed bylaw appeared to be in conflict with sub-division regulations. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED 2-0-1, with Ernst abstaining, not to place this article on the warrant and to make an attempt to resolve outstanding zoning issues so that this bylaw can be addressed at the fall special town meeting.

d) Quinn Bill article - Police Chief Rosenthal attended. On a motion duly made and seconded the Board VOTED unanimously to place an article on the warrant to accept the provisions of the Quinn Bill. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to recommend the article. There was consensus that Police Chief Rosenthal prepare information regarding the Quinn Bill for Town Meeting voters.

e) Police Department FY'98 budget adjustments:

- 1) increase for Hept B serum injections and the related blood test. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to increase the medical services line from \$200 to \$1,100 and the medical supply line from \$500 to \$980.

f) Communication Department FY'98 budget adjustments:

- 2) increase on the EMD Training line to cover the cost of

training. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to increase the EMD training line in the Communications budget from \$1,600 to \$3,791.

g) Police Department FY'97 transfers:

1) on motions duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to include the following transfers in article 1 of the special town meeting warrant:

- free cash to Police Dept. sal & wages full-time - \$1,789
- Police Dept. holiday line to longevity - \$150
- Police Dept. holiday line to uniform allowance - \$400

2) on a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to amend the transfer to Police Dept. sal & wages from free cash by an additional \$5,448.

h) Communications Department FY'97 transfers - on a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to place a transfer on the special town meeting warrant from free cash to Communications sal & wages full-time for an additional \$2458.

i) article for a 3% cost of living adjustment for non-union employees - on a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to include an article on the annual town meeting warrant. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to recommend the article.

j) article request to increase the work hours for the Town Accountant from 35 hrs/wk to 40 hrs/wk - Town Accountant Pat Eagar attended. The Acting Town Administrator recommended that an article not be included at this time. Ms. Eagar presented her reasons why an article should be included on the warrant. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED 2-0-1, with Ernst abstaining, not to include this article on the warrant.

k) article request for assistance for the committee secretary - on recommendation of the Acting Town Administrator the Board took no action at this time since the current need is being addressed and future need will be addressed via grant funding.

l) article request for part-time office position at Council on Aging - on a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to place the article on the warrant. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to recommend the article. The Acting Town Administrator noted that funding for this position had been included in the Board's FY'98 COA budget recommendation. On a motion duly made and seconded the Board VOTED to reduce their FY'98 COA budget by \$5,850.

m) article for Chamber of Commerce request for 10% of hotel/motel tax revenues - Selectwoman Paine recused herself. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED 2-0 to place the article on the warrant.

n) special town meeting article for Chapter 90 funds - on a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to place the article on the warrant.

o) petition zoning bylaw amendment articles regarding definitions of garage, private and home occupation - on a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to place these articles on the warrant.

p) petition article for funds to operate the Juice Bar - on a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED 2-0-1, with Paine abstaining, to place the article on the warrant. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED 2-0-1, with Paine abstaining, to recommend the warrant.

q) article for lease of Catholic Church parking lot - it was suggested that the Board pursue a three year lease agreement subject to annual funding at \$5,000 per year. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to place the article on the warrant. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board VOTED unanimously to recommend the article.

r) Special Town Meeting - on motions duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to include the following transfers in article 1 of the special town meeting warrant:

- overlay reserve to reserve fund - \$13,000
- ambulance fund to reserve fund - \$5,500
- free cash to general administration - \$1,000
- snow removal overtime and DPW capital leases to #417 facilities - \$15,997
- fire department sal & wages to consultancy - \$22,500

s) on motions duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to amend their FY'98 budget recommendations as follows:

- general administration medical services line increased by \$4,500
- #196 consultancy increased to \$30,000


The Board recessed from 1:00 p.m. to 1:03 p.m.

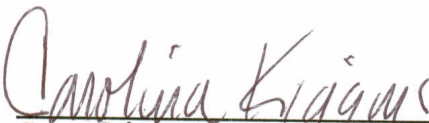
t) The Acting Town Administrator noted an increase in the funding level in the article for the CAMA computer program requested by the Board of Assessors from \$1,500 to 3,000.

u) debt exclusion questions - there was consensus to delay seeking debt exclusions regarding the Lt. Island Bridge and DPW Garage projects at this time. On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to reduce the capital budget by \$48,000 - the amount budgeted for FY'98 interest on the DPW Garage project. There was consensus that the Fire Department expansion project be discussed further.

On a motion duly made and seconded, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn at 1:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Linda Smulligan
Administrative Assistant


Carolina Kiggins, Chair


David Ernst

Cynthia Paine