

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting of June 10, 2014
Town Hall – Meeting Room #1 7:00pm

Present: Chairman Richard Ward , Vice-Chairman Ronald Clarke, Alan Dunham, Sarah Hewins, Helen Marrone, Town Administrator Michael Milanoski (TA) , Town Accountant Meg LaMay and Elaine Weston

The Chair led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance, Clarke read a prayer and the Chair and read the announcements and reviewed agenda.

Public Comment Period:

Ed James (Plymouth Airport rep): gave dates of events happening at airport: Circus 6/18, Pilots assoc. (7/12) & air show on 9/28

Dawn Padovani read a letter from Father Medeiros in regards to the prayer item on the agenda.

Dave Glass spoke in regards to the prayer item on the agenda.

Gina Hanlon-Cavicchi spoke in regards to Article 10 of warrant-the Board suggested her speaking on behalf of the School Committee when the item comes up.

Budget Review and Approval: Finance Committee and School Committee present

John Cotter opened the Finance Committee meeting.

Dunham suggested going thru the articles with the intention of approving the budget as a result of that.

Ch. Ward reviewed articles 1-6 which were approved at the last meeting. Each article informational summary to be read, motion made and discussion and questions from both Board of Selectmen and Finance Committee and vote by each committee.

Finance Committee votes on Articles 1-6:

1. 6-0, 2. 6-0 to table, 3. Table 4. 3-3 5. table

Article 7 Motion by Clarke to approve, 2nd by Dunham. Vote 5-0. Abolishing the DPW Commissioners and giving appointing authority to the Town Administrator with approval of the Board of Selectmen. Finance Committee voted 4-0-1.

Article 8 Motion by Clarke to approve, 2nd by Dunham. Vote 5-0. It states in section 2 that the Board of Selectmen have the authority to veto any appointment of the Town Administrator. Finance Committee voted 4-0-1.

Article 9 Motion by Clarke to approve pending language of a 3-year term be inserted into the motion, 2nd by Dunham. Marrone feels it should stay as elected. It is not stated in the article, but the intention is for the term of each member to be for three years. Dunham suggested

amending the article on the Town Meeting floor. Clarke suggested consulting with town counsel so the motion reflects the change. Vote 3-2 (Hewins and Marrone opposed). Finance Committee voted 4-0.

Article 10 Dunham recused himself from parts of A & B that are a conflict of interest. Clarke recommended going thru the budget. Ch. Ward reviewed each budget and the Boards put holds on accounts to discuss. Gasoline: Cotter questioned gasoline and street light expense. LaMay explained the net is that there is no accounting component for the bills coming in for the agreement we have with a neighboring town and the net meter credit check from NStar. Finance Committee questioned the reserve fund which is located in the shared budget expenses. Finance Committee questioned the Assessors salary increase. TA explained that the increases are based on the Wage & Classification Plan in Appendix C of the budget book. Finance Committee questioned increase in Data Processing and were expecting expenses to be flat instead of increasing. TA stated that the expenses are for the updated software, paper, printers and new Softright lease.

Conservation Commission was addressed by Hewins. She feels a part-time Conservation Agent would be a mistake for the town, but wants to stand united with the board and does not want to hold up town business by stressing the importance of the position.

Finance Committee questioned the reduction of a position in the Treasurer/Tax Collector budget. TA stated the budget was worked out with the union to streamline the duties of the current employees as part of the reorganization, which allows more work to support the Treasurer which was not done before and receivables will be processed by the new accounting system which was previously done by an employee. Consultants may need to come in thru certain periods and does not want to get into a position where workloads decrease and someone needs to be laid off.

Finance Committee would like a better understanding of the new positions in the budget. TA explained there is an open position, one out on leave and the budget allows for 2 new positions. One will allow one to be a detective and will create a slot for a school resource officer. Cotter also questioned overtime and asked for a breakdown. TA stated that it costs the town less to pay for overtime than it does to add an additional full-time position.

Cotter stated they would like more information. Hewins would like to hear from the School Committee.

Gina Marie Hanlon-Cavicchi, Vice Chair of the School Committee addressed the Board asking for Article 10, part B to be one line item and not 3 line items. Liz Sorrell, Superintendent requested the one line item in the interest of not misleading the public as it has been done since she has been in town. There is no sharing plan of resources next fiscal year. When it is, it makes sense to do that. MGL Ch. 71 sec. 34 states the total must be allocated and may not limit the authority of the School Committee to determine expenditures within the total appropriation.

Clarke requested the TA have a motion for town meeting to reflect a total appropriation for the school. TA stated the motion does reflect that.

Cotter questioned decrease of Council on Aging Meals on Wheels. TA explained they have raised their lunch fees to account for the decrease.

Cotter questioned if the increase in Recreation was to fund lifeguards. TA explained it was for the proper training to obtain certified lifeguards and for their salary.

Cotter questioned the Pump and Treat item of Landfill Operating. TA explained that the Health Agent is reviewing the work of Norfolk Ram weekly to ensure billing is timely and consistent.

Cotter questioned unemployment amount of \$1. TA explained that it is a one time cost and during the restructuring and balancing of budget, this line item is a shared cost for the town.

Motion to approve the detailed budget dated 6/10/14 at 4:26pm, as reviewed by Dunham, 2nd by Marrone. Vote 5-0, Dunham recused himself from Dispatcher, Fire and EMS salaries. Vote 4-0. Finance Committee vote excluding school: 4-0-1

Article 10:

Part A: Dunham recused himself from discussion on this section and left the table. TA reviewed the organizational chart. Motion by Marrone to approve Article 10, Part A. Hewins expressed her reservations. Second by Clarke. Vote: 4-0. Finance Committee vote: 4-0

Dunham returned to the table

Part B: Motion by Marrone to approve, 2nd by Clarke. Dunham recused himself from the public safety salaries line item, but his discussion and vote will reflect all other items within Part B. TA & Clarke clarified the benefit of grouping the line items so there would not be a need to go to town meeting for budget needs. Vote for all items except Public Safety Salaries 5-0. Public Safety Salaries 4-0. Finance Committee vote (excluding school budget) 4-0, public safety vote: 5-0.

Part C: Motion by Clarke to approve, 2nd by Dunham. Finance Committee questioned the effect of funding future projects. TA stated the forecast and the financial management policies establish the goal of getting the town to 10% in the accounts for funding. He recommended limiting the amount of leases if possible. Steve Pratt spoke on behalf of the Town Building Study Committee to explain the mind-set behind the stabilizations funds being used for things other than buildings and would like to get a project started. Clarke stated he would like numbers for the Fire Station bond built into the budget in future years. Cotter questioned the allocating of expenses twice. LaMay explained that it is a more transparent way of showing the money raising and appropriating. The repeated amount at the bottom is for informational purposes. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote: 4-0.

Part D: Motion by Marrone, 2nd by Clarke. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote: 5-0.

5 minute break at 9:45pm.

Article 11 Motion to approve by Clarke, 2nd by Dunham. Vote: 5-0. Finance Committee vote at a previous meeting 0-6.

Article 12 Motion to approve by Clarke, 2nd by Marrone. TA gave an overview of what to expect in revenues. Cotter questioned if 10% of these funds could go toward the local food pantry. TA explained that the item cannot be amended, but it could be a future policy of the Board of Selectmen. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote 5-0.

Article 13 Motion to approve by Clarke, 2nd by Hewins. Repurpose the landfill for other purposes the Board of Selectmen choose. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote 4-1.

Article 14 Motion by Marrone to approve, 2nd by Clarke. TA is keeping as a placeholder and may be rescinded at Town Meeting. Motion to table subject to the provision of additional information by Clarke, 2nd by Dunham. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote 5-0.

Article 15 Motion by Clarke to rescind previous vote and consider amended article, 2nd by Dunham. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote 5-0

Article 16 Finance Committee vote 6-0.

Article 17 Motion by Clarke to approve, 2nd by Hewins. TA explained the various components where the money will come from. Stephanie Clougherty questioned if they can find out how much is left at the end of the fiscal year from the funds. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote 4-0.

Article 18 Finance Committee vote 6-0 at a previous meeting.

Article 19 Motion to approve by Clarke, 2nd by Dunham. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote 4-2.

Article 20 Motion to approve by Clarke, 2nd by Hewins. Hewins spoke on the playground issues that need to be addressed by these funds. Town Clerk Doyle spoke on the records preservation and the condition of old records and the process of preservation. Jack Hunter stated the expenses for the Crystal Lake Community Garden include well, boxes, and general maintenance of the garden. Hunter also spoke on the Community Housing 10% mandated set-aside. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote: 5-0

Article 21 Motion by Marrone to approve, 2nd by Clarke. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote: 5-0.

Article 22 Finance Committee voted 6-0 at a previous meeting.

Article 23 Motion by Dunham to approve, 2nd by Hewins. Hunter gave brief explanation of article. Vote: 5-0. Finance Committee vote at a previous meeting 6-0.

Article 24 Motion by Clarke to approve, 2nd by Dunham. Hunter gave brief explanation of article. Hewins stated in past years Planning voted against internally lit signs. Vote 4-1. Finance Committee vote at a previous meeting 6-0.

Article 25 Motion by Clarke to approve, 2nd by Hewins. Hunter feels this article will regulate any dispensaries if they come to Carver. Vote: 5-0. Finance Committee vote at a previous meeting 6-0.

Article 26 Motion by Marrone to approve, 2nd by Clarke. Hunter explained that the owner of Edaville received permission for a subdivision. A condition from Planning was to rescind the subdivision and improve the “street-scape” on Pine Street. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote at a previous meeting 6-0.

Article 27 Motion to approve by Clarke, 2nd by Dunham. Vote 5-0. Finance Committee vote at a previous meeting 6-0.

Motion by Clarke, 2nd by Dunham to approve entire warrant for town counsel and town accountant to make any changes with approval of the Chairman. Vote 5-0.

Town Administrator Update He is in communication with Town Counsel to get updates to the Warrant in preparation of Town Meeting.

Summer Meeting Schedule: July 15 and August 12 conditional with Chairman to approve any one day special licenses, or other actions necessary that may arise in the interim to resume on September 9. Motion to approve summer schedule by Clarke, 2nd by Marrone. Vote 5-0.

BoS Comment Period

Dunham: Encouraged everyone to attend Town Meeting.

Hewins: Re-iterated Dunham’s encouragement. YPAC summer cookout on 6/21 and 3 summer sessions will be running.

Ward: looking for young people to help out at the Farmer’s Market Sunday’s beginning at 10am. He commended Officer Harriman for rescuing a dog at a car accident recently.

Clarke: Apologized for lack of decorum due to the untimeliness of meetings. He also encourages everyone to attend Town Meeting.

Marrone: Boy Scouts flag retirement ceremony is 6/14. She also encourages everyone to attend Town Meeting.

Request from Lakenham Green Preservation Committee to Waive Permit Fee:

Motion by Clarke to approve, 2nd by Hewins. Vote 5-0.

Proposed prayer at meetings: Dunham requested tabling to a future meeting, Marrone requested it be addressed tonight. She thanked the majority of the Board for supporting prayer at recent meeting and feels it is a way of bringing the community together. Motion by Marrone to approve to reading a prayer at each meeting, 2nd by Clarke. Hewins feels everyone is entitled to pray, but feels it should be done in private and not in a business meeting. Ward feels he did not want to mix religion and government and suggested having a moment of silence in lieu of a prayer. Marrone feels her purpose for the prayer is to reach out to the community and feels that in a moment of silence they won't hear anything, whereas a hearing a prayer may help someone feel hope where a moment of silence would not serve the purpose. Dunham feels both arguments are passionate and feels that it puts a divide that needs to be avoided and feels a moment of silence would give the opportunity for a silent prayer. Clarke stated that Senate and Supreme Court begin meetings with prayer and they are also split on the topic. He does not feel he is not inflicting his views on anyone and they won't participate if they don't want to. Dunham suggested having prayer for a trial period of 6 months. Motion amended by Marrone to approve the Board to say the prayer written by Rev. Merritt at the beginning of each meeting until the first meeting in December. Second by Dunham. Vote 3-2.

Annual Re-appointments: Motion by Dunham to approve all re-appointments, 2nd by Clarke. Vote 5-0.

Motion to approve Common Victualler License for King Richard's Faire: Motion by Clarke, 2nd by Dunham. Vote 5-0.

Motion to approve minutes: Motion to approve 5/27 minutes by Dunham as amended, 2nd by Clarke. Vote 5-0.

Motion to approve 6/5 minutes by Clarke, 2nd by Dunham. Vote 5-0.

Motion to meet at 6:30 before Town Meeting on 6/16 by Dunham, 2nd by Hewins. Vote 5-0.

Motion to adjourn at 11:50pm by Dunham, 2nd by Hewins. Vote 5-0.