

Carver Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes

Carver Town Hall, 2nd Floor

April 24, 2017 - 7:00pm

In Attendance: Chairman Ronald Clarke, Vice-Chairman Alan Dunham, Helen Marrone, Dave Robertson, Town Administrator Milanoski (TA) & Elaine Weston

Absent: Sarah Hewins

Chair led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance and Marrone read the community prayer.

Citizens Participation: None

Reorganization of the Board: Robertson motion to nominate Clarke to be chair, Clarke stated he may not be able to continue as chair due to his responsibilities at work. Marrone motion to nominate Dunham as chair, and amended the motion and second. Vote 4-0

Dunham took position of Chairman.

Marrone motion to nominate Clarke as Vice-Chair, second by Robertson. Vote 4-0.

Adoption of Board of Selectmen Policies:

Bd. Of Selectmen Code of Conduct: Motion to approve by Marrone, second by Clarke. Vote 4-0.

Bloggers Code of Conduct: Motion to approve by Marrone, second by Clarke. Vote 4-0.

Agenda Policy: Motion to approve by Marrone, second by Clarke. Vote 4-0.

Financial Management Policy: Motion to approve by Marrone, second by Clarke. 4-0.

Swearing in of two new Police Officers: Chief Marc Duphily presented the two new hires.

Matthew Raynor & Joshua Shaw are two new officers that have completed their requirements and the academy. Town Clerk Doyle swore in the officers.

SRPEDD appointment: Motion by Clarke to appoint the Chair of Planning Board as the SRPEDD Commission Member and the Interim Planning Director as the Alternate, second by Robertson. Vote 4-0.

SRPEDD joint transportation planning group representative appointment: Motion to appoint John Woods and Chris Vincent as alternate, by Clarke, second by Robertson. Vote 4-0.

Town Administrator Update:

Board of Selectmen Update:

Robertson: none

Marrone: Thanked the candidates that ran for election and the public that voted. Marrone requested that Committee and Board chairs come to future meetings to explain what their role is.

Dunham: Thanked the candidates that ran and those that ran for Selectmen. Eagle Scout Connor Skinner is in need of donations of monetary support of \$700 as well as materials for his project to redo the bandstand in Shurtleff Park.

Clarke: Thanked the voters and noted that only 8% of voters came to out to vote.

Designate Board of Selectmen members as format representatives to attend meetings involving state agencies. Motion by Clarke to appoint Marrone and Hewins as representatives, second by Robertson. Vote 4-0.

Approval of CORI Policy: This policy applies to town employees, volunteers & recreation. Motion to approve by Robertson, second by Marrone. Vote 4-0.

Approval to engage in the process to change Health Insurance benefits under G.L. c.32B, §21-23. Motion to approve by Clarke, second by Marrone.

Town Administrator Update:

Urban Renewal Plan approval for Phase I from State (final record of decision).

Elementary School project is ahead of schedule.

Middle High School project will be moving forward in late May/early June.

Open Meeting Law Violations from 2014 by Bob Belbin: A response was received that 4 out of 5 violations were denied. Of the almost 30 violations received by the state-less than 10 were founded and all were resolved. Robertson questioned what the legal costs to the Town all of the violations are costing. TA stated that the cost to the town is in the thousands. Marrone questioned if there is any language in the law that outlines abuse by a citizen in the filing of complaints.

Approval of Minutes of 4/4/17: Motion to approve minutes by Robertson, second by Clarke. Vote 4-0.

Request for Use of Shurtleff Park: Carver Music Boosters 7/16/17 & 8/13/17. Motion to approve by Marrone, second by Robertson. Vote 4-0.

Old Colony Elder Services; Motion to nominate Carole Julius to continue as the Old Colony Elder Services representative by Clarke, second by Robertson. Vote 4-0.

Plymouth County FY18 Budget Vote: Marrone is the representative for Carver as the vote. TA stated that several years ago Plymouth County had made several reductions in staff due to budget constraints. The budget is going up from last year. In addition to reclassifying salaries, they are adding three new positions. The commissioners' salaries are increasing due to a cut that was taken years ago. Marrone stated that the Registry of Deeds did lose positions years ago and they have been struggling since. Marrone would like Tom O'Brien to elaborate on other issues. Marrone questioned if O'Brien elaborated on where the excess revenues were. TA stated that some of their fees have increased and they also may have a sustainable budget. Clarke stated that Lyme disease is becoming an epidemic and there are always lines at the registry, but has concerns of the large increases, and would like to see incremental increases over several years to ensure the budget is sustainable. Motion by Clarke to not approve the budget, second by Robertson. Vote 4-0

Next meetings: Joint meeting with School Committee in June, 5/16, 6/6, 8/1, 9/5, 10/3, 11/7, 12/5.

Motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 8:10pm by Clarke.

Motion to adjourn retracted by Clarke as Tom O'Brien, Plymouth County Treasurer and Frank Basler, Plymouth County Administrator arrived to discuss the budget.

Dunham reviewed the discussion to update the Plymouth County Commissioners.

O'Brien is one of the few towns that asked the Commissioners to come before the Board before taking a vote. The County budget is less than it was 8 years ago and as compared to the State, Federal and Town of Plymouth, it has decreased dramatically. The salaries of the Commissioners is to follow what was said in 2008 to restore the salaries to the level it was back in 2008. The salaries were \$28,000 and were cut to \$14,000 and are now requesting to be restored back to \$28,000. The salaries of the three unions are increased by a cola and a step at approximately 3.5% (step is 2%, cola is 1%). Non-union is getting a 3% cola. The County Administrator position needed be adjusted as well as the County Treasurer. The elected representatives are getting a 5% increase. The total cost of personnel including benefits is less than it was 7 years ago. The Health Insurance costs were 90/10 and over the last few years it has been reduced to 75/25. Mayflower Health Care costs have only increased by 4%. They are prepaying their retirement liability. If a retirement liability is prepaid, any dollars that are prepaid, they are getting credit for dollar for dollar. They are planning to over fund the OPEB liability. A stabilization fund was established as well. Mayflower Municipal Health Group

charges \$65,000 for the financial management of the group. It is anticipated to end FY 17 with a surplus of \$600,000. The County is fiscally better off than it has been in several years.

Marrone questioned what the two new Registry of Deeds positions are: Recorder and Land Court Recorder. Questioned if it is accurate that the revenues are from the Registry.

O'Brien stated that the revenues come from several different sources, based on the number of transactions, savings thru programs, savings on bulk purchasing program. The stabilization fund was set up for the purpose of sustaining the projected budget.

Clarke questioned if a policy was established for funding the stabilization fund.

O'Brien stated that they will make the recommendation to adopt a policy by the end of the year.

Dunham questioned the results of the Audit report and what steps have been taken as a result of their findings. O'Brien stated that all of the audits are posted online.

Marrone asked for a draft policy for the stabilization fund available for the meeting on May 11.

Dan Pollata – County Commissioner stated the Policy on OPEB, stabilization and sick leave are all being developed and probably won't be fully developed by May 11, but will try.

Clarke stated that he is thankful for the presentation and explanations and would like to leave the vote up to Marrone, Robertson agreed.

Clarke Motion to rescind prior vote, second by Marrone. Vote 4-0.

Clarke Motion that Board take no action on the budget and leave the decision up to the Representative after hearing the full presentation, second by Marrone. Vote 4-0.

Motion to adjourn into Executive Session at 9:15pm to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining negotiations with unions: Public Employees Commission/IAC-Health Care and with respect to non-union negotiations and with Town Administrator's Contract that may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining position of the Town if held in open session, and to reconvene in open session for purpose of adjournment by Clarke, second by Robertson. Roll Call: Affirmative-Robertson, Hewins, Clarke, Marrone, Dunham.

Motion to adjourn at 9:45 by Robertson, second by Clarke. Vote 4-0.