

MINUTES
Governance Committee
03/10/2015 @ 7:30am

Meeting called to order at 7:42am

Members Present: Chairman Stephen Gray, Jack Angley, John Cotter and Jim Grimes

Absent: n/a

Staff: Michael Milanoski, Michele Doll

Approval of minutes from December 9th meeting

Motion to approve by Cotter. Angley 2nd. Unanimous.

Approval of minutes from January 6th meeting

Motion to approve as amended by Angley. Cotter 2nd. Grimes abstained. Approved 4-0-1

Approval of minutes from February 24th meeting

Motion to approve by Grimes. Angley 2nd. Cotter abstained. Approved 4-0-1

Discussion relative to operations of Building Department

Milanoski - working on final numbers for additional support needed from April thru October for building inspections and vacation coverage. Currently estimated at \$7,500.00, electrical and plumbing included. **Gray** – requested explanation of figure. **Milanoski** – 4-6 hours per week from April to October. **Gray** – believes needs will be greater, at least 8 hours per week. His opinion is a minimum of \$10,000.00 is needed to run office efficiently. **Milanoski** – McNeil is preparing memo to justify needs. She wants people out doing inspections, while she processes paperwork and reviews plans. School and Fire Station will also require more of her time. **Cotter** – department needs to get caught up. **Gray** – foresees an increase in activity due to snow damage, will be extremely challenging and money is easily justifiable. **Milanoski** – T.A. Budget does have additional funds to help compensate ebb and flow of workload, as needed.

Discussion relative to Carver Housing and South Shore Housing water and maintenance issues

Gray – received DEP letter approving pilot study for Green Sand System. DEP approved permitting to add treatment system. **Milanoski** – canister recalibrated to DEP standards, ready to ship. Will run for approximately one week; with Capital Outlay approval, we will move forward.

Discussion relative to Committees and Boards in Town

Gray – need to amend Planning Board by-law to prevent person who lost election from being appointed to associate or alternate position. **Milanoski** – may create issues later on, if no one else is willing to step up. Empty seat needs to be filled to guarantee quorum. **Gray** – this is a high profile board which should be able to find at least one person. Someone voted out, should not be appointed. **Cotter** – cited School Committee, as example. Should have a general by-law established for all. **Milanoski** – Planning Board is elected board with appointed alternates. Law states majority vote of (joint) Board + Selectmen = appointment. Planning Board appoints their own associate members. **Grimes** – Planning Board is important; alternate should be fully involved. **Milanoski** – may be a long term effect by precluding people we need later. **Grimes** – need more involvement in town. . . . The recommendation of the Committee remains to amend the Planning Board bylaw to prohibit a person who lost during the previous election cycle from being appointed to an associate or alternate position.

Gray – status of joint meeting regarding Marcus Atwood House? **Milanoski** – draft by-law by counsel to be presented at next meeting. **Cotter** – finances need to be kept separate. **Grimes** – Council on Aging needs

understanding that Trustees are to be consulted. **Cotter** – need project manager with construction experience working with CPA and Trustees. **Milanoski** – project management process needs to be written into each Article.

Gray – Warrant Article has been submitted to limit Committee and Board memberships for individuals. **Angley** – set policy through by-laws. **Gray** – need to find people to commit to serve. **Grimes** – how can we get more people involved? **Angley** – issues bring people forward. **Gray** – opposed to limits on membership by-law. **Angley** – opposed. If they want to serve, let them serve. **Cotter** – there are ethics rules, individuals should not be able to benefit from committee/board they are serving on. **Milanoski** – rely on self-policing, and audience speaking up. Individual should abstain from any vote from which they can benefit. **Unanimous vote** to oppose bylaw to limit memberships to no more than one appointed Board or Committee

Discussion relative to OPEB, and long/short healthcare options for premium cost share

Recent ruling that town of Somerville has right to reduce Town's cost share to retirees' health benefits without Collective Bargaining with current employees. Carver currently has \$51,000,000.00 OPEB liability. Change from Medex3 to Medex 2 has reduced premium liability by \$11,000,000.00. **Gray** – in his opinion it is ethically necessary to maintain 75% Town contribution for existing retirees. New policy going forward should be considered for those yet to retire. **Cotter** – Increase vesting period. **Milanoski** – system is not fair; those who retire from Carver with 10 years vested can come back for benefits anytime. Selectmen have ability to create retirement policy for anyone who has yet to reach retirement. **Grimes** – makes sense to establish vestment. **Milanoski** – 75% share is not sustainable. Recommends moving forward with 50% share during Collective Bargaining. Existing members would maintain 75%. **Gray** – requests that Milanoski draft memo explaining recommendations for existing employees.

Discussion relative to elected vs. appointed constables

Chairman Gray requested elected constables be invited to join discussions at next meeting.

Discussion relative to Fiscal Management Policies per FY16

Angley – when Town Meeting/BOS approved policy, what was the expectation? Is it defensible for the school dept. to ignore? **Milanoski** – Town Meeting sets budget. School needs to meet to reduce budget, immediately, in his opinion. **Gray** – consider establishing by-law change that budgets need to be voted on a certain number of days before Town Meeting. **Cotter** – Finance Committee would like 30 days prior. Other towns have more information available prior to Town Meeting. **Grimes** – 30 days is sufficient. **Milanoski** – will talk to town counsel. Allow a little flexibility for framework, using back-up dates from Town Meeting.

Next meeting will be Tuesday, March 24th at 7:30am.

Motion to adjourn at 9:41 by Cotter. Angley 2nd. Unanimous.