

MINUTES
Governance Committee
09/25/2014 @ 8:00am

Meeting called to order at 8:09am

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

Absent: Jack Angley, Dick Ward

Staff: Michael Milanoski, Michele Doll

Guests: Chief Marc Duphily, Jack Hunter

Approval of minutes from September 9th meeting

Tabled until next meeting.

Update from Police Chief regarding department organization and growth

Duphily distributed copies of his department organization plans from 2014 for review, showing current vs. proposed staffing. The Town currently has 14 FT officers, excluding Duphily and including (1) lateral transfer doing required 3 month ride along. Long term goal for department is to maintain 20 officers, which will include (2) School Resource Officers. He is in the process of trying to fill (2) existing vacant positions, bringing staff to 16. Hopes to have new hires selected and enrolled in Plymouth Academy in March, or Randolph Academy (if re-opened) in January. Duphily noted that there is (1) Sargeant who has reached max and able to retire, (1) Sargeant who will be able to retire in 4 years and (1) Officer out due to injury.

At 8:19 Chair finds discussion pursuant to GL30A, Sec 21a, 3 necessary to briefly go to Executive Session. Roll Call – Gray, Grimes, Cotter

8:22 Returned to Open Session

Grimes – any consideration to hiring Deputy Chief, non-civil service? **Duphily** – Yes. Would like to eventually add layer of confidential management, non-Union personnel. **Cotter** – why not ask now for what you want? **Duphily** – need to negotiate with Union on what can be done and need to discuss with Town Administrator before going to Union. There is a (1) year wage re-opener and three a (3) year deal pending effective July 1, 2016. He has established a good relationship with the Union, moving forward progressively and things are getting done. The accomplishments over the past year are designed to bring department and community together. Need to focus limited resources; need residents to reach out and inform. Financially (2) vacant positions are funded in the budget, about \$100,000.00 available now. These funds could be allocated to OT budget until positions are filled. **Grimes** – community needs to understand time and logistics in new hires. **Cotter** – money should be used for duties related to Resource Officer and Detective positions. **Gray** - suggested Duphily attend upcoming BoS meeting to explain hiring process to public.

Motion to recommend funds budgeted for (2) officers, as yet not hired or appointed, be applied to overtime and used in accordance with long range plans for Detective and school Resource Officer by Cotter. Grimes 2nd. Unanimous.

Discussion on Board and Committee Stipends: Planning Board

Hunter – Planning Chairman, Rosemarie Hanlon, was unable to attend meeting, but would appreciate consideration for future meeting. **Gray** – would be pleased to speak with her personally and get her input.

Update from OPEB Committee

OPEB Committee Chairman, Stephen Pratt, not available. He would be available most Tuesday mornings.

Cotter – expecting FinCom to meet on October 6th with health insurance consultants and OPEB. There is savings to be had, need to decide where to apply it.

Discussion relative to creation of Town IT Department for FY16

No report received from Town Administrator

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

Hunter received tour of Carver Housing facilities from resident, Marianne Prescott. Now feels his earlier memo on conditions may have been too critical, however water is very bad. Police Chief has been meeting with residents regarding drug and vandalism issues. Hunter requested both groups nominate point person to meet with Health Director, BoH Chair and himself. The Town cannot apply for Grant in the upcoming cycle, as we have just been awarded a Community Block Grant. Per Hunter, Housing Directors have agreed to participate in cost to upgrade water, and not charge down to residents. Many residents are currently using Cumberland Farms filling station for water. **Cotter** - something needs to be done now. **Hunter** – quoted \$1000.00 for camera. Estimated temporary repair cost is \$2500.00-\$6000.00, if source of manganese and iron is discovered by camera. **Gray** – need short term and long term solutions. **Cotter** – can Fire Station Grant money be used towards well, as it also serves the station? Money for camera should come out of Buildings & Grounds budget. **Grimes** – residents need potable water. **Cotter** – would like more information on options before voting on long term resolution. **Hunter** – residents should be involved in decision process.

Motion to recommend moving forward with camera and stent repair by Cotter. Grimes 2nd. Unanimous.

Milanoski joins meeting 9:40am

Discussion relative to creating an Annual Budget Time Table Bylaw

Town Administrator already presented to BoS. **Cotter** – Town meeting should be before elections, to ensure those voting were involved in Budget discussions. Selectmen should vote on Budget they worked on. 1st pass on Budget to FinCom is always late. **Gray** – requested Cotter put together his recommendations. **Grimes** – agrees with idea of Town Meeting before elections. **Gray** – materials should be available to public for review before Town Meeting.

Motion to recommend completed budget and Annual Town Meeting happen prior to election by Cotter. Grimes 2nd. Unanimous.

Milanoski – advised the Committee members that Selectman Dick Ward has resigned his position as BoS representative, waiting for verification on replacement.

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

Motion to adjourn at 10:10 by Grimes. Cotter 2nd. Unanimous.