



CARVER FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 8, 2018 MEETING

Present: Chairman Alan Germain, Kathryn Bandzul, Vice Chairman, William Duggan, George Callahan, Town Administrator Michael Milanoski. Joseph Patten and John Cotter, Jr. were absent. Also present: Marianne MacLeod, Recording Secretary.

Chairman Germain called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and began the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

None.

Discussion and update with Dave Siedentopf, Director of Operations and John Woods, Deputy Director of Operations - Town of Carver Operations and Maintenance Department.

Mr. Siedentopf gave an overview of what the Operations and Maintenance Department does and reviewed the handout he passed out to the Committee members. Outlined were highlights of the many projects this department handles. Mr. Siedentopf also reviewed upcoming requests for additional personnel and budget line items.

Mr. Milanoski reviewed budget requests for the Carver Operations and Maintenance Department. Five items were requested but only three were funded. One was a street sweeper with a pump, which will be purchased this year and relighting the Pond Street building with upgrade to LED lighting.

Mr. Germain thanked both gentlemen for coming to tonight's meeting. It was very informative.

Discussion on MGL Chapter 40, Section 22F concerning an MLC fee increase.

Laurie Henault, Carver Treasurer/Tax Collector, appeared before the Board. She would like to increase the MLC (Municipal Lien Certificate) fee from \$25 up to \$50. They receive requests, typically from an attorney's office, when a home is being sold or re-financed. It is part of the closing costs that the attorneys put together. MLC fees collected in FY 2017 were for 389 Certificates issued; and FY 2018 for 457 Certificates issued. Ms. Henault did some research and 21 out of 27 towns in Plymouth County charge \$50. She explained that they receive the request, a staff member runs reports and does the research on the property, Ms. Henault reviews everything and then it gets mailed out. Her office can get approximately 4 and 10 requests a

week. Approximately an hour is spent by staff on each "simple" request; however, sometimes additional research is necessary. This request has to be approved at town meeting. Ms. Bandzul said she feels doubling the fee is extreme. Mr. Milanoski clarified that the Finance Committee is being asked to approve the legislation not the fees tonight. Ms. Henault is trying to cover the cost of effort put into providing the MLC. She is looking for the Finance Committee to give support at the Town Meeting. The Board of Selectmen are in charge of fees and would need to approve an increase. All fees collected go into the General Fund.

Ms. Bandzul made a Motion to table the discussion until the next meeting, seconded by Mr. Callahan, voted and passed unanimously 4-0-0.

Read and approve minutes of meetings for September 13th and October 11th. Minutes could not be approved due to a lack of quorum and will be reviewed and approved at the next meeting.

Any topics not reasonably anticipated by the Chairman 48 hours in advance of the posting of this agenda.

Mr. Milanoski explained the process of money articles as Citizen's Petition at Town Meeting. Over the years, there have been requests for anywhere from \$12,000-\$23,000. He is seeing a trend of non-profits putting in a Citizen's Petition requesting money to run their program. Currently the requests are put in writing with 10 signatures. He feels this should be "vetted" prior to Town Meeting. Should taxpayer money to used in this way? There are many variables with these groups and more and more groups are requesting money. He feels this is a Finance Committee action to look at. Mr. Callahan asked if there could be a written grant request put together for groups to submit? Mr. Milanoski suggested the Finance Committee put this topic on a future agenda for further discussion. Mr. Germain said he would like to put together some type of grant application. Mr. Callahan said he'd like to see a requirement that any grant issued to a group requires the group's representative reporting back to the Finance Committee what they used the money for.

Future Meeting Date: November 27, 2018

Ms. Bandzul made a Motion to adjourn, seconded by Mr. Callahan, voted and passed unanimously 4-0-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Marianne MacLeod,
Recording Secretary

Attachments: Operations and Maintenance Department Handout