

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM
JANUARY 11, 2017
MINUTES

Present: First Selectman Bruce Farmer; Selectmen, Carol Walter, Lynn Pinder, John Giannotti and William W. Fritz, Jr.

Everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the flag. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

VISITORS

D. Morelli requested to have the board re-establish the Command Staff Committee.

K. Carr briefly talked about the powers of the Police Commission as stated in their bylaws and the town charter as it relates to the merit system.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JANUARY 04, 2017

Walter made a motion, seconded by Fritz to approve the minutes from January 4, 2017. The minutes were unanimously approved.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

There were no new appointments and resignations at this time.

MORGAN THEATER PROGRAM AD

Giannotti made a motion, seconded by Pinder and unanimously approved taking out a full page ad for The Morgan School's annual musical production. This year's production of "Hello Dolly" will take place in March. The cost of the full page ad is \$175.

BUDGET REPORTS

Farmer briefly updated the board on the proposed FY 17/18 budget. The majority of increase in the budget is due to a 20 percent increase in health care premium cost and an increase in debt payments. Some savings in the budget were achieved by consolidating the maintenance cost under the Public Works Department and the consolidation of the building maintenance staff under WSAM Maintenance. Consolidation of the maintenance cost under Public Works Department ended up saving \$31,376 over the requested amount. Most departments are only showing minimal increases due to contractual wages. This is the first phase of a larger plan consolidation of services, repairs and maintenance to the town.

Public Works Budget – presented by Peter Neff

- A \$72,700 line item was added to the Public Works budget for Town building and facilities. This new line item includes maintenance items that were transferred from Town Hall, Park & Recreation, Town Marina, Police and Town Wide Services. This will be an overall savings of \$31,376.
- The budget also includes a request for an assistant director position. The department has taken on a lot of new responsibilities from when Neff first became director in 2007. Some of the new responsibilities include town wide data management, town wide service contract management, town wide fleet maintenance, winter storm operations, project development and management

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for all town projects which include Rocky Ledge Water Main, Morgan Sidewalk, Town Marina Dredging, STEAP Grant Peters Complex and Route 1 Sidewalk, CVFD Bulkhead, Small and Large Bridge Program as well as the road reconstruction program. This new position will provide daily supervision of facilities and building maintenance for all town buildings, fleet maintenance and town wide service contract management.

- Total budget request is \$1,870,827 which represents an increase of \$128,573 or 7.38%.

Water Pollution Control Commission – presented by Matt Kennedy, Al Walker and Hal Dolan

- The biggest increase in this budget was in professional services. Last year the professional services line item was \$25,000 and this year the request is for \$70,000. The increase included \$45,000 for engineering services for additional support which will be necessary for Facilities Plan Implementation, to validate legal policies and other legal documents. There was some discussion on if this should be done through an amendment process so the town would be eligible for reimbursement. The original request was for an \$95,000 but it was reduced by the First Selectman to \$70,000. The board asked for more details from the commission supporting this amount.
- Total budget is \$131,666 which represents an increase of \$48,738.

Harbor Commission

- There was no representative from the Harbor Commission. The commission requested \$56,660. The repairs and maintenance line was reduced by \$16,900. Those funds were transferred to the Public Works Town Building and Facilities line item.
- Total budget is \$39,760 which represents a decrease of \$9,800 or -19.77%.

Shellfish Commission – presented by Wayne Church and Al Walker

- The commission is requesting a budget of \$19,920. W. Church is asking for additional funding to continue to put seed into the river. The commission's intention is to take the town beyond Indian River Shellfish Company and the Unilever Settlement finds. \$13,000 will be used for Shellfish Upweller, site preparation and permitting. \$5,000 will be used to hire an environmental attorney for legal support.
- FY 16/17 adopted budget is \$2,500. Total budget request for FY 17/18 is \$19,070 which represents an increase of \$16,570.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Fritz commented on some of the remarks that were said during the visitor's portion of the meeting.

Reported by Walter

- Walter reported on Monday night's Police Commission meeting. The commission approved the restructuring plan, vehicle lease plan and discussed the department's recommitment to the canine program. The department has also reinstated the DARE program.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION

Fritz made a motion, seconded by Giannotti to enter into executive session at 8:34 PM and invite Administrative Assistant Mary Schettino and Peter & Sue Gaeta. The motion was unanimously approved. The board came out of executive at 8:48 PM.

ADJOURN

Fritz made a motion, seconded by Giannotti and unanimously adjourned the meeting at 8:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino