

**Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Town Hall Conference Room
Wednesday, January 5, 2011
Minutes**

Present: First Selectman William W. Fritz, Jr.; Selectmen, Dolly Mezzetti, Thomas Vicino, Ray Apel and Carol Walter.

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 AM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the United States flag.

VISITORS

Fritz introduced Kim Scroggins, the new reporter for the Harbor News.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 22, 2010

Mezzetti made a motion, seconded by Apel, to approve the minutes from December 15, 2010. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

None

TAX ABATEMENT LIST 2010

Melanie Yanus, Tax Collector, reviewed the 2010 Tax Abatement List. Mezzetti made a motion, seconded by Vicino, to approve the Clinton Volunteer Fire Department Tax Abatement List. The motion was unanimously approved.

BUDGET REVIEW

The Following budgets were reviewed by the Board of Selectmen;

- Selectmen – Fritz reviewed the Selectmen budget with the board. The salary for the receptionist is contractual. The First Selectman and Administrative Assistant are non-union employees and have not received a raise the last two years. Fritz recommended increasing the administrative assistant's salary by \$3,000. Fritz did not increase his salary. Mezzetti recommended increasing the First Selectman's salary. Fritz said if it is increased it should not take effect until after the election. Fritz re-instated the Selectmen's stipend. Mezzetti recommended adding a travel stipend in the budget for the First Selectman.
- Finance – Fritz reviewed the Finance budget.
- Town Clerk – Karen Marsden reviewed her budget. The assistant town clerk's salary is contractual. Marsden is a non-union employee and hasn't received a raise the last two years. Fritz recommended increasing her salary by \$3,000. Fritz increased the part time hours to 19 hours a week.

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- Tax Collector – Melanie Yanus reviewed her budget. The assistant collector’s salary is contractual. Yanus is also a non-union employee and hasn’t received a raise the last two years. Fritz recommended increasing her salary by \$3,000. Fritz increased the part time hours to 19 hours a week. Yanus said the part time clerk has not received a raise. Yanus recommended increasing the part time clerk’s salary from \$13,000 to \$14,591.
- Probate – This will be the first year for the new regional court system. The budget amount is based on population, Grand List and work load.
- Inland Wetlands, Planning & Zoning and Zoning Board of Appeals – Thomas Lane reviewed all three budgets.

Fritz reviewed the Civil Preparedness, Water & Hydrants, Street Lighting and Health District budgets. The Assessor and WSAM Maintenance budgets will be reviewed at the January 19, 2011 meeting.

Fritz said the health insurance went out to bid this year. They originally anticipated a nine percent increase from the current provider. Fritz said they have now agreed to a zero percent increase or it could even be reduced by 4 percent.

Fritz said reval has gone down but the Grand List is still not complete.

SELECTMEN’S REPORTS

Apel & Vicino had nothing to report.

Walter asked if the teacher’s contracts have come in yet.

Mezzetti said at last year’s public hearing Apel spoke against the budget. Mezzetti hopes the Selectmen will stand behind the budget this year. Mezzetti urged them to speak against it while they are still reviewing it and once it’s finalized the board needs to stand behind it. The Selectmen will finalize the budget on February 2, 2011. Fritz will schedule a public meeting to review the budget before it goes to the Board of Finance. Walter said last year there was a lot of experience but this year everyone has been through the process already.

Fritz said the committee interviewed 4 applicants last night for Finance Director. Two of the four applicants will be asked to come back for a second interview. Additional interviews will be held Friday evening.

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Fritz said next week he will schedule a Bonding Committee meeting. Fritz reviewed the potential projects with the board.

- Infrastructure - \$2.3 million
 - WSAM Restoration - \$2.0 million
 - IRRC Field turf - \$900,000
 - Beach Building - \$120,000
 - Bulkheads & Uplands - \$900,000
 - Academy Building Restoration - \$100,000
 - Eliot windows, septic & parking - \$700,000
 - Fiber - \$500,000
 - Salt Shed - \$600,000
 - Old PD - \$500,000
- Total = \$8,620,000

Fritz said the referendum should be the end of February or early March.

The January 12, 2011 Board of Selectmen meeting has been canceled because the Morgan Building Committee has scheduled a public hearing to present their findings to the Board of Selectmen, Board of Education, Board of Finance. The committee is requesting \$18,000 for architectural services to prepare conceptual drawings. The meeting has been scheduled for January 12, 2011 at 7:00 PM in the Auditorium of the Town Hall.

Mezzetti made a motion, seconded by Walter, to enter into executive session at 9:17 AM and invite the Board of Selectmen, Melanie Yanus, Mary Schettino, Peter Neff and Karen Marsden. The motion was unanimously approved.

Mezzetti made a motion, seconded by Apel, to exit out of executive session at 9:40 AM. The motion was unanimously approved.

Vicino made a motion, seconded by Mezzetti, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 9:41 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino
Administrative Assistant

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