

**Board of Selectmen
Regular Meeting
Town Hall Green Room
Wednesday, February 9, 2011
Minutes**

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

Absent: Selectwomen Dolly Mezzetti

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Everyone stood and pledged allegiance to the United States flag.

VISITORS

No one wished to speak

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – FEBRUARY 2, 2011

Apel made a motion, seconded by Vicino, to approve the minutes from February 2, 2011. The motion was unanimously approved.

RESIGNATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

Fritz received a written request from Inland Wetlands Commission chairman David Radka to appoint Jessica Warren as a student member to the Inland Wetlands Commission. Apel made a motion, seconded by Vicino to appoint Jessica Warren as a student member to the Inland Wetlands Commission. The motion was unanimously approved.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS – REVIEW REPAIR & MAINTENANCE BUDGET

Peter Neff, Director of Public Works submitted a list of major expenditures from the Equipment Repairs and Maintenance account. The continued aging of the fleet in combination with the difficult winter has depleted the Equipment Repairs and Maintenance account to an unsafe level. They have depleted all of their spare plow parts and have replaced two plows in an effort to keep the roads and sidewalks safe and passable. Neff said he only has \$7,500 left in his Repairs and Maintenance account. Neff is requesting \$7,000 to restock spare parts for the plows and \$40,000 be appropriated into the Equipment Repairs and Maintenance account. The Equipment Repairs and Maintenance account covers every piece of equipment including those in the building, the yards (such as gates, pumps) transfer station compactor and all related equipment, road equipment, construction equipment, shop equipment, big tools, hand tools, and landscaping equipment. Overtime budget will be 95% expended as of the 2/4/11 payroll. Sand and salt budget will be 95% expended as of the end of this week. Last year they were under budget for sand & salt. Neff said this year the crew had to remove the snow from the center of town three times. They had to hire an outside contractor to clear the intersections. Apel made a motion, seconded by Vicino, to appropriate \$47,000 into the Public Works Equipment Repairs and Maintenance line item and send to the Board of Finance for approval. The motion was unanimously approved.

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FIRE DEPARTMENT 2011 CONVENTION AD BOOKLET

The Volunteer Fire Department will be celebrating their 100th anniversary this summer. As part of the celebration they will be sponsoring the 128th Annual Connecticut State Firefighters Association Convention, which includes a parade to be held on Main Street in September 2011. Fritz recommended purchasing a full page black and white ad in their program book for \$250.00. Vicino made a motion, seconded by Apel, to purchase a full page ad in the 2011 Convention Ad Booklet for \$250.00. The motion was unanimously approved.

Fritz said the Fire Department's annual banquet was held at the Clinton Country Club this year and not at Water's Edge. The Country Club is smaller in size so they had to reduce the number of invitations. Fritz and Board of Finance chairman Brad Sullivan were the only ones invited from the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance. Sullivan was unable to attend so he gave his ticket to Ona Nejdil because she is the Board of Finance liaison to the Fire Department Truck Committee.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION – RECOMMEND PURCHASE OF PROPERTIES

Fritz said this agenda item has been tabled.

REVIEW BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Fritz said the town budget was reduced from 3.19 percent to 2.25 percent above last year. The Board of Education proposed budget is \$529,030 or 1.71 percent above last year. The overall budget was reduced from 2.03 percent to 1.88 percent above last year. Fritz explained some of the things that were put back into the 2011/2012 budget:

- Board of Selectmen Stipends
- Salary increase for First Selectman effective December 1st
- \$3,000 proposed increase for Director of Public Works, Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Administrative Assistant. They have not received a raise the last two years.
- Part time salaries were put back into the Public Works budget to allow the Transfer Station to open one more additional day.
- Increase part time salaries for Park & Rec in hopes to have a certified lifeguard at the beach this summer.
- Increase part time salaries in the Town Clerk's office and Tax office to 19 hours a week.
- Police Department budget - increase part time salaries to include two crossing guards.
- Marine Patrol
- Part time clerk for Water Pollution Control Commission

Fritz explained some of the bigger bumps in the budget. Communications increased because of tower lease agreements and service contracts. Public Works budget increased due to contractual salaries and three new repairs and maintenance line items were added to their budget. The Finance Department budget increased because of the new finance director's salary.

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The total proposed budget approved by the Board of Selectmen is \$45,178,016. That is \$848,247 total above last year or 1.88 percent. Fritz reviewed what the mill rate might be based on the collection rate and the grand list remaining flat. Preliminary grand list numbers should be out on Friday. Next Tuesday the governor will announce his budget proposals.

The Board of Finance has a budget workshop tomorrow night at 7:00 PM in the Green Room of the Town Hall. Next Tuesday night the Board of Education will present their budget to the Board of Finance and Board of Selectmen. The meeting will be held at 7:00 PM in the Green Room of the Town Hall.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Apel said he believes the proposed budget is a lot better this year.

Walter and Vicino had nothing to report.

Vicino made a motion, seconded by Walter to add **The Morgan School Musical Theatre** to the agenda. The motion was unanimously approved. Fritz said every year The Morgan School puts on a musical and this year's production is "Annie Get Your Gun". The Selectmen usually purchase a full page ad in the program book. Vicino made a motion, seconded by Apel to purchase a full page ad for \$175.00 in The Morgan School Musical program book. The motion was unanimously approved.

Apel made a motion, seconded by Vicino, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was unanimously approved and the meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Schettino
Administrative Assistant