



Selectmen's Meeting
Town Office
Wednesday, May 15, 2013
6:00 P.M.

Present: Selectmen, Sam Seppala, Roberta Oeser, and Dan Aho, Town Administrator, Carlotta Lilback Pini, and Executive Secretary, Nicole Sesia.

Approved Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CITIZEN'S FORUM

No one came forward.

Roberta noted that Cathedral road is moving along very quickly. Sam suggested sending a thank you note to the State.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Public Hearing re: Acceptance of unanticipated revenue, SCBA Grant \$119,862

Chief Donovan explained that the Town was awarded a grant to purchase 24 air packs. We are also getting a RIT kit which will be in the Rescue. Rick explained that, on the grant application, the Town offered to contribute \$50,000 (of the \$70,000 in the capital reserve fund) toward the purchase of the SCBA's which made the application look better. Given the grant award, the amount to be withdrawn won't exceed \$30,000. A question was raised regarding the balance remaining in the capital reserve fund. Roberta said that we would have to write a warrant article to buy any other fire equipment.

A question was raised regarding what the Town would do with the old SCBA packs. Rick said they would be useless for anything but perhaps training. Tom Coneys suggested putting them out to bid.

There being no more public comment, Roberta made a motion to accept the grant for the SCBAS, Dan seconded it, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Accounts Payable and Payroll

Dan asked about one of the bills on the manifest. Carlotta explained that the bill for Fuller's Locksmith is for Rick's new door locks for the fire station that have combinations for each individual for accountability. Roberta made a motion to approve a/p and payroll, Dan seconded it, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

BUDGET:

The Chairman opened the public hearing. The Town Administrator explained that the Board had agreed to finalize the budget by the 29th of May, but she hoped they could try and finalize it for the most part tonight so Ellen could get the official forms all set to be signed for the court hearing on the third. Carlotta showed a Powerpoint Presentation which provided background information, as well as specific

information on the budget being proposed. There was continued discussion regarding the Police Department budget for part timers. Roberta proposed putting \$8,000 back into the part time budget line item. Dan agreed with Roberta to reduce overtime by \$2,000 as the Chief had suggested and add \$8,000 back to the part time line, rounding the budget up \$6,000 total. Rick Donovan spoke in support of adequate public safety services. Sam questioned whether the town could live with less service, noting that people are going to move out of town because they can't afford high taxes. Roberta questioned the part time wages for the Town Office. Carlotta explained that Nicole will cover for Nancy when she is out, so she transferred the part time wages from the Town Clerk's office to the Town Office line item. After some discussion, Carlotta agreed to a reduction of \$7000 in the part time wages.

Tom Coneys questioned pay raises that had been given without a budget in place. Roberta explained that the State allows the Board to operate under last year's budget.

In conclusion, Sam noted that the Police Department part time wages were now \$18,000, and the overtime was down to \$50,000. He added that the budget is less than the BAC had expected and in his opinion, it's really good. Tom Coneys said he thought the BAC would support this budget. Carlotta added that she needed formal recommendations from the BAC and the BOS. Roberta made a motion to propose the budget of \$3,707,000 for the 2013 operating budget. Dan seconded, and the Board voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

Committee appointment- no action taken.

Town administrator's report

Carlotta reported that the Town has a court date of June 3 to seek permission to hold a special town meeting.

Adjournment