

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 11, 2023
356 Main Street-Farmington, NH 03835

Board Members Present:

Gerry Vachon, Chairman

Ann Titus

Doug Staples

Penny Morin

Board Members Absent:

Charlie King, Vice Chairman, excused

Others Present:

Ken Dickie, Town Administrator

Scott Orlando, Police Chief

Evan Favorite, Police Captain

Ed Brannan, Highway Dept. Supervisor

Erica Rogers, Rec. Dept. Director

1). Non-Meeting with Legal Counsel (5 p.m.)

2). Call to Order:

Chairman Vachon called the meeting to order 5:27 p.m.

3). Non-Public Session A:

Motion: (Morin, second Staples) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) Hiring passed 4-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Titus, Staples, Morin-aye) at 5:27 p.m.

Motion: (Staples, second Morin) to come out of non-public session passed 4-0 at 5:48 p.m.

4). Non-Public Session B:

Motion: (Vachon, second Morin) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 4-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Staples, Morin, Titus-aye) at 5:48 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 4-0 at 6:17 p.m.

5). Reconvene Public Session:

Chairman Vachon reconvened the public session at 6:20 p.m.

6). Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

7). Public Input: None

8). Review of Minutes:

August 30, 2023-Public Session- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Titus, second Morin) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0.

August 28, 2023-Public Session- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0.

August 28, 2023-Non-Public Sessions A, B & C- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Titus, second Morin) to accept the minutes as written passed 4-0

9). Old Business:

Recreation Dept.- Hay Day-Mrs. Rogers began with an wrap-up on Hay Day and said they got a lot of positive feedback about Hay Day. She said the only negative that she heard was the walking parking which is an issue every year. She said they are looking at a few things for next year on how to improve that now that they have seen the layout and seen how things went. There is some room to improve that so it's a plan we're working on for next year she said. She said they handed out vendor surveys to everybody but they did not do community surveys because there was no way to hand them out and get them back that day. She said they will be working on that coming up that can be put out to community.

Mrs. Rogers said the vendor surveys all came back and the vendors were happy a lot of them like standing on the grass much better than standing on the pavement downtown. She said there were only 2 that said that they didn't sell as much as they have in the past downtown everybody else seemed to have done much better.

She said they had good feedback from the library, the fire truck rides happening down at the fire station, Blessed Bargains that ran that day, the Farmer's Market that ran that day did really well so it didn't distract or take away from those other things that were happening that were kind of spread out from the main event. Overall I think it went really well and we didn't have any issues or incidents that I'm aware of she said.

Mrs. Titus said everybody seemed to have a good time the only negative she heard was some of the older people couldn't find a parking space and had to walk. She asked if there was any damage to the 500 Club field or any concerns from them.

Mrs. Rogers said not that they are aware of. She said that night they rounded up all the trash and went down on Monday and cleaned up any trash that they saw. She said there wasn't much and they went through the fields and picked up whatever they could find.

She said she thought it worked out really well having all of the kids' stuff on one field and having the vendors on the other field so you could do both or one or the other depending on whether you were down there with kids or not. She said the food trucks were really happy with some selling out there stock and others going through their Sunday stock as well. She said the fireworks went really well and then asked the board if they received any feedback on the event.

Mrs. Morin said she only heard good things except for one of the food trucks ran out of food.

Mrs. Rogers said the vendor went through 7 bags of potatoes and she had no idea she would go through that much. She said in her book that's a win-she made her money and people were happy with it so she is definitely down for next year. It's good to start building those on-going relationships she said.

Fernald Park Playground- Mrs. Rogers said the current structure is in but they are still asking people to stay off of it because they have not done the mulch and other safety stuff that needs

to go with it. She said the bark mulch is supposed to be coming tomorrow but the weather has been hindering things. She said it's coming along well and they still have to do the pathways which will be next on the project list. There have been some time restraints and the weather hasn't been helping but it looks good she said.

Mrs. Morin said there is an event scheduled there next weekend and asked if it would be all set for that.

Mrs. Rogers said that's a great question and in a perfect world- yes, does she know that for sure-no. She said it is supposed to thunderstorm on and off all the rest of the week so maybe. She said the Building Inspector still needs to inspect it but he can't do that until the bark mulch and stuff is in.

Mr. Staples asked if she would let them know if any significant damage happens to that once they open it. He said he heard they put up a new basketball hoop and it was smashed out a day later.

Mrs. Rogers said the basketball hoop was smashed up but it was not a new one. She said it has been there since she took over the dept. and she didn't know when it was actually put up.

Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Dickie if damage report was filed on the basketball hoop at Fernald Park.

Mrs. Rogers said it was the hoop in the back parking lot behind the Rec. Center and they pulled the video but they couldn't see who did the damage.

Mr. Vachon asked for the cost to replace the backboard.

Mrs. Rogers said they were looking at them and then asked Highway Dept. Supervisor Ed Brannan if it would cost about \$400 to replace the backboard.

Mr. Brannan said it's somewhere in that area and they were actually looking at just getting a piece of acrylic.

Mrs. Rogers said then they can't throw rocks through it.

Mr. Vachon asked if they have striped the basketball courts at Fernald Park before.

Mrs. Rogers said not that she knows of but maybe prior to her they were done. She said as part of the grant they put in to resurface and repaint the basketball court but they are not sure that is going to get done in this grant round. She said they might be making an amendment to the grant as to what we can get done and she talked to the guy from the state about that because they submitted the proposal 2 years ago and fast forward 2 years that amount of money is not going to stretch as far and they felt the playground and pathways were number 1. Depending on what's left and what we can get for a price it may be this round it may not be she said.

Senior Program- Mrs. Titus asked how the senior program is going.

Mrs. Rogers said the senior center has started to pick up and last Friday when she walked in she saw some new faces and they are starting to get some regulars to come in. She said they got their calendar and sat down with them to schedule some stuff they wanted to do so they are going to start rolling out some of that stuff.

She said one thing they asked for was the senior luncheons but they can't do that in the way

that they can't transport people because of the van situation. She said they asked that they set it up where they could meet at the Rec. Center and a couple of them could drive and they would be willing to drive other people that may not be comfortable driving so they are looking into that. I need to make sure with Primex though I think it would be fine because it's them and they could meet someplace and ride together. It's not a bad idea and if there's no liability with Primex we'll just coordinate it and at least it's a start toward where they want to go she said. Mrs. Titus asked if they have everything they need in the senior center and if it is stocked. Mrs. Rogers said she thought so and they go out and get pastries for that day. She said one thing they want to do is start a Crock Pot Club there and they would each bring something so they are working on that for Oct.

She said they want to put together a quilting group to donate the quilts either to hospice or cancer patients or something like that. They don't need any more quilts was what I told but they like to quilt and make things so that gives them a purpose to use it for she said.

She said it's picking up and it's much better than it has been.

After School Program- Mrs. Titus asked what is happening with the After School Program, what does it look like and how many kids do they have there.

Mrs. Rogers said right now altogether they have 17 kids some part time some full time and a couple more started today because kindergarten started. She said they will be at the open house this week handing out information and that's generally where they start to see a climb in numbers.

She said they have restructured a little bit and that goes back to the homework thing. She said they used to come to the Rec. Center and have a snack, have some free time and then do homework but it doesn't work. She said in the k-grade 5 age group very few kids actually have homework so you have the rest of the kids sitting down being quiet while these couple of kids are doing their homework. She said they've been in school all day they don't want to sit down and be quiet and by the time they get done with all that and actually get to the activity it's 4 o'clock and most of their kids are starting to leave and are missing the activities.

She said when they talk to the parents that's what they're sending their kids to us for so they restructured and they're going to come back, sometimes they play at the playground or whatever its going to be, have a snack and then go right into their activity from that 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. time slot. She said if parents really want their kids to have their homework done at the Rec. then they're asking that they leave them until 5:30 p.m. and when the other kids start to go and they're in that individual activity time they will then have time to do that child's homework with them.

Mrs. Titus said she thought it was helpful that they have a couple of people that work in a school that can help the kids.

Mrs. Rogers said just because they're not doing homework they're still doing the enrichments. She said when they are doing cooking the kids are reading the instructions and they're

multiplying the fractions such as how many half cups they need or if they cut the recipe in half what is it so they are working with them on those skills just in a more Rec. focused way. She said they have the 4-H Club coming in that is going to be doing some STEAM projects and the ultimate goal is they'll be building their own robots with recycled materials. We're still working on those enrichment pieces but not having the kids sit down and be quiet after a day of school she said.

August Break-Mrs. Titus said school has changed to Sept. 5 or after Labor Day this year and she thinks that will continue but the last week of August there is no Rec. and asked if that is because of staffing or because that's when people are taking vacations.

Mrs. Rogers said it's a little bit of both and it definitely boils down mostly to staffing as both of their adult staff work at schools and go back to school before the kids do. She said that just leaves her and the Asst. Director and when they have Hay Day, the playground and all of these other things they are doing they can't stop everything for a week to be down there.

She said a lot of the kids are pulled in and they're doing the last minute vacations or school shopping or whatever and they are summer camp, a Rec. Dept. not a childcare center so they run a summer camp and they try to do the best they can. She said a lot of the kids they have for summer they also have for school and sometimes a break in between is nice. We spend a lot of time with these kids so it gives them a break it gives us a break and gives everybody that fresh start to come back in with school she said.

Mrs. Titus said she knew some parents that mentioned that it hurt them and she feels bad for that and she didn't know if they were looking at it.

Mrs. Rogers said they would have to hire at least 2 new adult staff persons to work full time that week which is difficult because they don't want to come in and just work 1 week. She said that's one of the reasons they started a week later too is their staff still has to work elsewhere so they can't go beginning to end.

Community Partners- Mrs. Rogers said they are starting to make a lot of community partnerships which is nice and they are working with the PTA, they've made a really good connection with Pastor Tom at the Congregational Church and they had a really good meeting with the 4-H on Friday and they will be bringing them in to do stuff for the After School Program and maybe coming in for some community stuff which would be really nice for the 6th grade up that is a group they have a hard time targeting but this could bring some really cool programs and some opportunities for those kids.

Toddler Group-She said the toddler group is back up and running and they started it last Thursday again after taking a break for the summer because that worked for the parents that were in the group. She said they were toying with adding a second day for that as some of the parents in the group are liking it and they're looking for something more. Our thought on that is to do it at the Rec. and use the gym as a movement time where they could take out the parachute or the mats or whatever it is that week so they have their arts and crafts and

playtime up here and their motion and movement down there she said.

Halloween Events- Mrs. Rogers said the Haunted Trail is coming up soon so they are having a volunteer meeting tomorrow to start planning.

Mr. Vachon asked if they are still teaming up with New Durham on that.

Mrs. Rogers said yes.

Mr. Staples said he still has that generator that she loves if they need it.

Mrs. Rogers said they will discuss generators.

Mrs. Titus asked if they are going to do the trunks and the candy.

Mrs. Rogers said that's for the Trick or Treat parade and they are working on that and that is their plan. She said she has not confirmed it but she was assuming that Trick or Treat would be the same as it always is on Halloween from 5-7 p.m. We'd like to see that bigger, better, more so we're working on that she said.

Talent Show- She said they are working on a kids' talent show that is going to be Farmington, New Durham, Alton and Milton so they are partnering with those 4 towns to work on that. She said the talent show is slated for Feb. but there is a lot that needs to go into it ahead of time so they are working on that plan.

Dog Days of Summer- Mrs. Rogers said they have the Dog Days of Summer this Sunday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Fernald Park. She then asked the board if they had any specific questions about anything.

500 Club Volleyball- Mr. Dickie said that Mrs. Rogers spoke to him today about creating partnerships with different organizations in town and one being the Farmington 500 Club that was generous enough to let us use the 500 Club fields for our Hay Day festivities. He said Tasha Doyle who is the Volleyball Director for the 500 Club approached Mrs. Rogers to see if they could use the Rec. Center on Saturday as an extra gym for our youth volleyball here in town. He said he told her he didn't have a problem with them doing that and he was looking to waive the rental fee for them to use that where they let us use their fields for Hay Day but that he would have to bring that before the board and let them take a vote on that. He said that he said the only way he would do it was if Ms. Doyle was responsible and opens and closes the building and makes sure that there is no trash or damage done to the gym.

Mrs. Titus asked if they would need a Rec. Dept. staff member to be there too.

Mr. Dickie said he thought Ms. Doyle would be responsible enough and that she should be able to handle that but that would be a directive from the board.

Mrs. Morin asked what age group they were talking about and that she was thinking about the chandeliers in there.

Mrs. Rogers said Ms. Doyle would be the one running that group so they would be looking to give her a key to the building and it would be on Saturdays from 11:25 a.m. to 12:25 p.m. through the first weekend in Nov. and they will not be in there on Columbus Day weekend. She said it is for ages 4 to 8 so the kids are littler and it's mostly skills and that kind of stuff and they

would put the net up.

Mrs. Morin asked if there are still holes in the floor for the net.

Mrs. Rogers said yes.

Mrs. Titus asked if it would be just for the month of Nov.

Mrs. Rogers said if approved it would be starting this Saturday through the first week of Nov. She said they run for 8 weeks and they were looking for approval for them to use that space and for them to have a key.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) that we allow the 500 to use the Rec. Dept. for volleyball on Saturdays from 11:25 a.m. to 12:25 p.m.

Amendment: by Mrs. Titus: to waive the staff member and the fee.

Discussion: Mr. Vachon asked if they could check with Primex on if the 500's liability insurance is good enough.

Mrs. Rogers said Ms. Doyle said she would get her a copy of their Certificate of Insurance and she would just file it like she does with karate, the Grace Community Church, etc.

Mr. Vachon said as long as they make sure their liability is minimized with an insurance certificate naming the Town as the additional insured.

Mrs. Rogers said okay.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0.

Highway Dept.- Mr. Brannan said the catch basins have all been done and that he budgeted \$13,300 and they spent \$13,065 on approx. 200 basins and most of the downtown area has been done and they managed to get to a few of them out in the country.

He said they had some roadside mowing done and they ended up going over about 8 hours on that to finish up Ridge Road. He said he did get the 3 roads done that they asked them to do which was a feat in itself considering the time he had.

He said they still have to go through and check the ditches and make sure there's no debris on the ground that can plug the ditches and culverts in some of the areas.

Mr. Brannan said the street sweeping is done now as well and they have been working in the pit getting that cleaned up so they can do our winter sand and crushing. He said Custom Crushing is a little late from when they were hoping to get him in there and hopefully they will have him in there and get the sand done and then work crushing gravel afterwards. Right now the big thing is making sure we get our sand done for the winter he said.

Mr. Staples asked if they don't have enough of it in stock.

Mr. Brannan said it would be very, very close and they may be just a little bit shy.

Mr. Staples asked how much the roadside mowing went over budget.

Mr. Brannan said it was about \$800 over. He said they came in considerably under on the sweeping and they budgeted \$7,000 for 56 hours and he did it in 30 hours so they spent about \$4,060.

Mr. Vachon asked if he was happy with the way the sweeping turned out.

Mr., Brannan said it was okay but it could have been better.

Mr. Staples asked if he was going to take the extra \$800 for the mowing out of that.

Mr. Brannan said the mowing came from the Block Grant.

Mr. Staples said it was also set for \$5,000 not \$5,800 and was a "not to exceed" amount.

Mr. Brannan said it was \$8,000. He said they can take it out street sweeping it's not a problem.

Mr. Vachon asked if he knew how many miles of roads the street sweeper got done.

Mr. Brannan said he did not know the mileage.

Mr. Vachon asked if that line was under budget by about \$3,000.

Mr. Brannan said it was just shy of \$3,000. He said the gentleman who did the sweeping is familiar with it as he has done the town before.

Mr. Vachon returned to the basins and asked if they had somebody with them to take a look at the basins to see if there were any deficiencies.

Mr. Brannan said they did and he has a stack of reports to go through.

Mr. Vachon asked if there was anything major that has to get repaired before winter.

Mr. Brannan said they have a couple that they have to attend to. He said there are a lot of old rock basins and they usually don't see too many of them anymore.

Mr. Vachon said he believes the one in front of the Farmington House of Pizza is a leaching basin.

Mr. Brannan said the one in front of FHOP he wasn't totally sure but his understanding is that's a dry or leaching basin and it doesn't have a pipe that runs out of it. He said it doesn't drain anywhere and everything leaches in to the ground. He said he understood that that basin was failing which is why it got filled in.

Mr. Staples said so instead of fixing it we just filled it in.

Mr. Vachon said they fill it full of stone to keep it from caving in on itself. He asked if it was possible to pipe that one to the one in front of "Cumby's" (Cumberland Farms) and let that drain that way.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't understand why that wasn't done.

Mr. Vachon said he believes the one in front of Cumby's dumps into that grass area on the other side.

Mr. Brannan said he was guessing but he thinks that one runs to the middle of the street to a drained manhole which then runs down Civic St. to a creek just beyond Crowley's before Lone Star Ave.

Mr. Staples asked if he thought it could handle the extra flow if they hook them together.

Mr. Brannan said he would say it could but the bigger issue is what's wrong with the basin. He said if the basin has failed they have to cut out a significant amount of pavement to fix that plus pipe it.

Mr. Vachon said plus pull the curb, rip the sidewalk up, set a structure and put it all back after.

Mr. Brannan said in regards to the drainage system in the town there are a lot of issues with it

and with talking with Mr. Dickie it seems like there is a lot of grant money available for that stuff so they are looking into that and whether we need to do a new study and figure out what we have to do. He said there was a study done in 2010 and there are a lot of things on that study that should have been done that haven't been done and some things weren't done the way the study showed them to be done. There are a lot of issues out there that need to be dealt with and before we start doing any work on any of the side streets we need to make sure we get what's under them done right he said.

He said they are also having the same problem with Cross Road and Dick Dame Lane. He said a lot of the culverts are going to require a permit before they can replace them. He said on Cross Rd. the water is going over the road and anytime that you do that you have to have a permit. He said the size of the culverts probably would have fell within what they can do without a permit but because it floods over (they need a permit).

He said on Bunker St. that one is too big, there's one on Dick Dame Lane that's too big.

Mr. Staples said so they are not going to pave them is what he heard.

Mr. Brannan said he didn't think they would be able to pave them and they need to look at encumbering the money so it's available next year for the paving portion. He said they can purchase the culverts as soon as they know what they need as they have to be sized properly. He said if they went in there and did Cross Rd. the way it is they would be taking a guess on the size and if you had a major flood and FEMA sees these new culverts that are washed out you're probably not going to get anything for it.

Mr. Vachon asked if that is the one that is 140 ft. because it runs at an angle.

Mr. Brannan said no although that one is on Cross Rd. too. He said if you go down below there you get into a little bit of a low land there's a double cross culvert right there and that whole stretch of road too if you want to do it right is probably going to need to be dug up and put in a good base and that's probably the main reason why it's so out of shape there especially as you get towards the Rt. 153 end as you go out of that little low spot it's really bad.

Mrs. Morin asked as he is working on his budget this year if he is planning for those permits.

Mr. Brannan said he thinks they will have enough money in their budget to cover the cost of the permits because they're not free. He said they should be able to get most of the culvert pipe providing they find out what they need but either way he doesn't think they were prepared to do these roads this year because of the work that needs to go into them and where this dept. is at, so they definitely need to plan on doing them next year but they need to make sure they have all their ducks in a row so when they do them they make sure they do them correctly. Pavement is not cheap these days and you want to try to put it down so you can get 25 years out of it before you have to go back and still have something there he said.

Mr. Vachon asked if that section of Cross Rd. was going to be a candidate like Old Bay Rd. was where they went up and dug down and back filled it with gravel.

Mr. Brannan said yes but considerably bigger. He said they would box it out and put in good

gravel but they don't have any base gravel in the pit right yet. He said when they get that done they will have something for that and he was not sure why they never had anything for that to begin with.

Mr. Staples asked if they have any roads that they could take the paving money and pave this year.

Mr. Brannan said they probably could but they would be doing shim overlays and he wouldn't dig up a road because you'd be in the same boat. He said most of the roads that need to be rebuilt or repaved need work. He said the north end of Meaderboro Rd. is another one but if you've been over it, it's way out of shape and it probably has no good base gravel in it it's probably all clay silt underneath and you could pave it but in 20 years you're going to have the same thing.

He said he spoke with a couple of people on Cross Rd. and told them where they are at and it's questionable whether or not they'd be able to get these done because they need to make sure they do them right. I think most people would rather see it done right instead of trying to push it and have it questionable. Let's get our ducks in a row so when we move forward we're going in the right direction before budget season he said.

Mr. Staples said there are a lot of people on Dick Dame Lane that are very upset that that is not getting paved.

Mr. Brannan said they probably have been promised a paved road for a number of years.

Mr. Staples said and they're just getting the same old b. s. again.

Mr. Brannan said the money is going to be encumbered and if he is sitting here that is where it's going to go. He said he would rather see the money encumbered and held for that particular road and Cross Rd. then to just go somewhere else. If we hold the money then we'll do it he said.

Mr. Staples asked if that money isn't spent if it would go into the (undesignated fund balance).

Mr. Vachon said not if it's encumbered for a reason. He said if they do a purchase order and allot it for something it could be encumbered for next year.

Mr. Brannan said the board needs to be aware there are some costs that paving companies have no control over like the asphalt. I would rather wait and make sure we do them right he said.

Mr. Staples asked if there were monies that weren't spent on that road if it would go back to the taxpayer after when you encumber it.

Mr. Vachon said if it doesn't get used it stays in that line.

Mr. Brannan said they want to make sure they know this fall where they plan on going next year. He said upper Meaderboro Rd. is really bad and at some point they need to start working on the downtown area.

Mrs. Morin said she would like to see some sort of balance something up country and something in-town.

Mr. Dickie said he thought they ought to go every other year so one year they do outside the town and the next year they do inside the town. He said they have to start somewhere and they all know riding around the back streets or any streets in-town they've gone beyond and its patch on patch on patch.

He said like Mr. Brannan said before they put hot top on a street they have to make sure the water pipes are good, the sewer pipes are solid, the drain pipes are good because the worst thing you can do is hot top a street and the next thing you know you're digging it all up because you have a major failure.

Mrs. Morin said she would like to see it one out in the country and one in-town so everybody gets a little bit of a warm fuzzy that something is changing and not just doing something for in-town or not just doing something for the country folks.

Mr. Staples said it's going to be a lot more expensive paving in-town.

Mr. Brannan said the construction part would be but unfortunately they don't have any choice.

Mr. Staples said the roads need to get fixed but it's going to be a little slower in-town you're not going to see the progress you see out of town.

Mr. Brannan said no but to keep in mind that most of the downtown roads are shorter too. He said at some point he and Mr. Dickie need to sit down and figure out how many miles of roads they have, how long it's going to take to cover them and try to get some solid plan on how to move forward and how much road they should be paving and rebuilding every year.

Mrs. Morin said that's why she brought that through the budget process he should be looking at a road here and a road in-town or wherever he makes that decision.

Mr. Brannan said they will be looking at the roads in-town if they find something they can do next year they definitely will be looking to get it done. He said there has been a lot of conversation on it and a drainage study is a big one to make sure the drainage is up to par before they go rebuilding any roads. We have a lot of water that can come down over Main hill at times some of the drainage really isn't sufficient to handle it on the top end so some work has to be done there and there's also some work on Main St. on the hill that needs to be done. He said when those basins were put in he doesn't believe the frames and grates were properly set and they're probably not the proper style to catch the water as it comes down the hill. That involves cutting out a lot of pavement there's no easy way around it he said.

Mr. Vachon said there's no cheap way around it either to do it right.

Mr. Brannan then said he got some pricing on a truck. He said he made a number of calls and one company returned with a quote on building the truck and he got another quote from a company that actually has a truck. He said if they ordered it right now trucks are typically 2-4 months out if they didn't have it in stock and had to order it and the builders are 4-6 months out. He said Hilltop Chevy actually had a truck in stock but even with that said you could put your name on a truck tomorrow and call the builder it's still 4-6 months out because they have to have time to get the gear plus that's how much of a backlog they have but the price is

considerably cheaper. He said you could save \$10,000 to \$15,000 by going that route as compared to buying the one that is built.

Mr. Vachon asked if that's the same under CDL type truck they were looking at.

Mr. Brannan said it's the same thing. He said it's a Chevy 5500 instead of an International CV.

Mrs. Morin asked if he was saying it's cheaper to have one built than to purchase the one on the lot.

Mr. Brannan it is cheaper but there's a 6 month wait.

Mr. Staples said so it's not going to help them this year.

Mrs. Morin asked for the price.

Mr. Brannan said if they had one built the gear itself from the builder is \$76,800, the truck would be \$70,365 for a total of \$147,165. He said that's with a sander and they were about \$160,000 with a sander for a truck that is built so they are probably about \$15,000 cheaper.

Mr. Vachon asked for the model year of the 5500.

Mr. Brannan said the one that we have is a 2007.

Mr. Staples asked for the balance in the Capital Reserve Fund.

Mr. Dickie said there is about \$149,000 in the CRF.

Mr. Vachon asked if he looked into the grant that he forwarded to Mr. Dickie for \$10 million.

Mr. Brannan said he is working on that and he started filling it out and he is waiting for John to give him some numbers on the mileage on the trucks we have now and he still has to get a couple of quotes on the new ones. Then it should be pretty done and I can submit it he said.

Mr. Vachon said that's an 80/20 match and would include all of the plow gear and everything as the truck is sitting there so it's not just the cab and chassis like some grants it's the entire truck to perform the duties it's currently performing.

Mr. Staples asked if they would have to scrap out the other truck and get rid of it or if they could have it for a backup.

Mr. Brannan said they have to be scrapped.

Mr. Vachon said they have to put a 3 inch hole in the block and cut the frame in half but it's an 80/20 match. He said it would be nice if he could work with John to get that all straightened out and they have until Oct. 13 to get it submitted.

Mr. Brannan said he planned to have it in by the end of this week or early next week.

Mr. Vachon said he wonders if they could throw the 5500 in with that and do the two 10-wheelers and the 5500 they're all that same timeframe (2004 and 2007).

Mr. Brannan said the 2004 is a 6-wheeler and that's the oldest truck in the fleet for the big trucks. He said the 2007 is a 10-wheeler and the other 10-wheeler is a 2013 and is still half way decent.

Mr. Vachon said that gives us 3 trucks we can go after. Throw everything at them that we can try. If you can work with John and Ken and get that pushed through I would appreciate it and so would the taxpayers he said.

Mr. Brannan then said he is working on getting the tree trimming Request for Proposals written up so they can get some tree trimming going. He said they'll keep plugging away at this stuff and right now it's tough. He said they do have a new guy who is working out very well but they are still struggling just to keep up with the issues that are popping up so they haven't been able to get out and do just the maintenance that they should be doing.

Mrs. Morin asked if they still have openings.

Mr. Brannan said they have 2 full time openings.

Mr. Staples asked if they have had any applications.

Mr. Brannan said they had applications but no people with CDL's. He said they still have to figure out where they're at with the targeted training.

Mr. Staples asked how they are looking for snow and if they have enough guys and enough CDL's for it.

Mr. Brannan said he thought they would actually be able to put all the trucks on the road and last year they had one sitting.

Mr. Staples asked if our roads will be back to being beautiful like they used to be.

Mr. Brannan said they have enough drivers to fill all the CDL seats.

Mr. Vachon asked if their seasonal plow operator talking about coming back.

Mr. Brannan said yes. He said the part time guy will be out there plowing and they may put him in the sidewalk tractor and try to get John to help out with some of the smaller roads and be available when the trucks go down and then they don't have to shut him down for plowing sidewalks which was the trouble last year. That's the main reason why I want to get him out of the trackless so whoever is in it can stay right at it he said.

He said they have all the parts ordered for the snow blower that they purchased last year so that will be coming into the shop to get rebuilt. He said that will be a big help if we get any amount of snow and that the plowing works but the snow blower would be a better option. He said they would keep going and keep doing the best they can and hopefully they'll get there someday.

Mrs. Titus asked if they got to the 2 potholes on Chestnut Hill Rd.

Mr. Brannan said they did not and he was hoping to do them this week but Mother Nature may not cooperate.

Mrs. Titus said a couple of people that live on Richard's Way are saying that road needs some work and asked if he is playing on anything this year.

Mr. Brannan said they had a contractor that was going to help us with some paving but he didn't believe that was going to happen. He said there's a section that needs to be repaved and if they can't get to it this fall they will definitely be working on it next year.

He said typically when he looks at the roads he doesn't look at it by how many people live on the road because everybody deserves the same level of service whether there's 10 houses on that road or one. He said he usually looks at it as how well they can maintain the road and the

road condition is critical to that. The smoother, the flatter the easier it is for us to maintain and helps Police and Fire to get across it and their primary goal is to make sure those guys can go first.

Mrs. Titus said if they can't get to it this fall it would probably be in the spring maybe.

Mr. Brannan said if they can't get it this year but that's another one that's high on the list. He said he didn't have a problem listening to people and he understands where they're at. I'm a taxpayer and I've lived on a dirt road pretty much all my life he said.

Mr. Staples said on Spring St. just past the ammo dump closer to Rt. 11 there's a washout that's right up against the pavement.

Mr. Brannan said depending on the weather tomorrow they'll try to get to it.

Mr. Vachon said there are 2 or 3 of them on Spring St. because there were cones in them but now the cones have become missing in action.

Mr. Brannan said there's a culvert up there somewhere that's buried too and they can't see the inlet or the outlet.

Mr. Vachon said there is resident there that may be able to help them locate that culvert. He said he believes there is a culvert there because he used his tractor to clear it during one of the floods because it overtaking the road.

Mr. Brannan said the locals are a big help with stuff like that and they tend to listen to them. You can learn a lot from the older people he said.

Police Dept. - Chief Orlando and Capt. Favorite came forward and the Chief said he submitted his monthly report and if the board had any questions he would be happy to answer them.

Mrs. Titus said they had some different training for (School Resource Officers) Sgt. Antoinette Webster and Officer Ryan Clark and asked if he just went through and said they should take this one and this one should take that one.

Chief Orlando said yes and all their training should be geared towards where they're working. He said he leaves up to them but within the parameters that it's geared towards the school.

Mrs. Titus said she asked because Sgt. Webster is doing the autism education for law enforcement and Officer Clark is doing the emotional piece so she didn't know if they could maybe talk about that because there are a lot of people that are autistic and that would be good training for all the officers because they stop people with disabilities and just to know how to approach it.

Chief Orlando said that is correct.

Mr. Staples asked if they are up charging to try to get plea deals because it seems crazy that we have significantly more felony arrests than anybody else (as shown on the Strafford County statistical page).

Chief Orlando said that is the reality of they're facing. He said they are not up charging and as a matter of fact it goes in the opposite direction and usually negotiated pleas go from felonies to misdemeanors. We have our fair share of felony level investigations and crimes.

Capt. Favorite said there are some big city issues even in a small town.

Chief Orlando said when you compare us to a lot of comparable towns.

Mr. Staples said it makes you wonder if our Police Dept. is stricter or if everybody else is dragging their feet.

Chief Orlando said they are met with unique challenges in this community and like the Capt. said we have some city problems in the town.

Mrs. Titus asked if the other towns that he put in have the same officers that we have or does one have more or less.

Chief Orlando said it outlines the officers for you.

Mrs. Titus noted there were 1,620 motor vehicle stops and she hasn't seen that in a long time and she was glad that stops are happening and they're checking things out and are aware of things that are happening. I'm glad you 2 are on the helm because you're doing a good job she said.

Chief Orlando and Capt. Favorite thanked Mrs. Titus.

Mrs. Morin said she was looking at the motor vehicle stops Mrs. Titus just mentioned and asked where the majority of the stops are. She said Barrington has more and she assumed that was because they are on Rt. 125 and asked if most of our stops are on Rt. 11 or are in town stops. Chief Orlando said he could go into the deep dive into the IMC and see if he can extract that information and where the primary area is.

Capt. Favorite said the majority of the stops you're seeing are mostly from Rt. 11 into the downtown. He said there is not a ton on Rt. 11 unless its past 8 o'clock because usually the traffic is so congested you can't safely turn around and make a stop if you tried. He said the majority is in the downtown area-Spring St., Central St. and Chestnut Hill Rd.

Mr. Staples said they were doing a really good job on Chestnut Hill Rd.

Capt. Favorite said they've had a lot of complaints there so they try to put officers out there to deter what is going on.

Chief Orlando said Hornetown Rd. has been another one.

Capt. Favorite said Hornetown Rd. has been a big speeding issue and the majority of the problems have been the smaller roads.

Mrs. Morin said you'd think the speed bumps would slow them down a little bit.

Mrs. Titus said there were 1,926 offense reports and that is a lot from some of the other towns and asked for the definition of "offense" report.

Chief Orlando said offenses can be anything from investigations or Police contact that requires some sort of documentation. He said interaction on the street where there's someone saying hi or asking for directions is not an offense it would be something that requires documentation and/or is contestable.

Mrs. Titus asked if he thought that number was high.

Chief Orlando said that number for us we cannot control. He said that's things when someone

calls the dispatch center to ask for our services and we go out and we document it. It's a lot he said.

Mr. Staples said over the last 2 months their arrests are up, their warrants are up and asked if that is why their traffic stops are going down.

Chief Orlando said usually you can correlate and compare those numbers. He said if one goes down sometimes the other goes up and from a leadership role that's what they like to see. He said often an arrest can take up to a couple of hours or warrants or investigations can take days and the motor vehicle stops usually go down. Motor vehicles stops are a more proactive thing if we're not responding or going from a call or investigating outstanding complaints he said.

Mr. Staples asked if it was pretty even across the board on officers making stops or if there were a couple that were really leading the way.

Chief Orlando said it is not per officer comparison it's a per shift comparison so if an individual is working at 8 p.m. to 6 a.m. it's a little bit different. He has more proactive business checks, interaction directed patrol and things of that nature and less response to calls for service but will have more arrests. There's not a whole lot of motor vehicle traffic from 2 to 4:30 a.m. and when 4:30 comes individuals are traveling to MA for employment and they usually travel at what's prudent he said.

He said the day shift handles a lot more calls for service or accidents and the seasons will change that. He said if the snow flies the 6 a.m. guy will be handling the vast majority of the motor vehicle accidents.

Mrs. Titus asked about the 78 accidents and for the period of time on that.

Chief Orlando said to give them the yearly numbers in Jan. we had 8, we had 6 in Feb. and 6 in March, 10 in April, 12 in May, 8 in June, 10 in July and 12 in August.

Mrs. Titus asked if there was anything in this report that he wanted to highlight.

Chief Orlando said no but he appreciated the opportunity. He then said the officers are doing a good job and that he would highlight that they were actively involved in the community in the month of August. He said the officers did National Night Out, the SRO's were actively involved with truancy meetings, officers helped out at the old Fire Dept. clean out, they had Hay Day, there were security assessments done at the school district, they did active shooter training so it was a very busy month. The officers stepped up and did a lot in August and I'm very appreciative of that. It's easy to get burnt out towards the end of the summer but I think we finished strong. I think we're going to see commuter traffic and visitors to the community slow down a little bit and I expect calls for service to slow down as well he said.

Mr. Vachon asked if he ever received the school calendar.

Chief Orlando said he has not.

Mrs. Morin asked if the school calendar was not available on their website.

Chief Orlando it was available but he was looking for a little more detail than that.

Chief Orlando said he wanted to talk to the board about Fund 08 in regards to their Police

cruisers. He said the balance currently is approx. \$36,000 and they have in addition that \$11,724 in accounts they are waiting to receive.

Mr. Staples asked if that goes right into the 08 Fund or he has to take out the officer's pay and everything else.

Chief Orlando said not all of the \$11,000 will go into that.

Mr. Staples asked roughly how much.

Chief Orlando said \$3,000. He said they had a cruiser accident quite some time ago and the Town received the check for that which was \$17,375 and that has been sitting in an account. He said he was looking at discussions with the Town to see if they could look into putting that back into the Fund 08 to help that balance to purchase a replacement cruiser for it.

He said in addition to the \$17,000 he negotiated with Primex saying even though our Ford Interceptor was in an accident and they gave it a value of \$17,000 they had a significant amount of equipment put in there and they worked with him and gave him a pro-rated rate to replace the equipment and they have received that check as well (\$7,595.50). He said that's sitting in an account and he was hoping to have some further discussion with the board to see if they can put those checks back into the Fund 08 to help purchase a Police cruiser.

Mr. Vachon said he has a note in his report that says it has to be a warrant article to do so.

Chief Orlando said he received an e-mail from Finance Administrator Kelly Heon saying she spoke with the Town Attorney and those funds cannot be put into Fund 08 without another warrant article detailing that but the Selectmen could choose to spend those funds on a Police cruiser.

Mr. Vachon said that's right because right now those funds are sitting in the general fund.

Chief Orlando said no those checks are not sitting in the general fund they are sitting in accounts specifically for that.

Mr. Staples said if they took the money they got for the totaled cruiser, the \$36,000 we have and the \$3,000 they have coming in they would be at almost \$64,000 and asked for the cost of a new cruiser.

Chief Orlando said it costs about \$50,000.

Mr. Staples said so we would have the money if we add those up and spend them altogether.

Mr. Dickie asked if that would include equipping the new cruiser as well.

Chief Orlando said that's correct and they would have to run a detailed report to ensure exactly where they're at and he ran a detailed report and our ending balance as of Sept. 5 is \$36,106.16 but every day it could change if payments receivable are coming in. He said theoretically by the Board of Selectmen choosing to use the Primex insurance checks for the purpose of purchasing a cruiser we have enough funds.

Mr. Staples asked if has looked at new cruisers.

Chief Orlando said he would want to go with the exact same Ford Explorer that they had last year and have it done by Adamson's. It was done very clean and it's very nice and it seemed to

be holding up well he said.

Mr. Staples asked if he was able to save any of the gear in it or if it was all totaled.

Chief Orlando said it's not retro fitted it's all new gear. He said the good news is Capt. Favorite spoke to them a little over 30 days ago they have availability and you can get cruisers currently so there is not going to be a wait like we experienced last year. He said the high likelihood right now is we'll be able to get one, bring it to Adamson's to be outfitted and that usually takes about 30-45 days so we could have one available.

Mr. Staples said he wouldn't mind seeing a quote for everything.

Chief Orlando said before he would make a purchase he would show them some comparisons and a full detailed payment outline. He said his concern is just trying to talk with the board to ask if they thought they would be able to take the insurance reimbursements for the cruiser and reallocate it back to getting another cruiser.

Mrs. Morin asked if they have already replaced that cruiser.

Chief Orlando said yes and said the cruisers do not come on the taxpayers the Fund 08 was designed at \$18 per hour that an officer works on a detail goes to the cruiser fund which is Fund 08. He said it takes a long time to build that fund up and the cruisers are purchased through that fund. He said at one point someone struck our cruiser totaling it and there was a Primex check written for the cruiser that has been sitting in an account-yes the warrant article reads that they might have to look at some different wording according to the Town Attorney but it's kind of just putting the monies back where it originally came from.

He said his understanding is it's not in the general fund it's sitting in a separate account that can be seen and tracked and he is asking if the Board of Selectmen would approve using that money to help offset the cost of a new cruiser.

Mrs. Morin said but that money can't just be put in Fund 08 without a warrant article but they could put it in Fund 08 if they wrote a warrant article.

Mr. Staples said or they could take the money out of the 08 Fund and spend it with that money to get them a new cruiser.

Mr. Dickie said the Selectmen can elect to expend it for a cruiser as it sits and it's almost like the second payment on the Highway Block Grant that is sitting in its own fund.

Mrs. Morin said she didn't want to get ahead in cruisers if another one goes down.

Mr. Vachon asked if we got 2 cruisers to replace 2 cruisers they were taking offline.

Chief Orlando said that's correct.

Mr. Vachon asked if those 2 cruisers have come offline and the new cruisers have replaced them.

Chief Orlando said yes.

Mr. Vachon said then a cruiser was totaled so we're still down a cruiser.

Chief Orlando said yes.

Mr. Vachon said his impression was that one had been replaced but it hasn't.

Chief Orlando said that's correct and the one they'd be looking to replace has 145,000 miles on it.

Mr. Vachon said because of this one they couldn't take one of them offline yet so they still have one that has to come offline currently being used with 145,000 miles on it. He asked if that was one of the Chargers.

Chief Orlando said that's correct.

Mr. Staples asked if the cruiser they are trying to replace is used every day for calls for service.

Chief Orlando said yes.

Mr. Vachon said so what he was looking for from the board was if they'd be willing to utilize the checks from Primex towards a new vehicle so he could do some research.

Chief Orlando said he was not looking to purchase right away he wanted to see if it's a possibility to use those funds to purchase a new cruiser and if it is so then he would go and do some research to get the best price and get a new quote from Adamson's and present to the board this is today's price for the Ford Explorer and this is what it would cost to outfit it and the total.

Consensus of the board was they were willing to utilize those Primex checks from the totaled cruiser to purchase a new cruiser to replace the totaled cruiser.

Mr. Vachon said it's almost like anyone would when they total their vehicle they would use the check to buy a new car and he is all for that and he believed the entire board is.

Mr. Staples asked the Chief if they would see him again next week.

Chief Orlando said he has an appearance before the School Board next week and the Capt. can come and present that information.

Capt. Favorite said that works for him.

Mrs. Titus said so we are down one cruiser and asked what the rotation is for the cruisers such as do they buy one every 2 years or buy one every year.

Chief Orlando said they are at the mercy of Fund 08. He said it averages every 2-3 years.

Mrs. Titus asked if that is sufficient.

Chief Orlando said no it's not and unfortunately over the past 3 months their detail hours are going down.

Mr. Vachon said construction season is coming to an end.

Chief Orlando said without this it probably wouldn't be until next spring and they would definitely be behind the eight ball because he didn't know how much longer they can limp the Charger along and the #9 car that they put the new transmission in is having a lot of small things go wrong with it but small things add up so they are looking to shift that car into something that's less intrusive on it and maybe that's the detail car.

Mr. Staples asked how the Portsmouth details were working out for them.

Chief Orlando said fine. He said he didn't think they did any Portsmouth details but he found out today that they have done one.

Capt. Favorite said they sent an officer to air show to do a traffic detail there but they are at their mercy for what they want to send them for and they haven't had anything since.

Mrs. Morin asked if this is something in the future that they're going to want to start putting together a budget for cruisers in some sort of rotation.

The Chief said she caught him off guard with that question and he never thought he would ever hear that.

Mrs. Titus said she thought he should present that.

Mrs. Morin said they do the same thing with buses and it's a matter of time before they're just not going to have enough money for a bus. They budget for buses now she said.

Chief Orlando said with the assistance of the Primex check to get it they will have 3 front line vehicles used by patrol that are all road worthy and under 25,000 miles and then they have 3 that have 140,000, 110,000 and 50,000 miles. He said what they really have to do is a detailed report on how many miles they're putting on a vehicle and estimate that time and see.

Mrs. Titus asked if they need a warrant article every year to put into the Fund 08 and it was something he could present to the board.

Chief Orlando said he would love to do that he just wasn't prepared for that type of reaction.

He said he appreciated that and he will look into a report that will have more information.

Mrs. Titus said they can't promise.

Chief Orlando said just the discussion alone is nice. He said the board started talking about details and normally within Strafford County they are afforded opportunities to do details and that he doesn't usually come before the board but things outside the county like the Portsmouth details he wanted to be transparent and they have another opportunity that was presented to Capt. Favorite that he wanted to get their feedback on.

He said one of them is the Dover Bowl which is a hybrid bowling and casino facility. He said they were asked if they could assist them in filling their details. He then asked the Capt. to provide the detail information.

Capt. Favorite said he was approached during a training session by the Rollinsford Police Chief who has the jurisdiction there. He said the Dover Casino is Rollinsford's jurisdiction and the parking lot is Dover's and it's kind of a weird setup. He said it's the same thing with Wentworth Douglas Hospital where Wentworth Douglas is Dover but the parking lot behind it is Rollinsford. He said they are having some struggles because they are the only ones that have been filling the details and the Chief asked if they could fill them and those are every week, Friday and Saturday from 8 to 12. He said he asked what that entailed so the way it was listed out to him is the officer would go there and just be there as a peace keeper and prevent any riffraff from coming through the doors that are going to be problem that security is asking not to come in. He said they wouldn't deal with anything with the parking lot just if there was an incident within the business itself to have an officer there as a presence.

Capt. Favorite said the 2nd question he asked was what are the expectations and what they are

doing for arrests out of the building. He said the Chief told him they've had 1 arrest in the last year that they've been doing details there and that was for an extremely intoxicated patron. He said he asked how that works if there is an arrest and the Chief stated that the Rollinsford PD will come, they'll do the whole thing there is nothing that the Farmington Police will have to do other than keeping the peace and make sure something doesn't get out of order. It is relatively simple and it seemed like a good opportunity for officers to make additional money if they wanted to outside their normal hours so we're bringing it to your attention he said. He said the other part of that is that no cruisers are needed and they would drive their own vehicles.

Mr. Staples asked how that would help Fund 08 if there is no cruiser.

Capt. Favorite said it doesn't help the Fund 08 at all but it does provide opportunities for the officers to make additional detail money especially when there is such an ebb and flow of when you can and can't work details going into the colder months having an indoor detail is an opportunity for officers to make extra money. He said it doesn't necessarily have any effect on the dept. structurally and their hours and they would be required to work their shifts as normal.

Mr. Staples asked if he saw any negative effect on having to fill overtime or anything like that.

Capt. Favorite said no and if they need an officer to work overtime that's their prime responsibility they're not working a Friday night detail. He said if they're free and it's not an issue then they would afford them the opportunity to work it.

Mrs. Titus asked if the PD gets some kind of profit out of this or if it is just the Police officer.

Capt. Favorite said it is just the Police officer.

Mrs. Titus said she has never been there and asked if there is any drinking, if they are rowdy, and can the officer get hurt.

Capt. Favorite said that was one of the questions he asked because he didn't want to put them in a position where the officer shows up and there are 36 arrests one night and he is the only one in there. He said he asked that specifically of the Chief and they only had 1 physical arrest there in the last year and the Rollinsford PD deals with anything criminal. We would detain them, call for Rollinsford and they would come out. If they were tied up their second contingency to that is to call Dover mutual aid and they would come and pick them up he said.

Mrs. Titus asked how the Police officers feel about that and if they are okay with that.

Capt. Favorite said they seemed pretty excited when it was brought up and it's a new outside look and another aspect of Police work that they can go into.

Mrs. Titus said she felt better knowing there was only arrest because say something happened our officer gets hurt we're down one officer.

Capt. Favorite said it seems like a good opportunity and he looked through it on all ends-what's the benefit to the Town, what's the benefit to the officer and looking at it all encompassing it made sense to him so they brought it to their attention to see what their thoughts were.

Mr. Vachon asked if we would charge out to Rollinsford for the time, benefits, retirement, all

that stuff that the officers get.

Capt. Favorite said that would be charged to the Dover Casino and their rate is the exact rate as Meadowbrook so the max we could charge them is \$85 an hour that's not what the officer gets and that would encompass everything else.

Mr. Vachon said so it wouldn't cost the taxpayers anything it would all be funded by the Dover Casino.

Capt. Favorite said that's correct.

Mr. Staples asked if they both are for this.

Chief Orlando said he had no problems with it but because of where it is and our community probably has a lot of people visiting that establishment he didn't want the word to be out and the board asking how they are not hearing about this. I just wanted to be transparent he said.

Mrs. Morin said it sounds like a good opportunity for our officers it gets them out into another community.

Chief Orlando said he doesn't expect a significantly high volume maybe once every other week they might need an officer.

Capt. Favorite said it sounded like it was a good opportunity for Rollinsford so we may get maybe 1 or 2 a month because they try to fill it with their own officers first and if it opens up they'll call somebody else.

Mr. Staples asked how they keep it fair for our officers.

Capt. Favorite said typically what they do is to open it up and not everybody always wants to work a detail everybody has their individual ways they like to work but if it became something that the whole dept. is interested in they would just slot it. He said they would say you work this one and then they would put the next person in line that would be the fairest way to do it. If you skipped this one then it goes to the next person in line that's typically how you would make it fair he said.

Chief Orlando added some officers would be disqualified because they are working the next morning.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) that we allow our officers to have the opportunity to do details at the Dover Casino for the Rollinsford Police Department;

Discussion: Mr. Vachon asked them to keep an eye on it to make sure they are not burning themselves out and he knows they work crazy hours filling vacations and whatnot and asked them to keep an eye on all the officers.

Capt. Favorite said if it starts to be an issue they will cut it back it's not a problem.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0.

Chief Orlando said he wanted to keep the board up to date regarding the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town and the School District. He said last year around Nov. 7 they entered into the MOU and subsection 14 was Budget Calculations and there was some wording in there that says by Oct. 15 the Chief of Police will submit a proposed draft budget for the

upcoming year. He said he wanted to let them know that he completed that early and submitted that to the School Board and to the Superintendent. He said at the beginning of the school year they have a lot of things going on and he wanted to make sure it was in their hands with plenty of time to talk about anything and that is done.

He said in the monthly report it is the MOU and he looked at each one and said they are meeting expectations and it was all done very well and he would recommend going into any new additional MOU that we use the same wording.

Mrs. Titus asked if everything was going good and there were no issues.

Chief Orlando said yes.

Source Water Protection Grant: Stewardship Plan, Annual Inspection by Conservation,

Survey- Mr. Dickie said he has been working with Underwood Engineering and with the state and this is the grant to replenish the funds they used to buy the Bradsher property where they pay 50% of the cost and there are some stipulations that they want to put in place. He said there were strong concerns with conservation about hunting and the use of the property and what they can and cannot do.

He said under that they would allow snow machining providing there's enough ice and/or snow on the ground to permit them to go across and they'd still want to be able to see where the trail is to make sure that the DES approves where the trail is not necessarily where it has been over the years. He said they would not allow vehicles on the property other than Town vehicles to do the upkeep for the property.

Mr. Dickie said if they do go this way no more mining can be done on the property. He said he had Mr. Brannan look at the Map R3-02 property which is the quarry to see if we have rocks or stone out there that we could crush and mix with our gravel that we're making up on Rt. 11 to help it bind up and be adequate out on dirt roads. He said he felt there was some material that was already busted away from the granite that could be used to assist the Town gravel.

He said there are some restrictions and he wanted to make sure we are aware of them and that we all are going in that same direction.

He said they are proceeding with caution and he has Attorney Keriann Roman working on what would be the proposal for the deed restrictions on the property vs. conservation to see what would be the difference trying to work what DES is looking for vs. what we can put on for deed restrictions.

Mr. Staples asked how many acres they have there.

Mr. Dickie said there is 94 acres there.

Mr. Staples said there is a 400 ft. protective circle around our well.

Mr. Dickie said part of that is Pike's property.

Mr. Staples asked what they can do in that 400 ft. or if it just has to be protective of the water.

Mr. Dickie said that has to be protected so you don't contaminate the water.

Mr. Staples asked if they could put stuff there that would not contaminate the water.

Mr. Dickie said he would have to look to see what the stipulations are and he didn't know that answer off the top of his head.

Mr. Staples said the landowner on Chestnut Hill Rd. that leased his land to the solar company has almost 100 acres there and this is wide open it's a dead gravel pit with plenty of sun and if we leased that land to the power company for solar power then we're getting money back for the taxpayers and the land is going to good use and it's not just sitting there dead. He said we would have the rights for 30 years to do whatever we want with it and wouldn't be locked into a contract.

He said that's a great well that gives us the best drinking water in the state but he has concerns down the road that our landfill is about a mile up river and then you have the Cardinal landfill right beside it and none of them are sealed landfills they're just capped so everything that's in it is going into the ground and could potentially leach down river and who knows if in 20-30 years if that well is going to be worth a dime.

Mr. Dickie said we don't but he was just trying to get them up to speed to make sure that they understand it. He said once he gets Att. Roman's interpretation he'll report that back to the board. I'd love to get half the money back don't get me wrong but not lock us into something that we wish we didn't 10 years down the road he said.

Mr. Vachon said he agreed and those 94 acres are the townspeople's property and they have to protect the wellhead but there a lot of townspeople that utilize that property and have for a long time for different activities. He said the more research he could find about a deed restriction on development or some way to do it that way we would be better off for the situation vs. either completely posting the property off, fencing in areas, eliminating snow mobile trails that the townspeople use. I would like to see something different and not we bought this property and got half the money back but now nobody can touch it he said.

Mr. Staples said and that bridge head is the only way to get across that river.

Water Quality Issue- Mrs. Titus said the water is still a little bit yellow on Memorial Drive and some of the downtown area and it tasted funny the last couple of weeks and she didn't know if they are still working on it.

Mr. Dickie said he would have Water Dept. Supervisor Chuck Tiffany continue flushing and try to get that out of there. He said they were able to clear it up on Rt. 11 by Trotting Park but they struggled in the Memorial Drive area and he would speak with Mr. Tiffany and find out what the mix ratio is between Wells #5 and #6.

Abandoned Property- Mr. Vachon said the green house on Spring St. at the end of Memorial Dr. has been abandoned for about 25 years and asked if that is Town property.

Mr. Dickie said yes but he has to get the Building Inspector to see if the house is contaminated. He said on the 18th is the closing for the auctioneer so they can get these properties together and then auction them off. He said he has 2 auction companies that are actively pursuing getting their bids in so he believes they will have a couple of bids for next Monday to review

and select one.

Mr. Staples said if they are going to auction it off they should do as little research into that as possible and sell it "as is". He said that is what other towns do and when you go to their auction it's "as is as sits" and they won't tell you a thing about it except the lot size.

Mr. Vachon said he thought he knew why Mr. Dickie suggested that and he believes the previous owners can be held responsible for why he is looking into that.

Mrs. Titus said she didn't think those previous owners were still around.

Mr. Vachon said the Town owns it right now and that is why Mr. Dickie is talking about doing the research he wants to do for that property. He said he drove by it today and there's a lot of traffic up Spring St. because of the schools and everything else this time of the year and it's getting more overgrown and it still has a tree leaning against it that Mrs. Titus asked about years ago.

10). New Business:

Tighe & Bond Bridge Assessment Proposal- Mr. Dickie said they asked Tighe & Bond to assess and give us input on the Hornetown Rd. Bridge, the River Rd. Bridge and the Spring St. Bridge and they recently asked them to assist us with the culvert situations on Cross Rd., Dick Dame Lane and others so they came back with a proposal similar to what they did for the levee asking if we could put \$4,000 or \$5,000 to assist them as they assist the Town analyzing our bridges and give us the best path forward.

He said he thinks its reasonable based on the service they give us they're a very "work with" type of engineering firm and they have helped him greatly and they are also looking at grants to assist us when we have to replace culverts. He said they told him that there are monies available to replace culverts and they would assist us in getting those grants out there.

Personally I think it would be good money well spent he said.

Mr. Staples asked where the money is coming from.

Mr. Vachon said that's just the first few paragraphs and their proposed not to exceed fee for the bridge tasks described above is \$5,000 however if you continue reading when you go into the levee they're asking for another \$4,000 on top of the \$3,500 we already gave them a not to exceed limit on and then the following paragraph is another \$5,000 for the Spring St. Bridge so they're looking for another \$14,000. Where's that coming from he asked.

Mr. Dickie said they could agree with it and they could take the bridge monies out of the bridge block grant that we have.

Mr. Staples said he is saying to take \$10,000 from the bridge money and asked where the other \$4,000 would come from.

Mr. Dickie said if he meant for the he would have to ask them to take it out of the ARPA funds where there is \$22,000 that is unassigned or they could take it out of the levee repair because they put \$50,000 on river maintenance in ARPA funds aside for that.

Mrs. Morin said in the last paragraph it says we suggest \$5,000 it's just suggested they don't

have to do that one. It looks like a retainer type of thing she said.

Mr. Vachon read "invoice on a hourly basis when and if needed and only as authorized by the Town" but asked if they want to hold up them doing something because they have to wait to get on the agenda to come back before the board especially when that's for the Spring St. Bridge which they're going to look at and see if there's any way to save it.

Mr. Staples asked Mr. Dickie if he liked working with these guys.

Mr. Dickie said he did and he thought they were much better than Hoyle & Tanner. He said he has not worked with the other engineering firm they have representing the Town but from what he is hearing from the Planning Board they have been very user friendly and these guys are very responsive and come immediately when we need them.

Mr. Staples asked where he wanted to take the \$10,000 from.

Mr. Dickie said they got a one-time payment from the state so there is approx. \$135,000 sitting in that account from the Bridge Block Grant. He said there are no restrictions on that and it's almost like the ARPA funds but it's still sitting there so that is where he would recommend that they take that money out of.

Mrs. Morin asked didn't they already take some money out of that fund.

Mr. Dickie said they took a little bit out of it but they still have \$135,000 sitting there.

Mr. Vachon said it was something else for the bridges but it wasn't all of it.

Motion: (Staples, second Titus) to approve the contract with Tighe & Bond taking \$10,000 from the Bridge Block Grant and \$5,000 from the money set aside for the levee in ARPA;

Discussion: Mrs. Titus said she thought it said \$4,000.

Mr. Staples amended his motion to say \$4,000 from the money set aside for the levee in ARPA.

Vote: the motion passed 4-0.

Mr. Vachon then asked who they are authorizing to sign this.

Motion: (Titus, second Morin) to allow Ken Dickie the Town Administrator to sign on behalf of the Town for the Tighe & Bond contract passed 4-0.

USDA RD Community Facilities Grant- Mr. Dickie said about 3 months ago he mentioned that we have joined forces with the Town of Milton to look at a grant to do studies on what would need to be done to this building and at the Town Hall along with Milton's 3 projects they wanted. He said this grant was to get monies from the feds to do the studies to justify what it would be to bring these buildings back up to standards.

He said they got about \$135,000 and out of that Farmington will be getting around \$36,000 to \$40,000 to do the studies here on our 2 buildings. He said they are starting to see some money come in and with that they will have to do an energy study and get an engineering firm to come in like they had Jeff Greenhalgh go in and look at the Rec. Dept. building and do the same thing here to see what we need to do to get these buildings back up to where they need to be so they're presentable, functioning and usable. Once we have that study done from the monies that are coming from the grant then we can apply for a grant to physically do the work and we

would have an engineered plan of what needs to be done and this is part of the process he said. Mr. Vachon asked if this was a matching grant or a we have to pay it out and get reimbursed grant.

Mr. Dickie said it is not a matching grant and we would not have to be reimbursed they're just giving us the money to get it done.

You're Excused Charlie- Mrs. Titus said Mr. King's absence tonight was excused and she didn't know if he told the Secretary or not.

Thanks Guys!- Mr. Dickie said he wanted to thank the Water and Sewer Depts. for taking the time to tear those fire escapes off the side of the (old fire station) building.

Team Work- Mrs. Titus asked how the team building session went at the playground installation.

Mr. Dickie said it was great and it allowed people to work together that don't typically work together. Everybody stepped up, Ed (Brannan) was the mastermind with the blueprint, Chief Orlando was brave and got up on a step ladder (he's not keen on heights), Chuck (Tiffany) was out there helping us as much as he could and everybody worked together and made it happen he said.

Drinking Water State Revolving Fund- Mr. Vachon asked about the \$2.5 million the Town received.

Mr. Dickie said he included a sheet of paper that broke it down step by step and we got \$2.5 million from the state revolving fund that wasn't anticipated when we first took the \$7.2 million. He said what they thought was going to be \$4.05 million after the 30% reduction from the state is now \$2.28 million so it's good news for the townspeople.

He said as long as they were okay with how it's formatted they had asked him a while back to put something together so they could put that out on the Town website and get the people updated on where we're at. He said he would put it out on the website, the Farmington Community Forum page on Face book that it's less than what they thought, the interest rate is less than what they thought-they bookmarked 5% for the interest rate and now it's 2.8% to be the max and anything less than that is what we'll be locking in with. It's turning out better than what we anticipated when we first entered into this he said.

Mr. Vachon said we received \$3.94 million in grants there's no cost to the Town because \$1.44 million from ARPA and we just received \$2.5 million from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund 100% forgiveness at no cost to the town. He said that leaves \$3.26 million which previously was \$5.76 million then you get 30% forgiveness off of that which makes the net principal \$2.28 million when previously the net principal was \$4.03 million so we're bonding \$2.28 million of a \$7.2 million project because of grants and forgiveness and other that we received. That \$2.28 million is at 2.8% not the 5% which we figured it for so there will be even less impact on users, residents and taxpayers he said.

11). Next Meeting: Monday, September 18, 2023

12). Non-Public Session C:

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 4-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Staples, Titus, Morin-aye) at 8:19 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 4-0 at 9:18 p.m.

13). Non-Public Session D:

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 4-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Staples, Morin, Titus-aye) at 9:18 p.m.

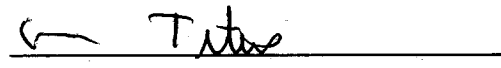
Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 4-0 at 9:23 p.m.


14).Adjournment:

Motion: (Titus, second Morin) to adjourn the meeting passed 4-0 at 9:23 p.m.

Kathleen Magoon
Recording Secretary


Gerry Vachon, Chairman


Ann Titus


Douglas Staples


Penny Morin