

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen – Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, June 27, 2017
Selectmen's Chambers
356 Main Street

Board Members Present:

Charlie King, Chairman

Neil Johnson, Vice Chairman

Jim Horgan

Paula Proulx

Ann Titus

Others Present:

Town Administrator Arthur Capello

Police Chief Jay Drury

DPW Director Dale Sprague

Resident Elizabeth Johnson

1). Chairman King opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

2). Non-Public Session A:

Motion: (King, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) Hiring passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (King, Johnson, Horgan, Proulx, Titus- yes) at 6:05 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 6:50 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to seal the minutes until the hiring process is completed passed 5-0.

3). Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

Chairman King called the public session to order at 6:55 p.m. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

4). Public Input:

A). Groundbreaking Ceremony- Mr. Capello expressed his thanks to Police Chief Jay Drury, Fire Chief James Reinert, Selectmen's Secretary Megan Taylor-Fetter and Administrative Asst. Erica Rogers for all of their help in organizing the Public Safety Building groundbreaking ceremony. He said approx. 100 people attended the event.

B).Engine Repair- DPW Director Dale Sprague told the board that the dept.'s six-wheeled truck has a problem with the engine rapping. He said investigation of the problem showed there is a bad cam with a flat spot on it. Discussion included the repair will be labor intensive as the engine will need to be taken apart to make the repair, the truck could be out of service for several weeks, two estimates put the work at a cost of approx. \$9,500, replacing the engine, get an opinion/estimate from Dover Motor Mart and the rest of the truck is in good shape.

Mr. Sprague asked Chairman King to take a look at the truck, get a history of the engine and give his thoughts about the best way to move forward with the repair. Mr. King said he would arrive at the highway garage at 7 a.m. the next morning.

5). Review of minutes: There were no minutes received.

6). Mr. Bishop Regarding Pound Road:

Mr. Bishop canceled his meeting with the board and has not rescheduled at this time.

7). Police Chief Regarding New Training Program:

Chief Drury returned to the board to discuss online law enforcement training offered by PoliceOne Academy. He said the program offers an extensive line of courses which is recognized by NH Police Standards and Training and can be used to fulfill all eight hours of continuing education credits required annually. The cost is \$75 per user/year for 17 users with unlimited use for a total of \$1,275. Discussion included whether the courses will be assigned or chosen by the users, if the courses will be taken on the job or during their free time, if there is time limit to complete and pass each course, online training will save money on mileage and overtime, courses can be structured to address any deficiencies, creating a clear policy describing how courses will be assigned with some flexibility to complete courses on the officer's own time and if courses are assigned expect the officers to complete them on paid time. Chief Drury then asked the board to consider allowing him to implement the program and to give it two months to "work out the bugs" and to draft a policy.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to authorize Chief Drury to enter into a one year contract for outside online training and to authorize the Chief to sign the contract passed 5-0.

Chief Drury told the board that he is in the process of interviewing candidates for the Animal Control Officer position and asked if Selectmen wished to take part in the process. Consensus of the board was to allow the Chief and Mr. Capello to handle the interview process.

Chief Drury said he is also considering a part time officer who recently resigned from the Conway Police Dept. and has started his background check. The officer is certified for a full time position and currently lives in Conway which is a little further away than he would like for a quick response time if needed. He may bring the officer to the next board meeting he said.

8). Lancelot Shores Update:

Mr. Capello said the subdivision's association is having a board meeting this evening and he sent the Selectmen's response to the invoice for past dues to that board for review. He added that he learned that none of the property owned by the town is beach front property.

9). TIF District:

Mr. Capello said the town is having a difficult time finding volunteers for the five member TIF District Advisory Board. The board is in need of three members who have a business within the district or who live adjacent to the district he said. He said he is working with Interim Planner Liz Durfee to find other ways to recruit members for the TIF board.

10). Primex CAP:

Mr. Capello said he mistakenly informed the board at the last meeting that the decision to sign up for Primex Workers' Compensation coverage CAP was not time sensitive. He said he has since learned the board must approve the agreement with Primex by the end of July so he will not have time to obtain bids from private insurance companies that offer Workers' Compensation coverage. He said Primex has done well by the town and based on the town's history, he did not think they would find anything cheaper. He recommended the board approve the Primex CAP plan. Discussion included the town's 2016 contribution is \$105,107, the rate couldn't increase more than 10% each year with the CAP, if all of the employees are in the correct Workers' Compensation class, what will happen if the board doesn't make a decision, limiting the town's exposure, the discount for multi-year contracts, the town has had Primex for 25 years, Primex currently has no competition, sharing the risk pool with other towns with the same rates and the town could still investigate the private sector to see what their prices are.

Motion: (Johnson, second Horgan) to accept the Primex CAP to cap the town's contribution for three years and authorize the Town Administrator to sign the contract passed 5-0.

11). Additional Board Business:

A). Forestry Truck- Mr. Johnson asked for an update on the forestry vehicle. Mr. Capello said the Police dept. has found a way to continue using the federally obtained vehicle by placing a "MP" plate on it and has ordered decals for the vehicle as well.

B). Solar Power Proposal- Mr. King asked about the status of the proposal to generate solar power at the landfill. Mr. Capello said the Town attorney's response to the proposal was sent to the company's attorney and is still in the works. He said he knew of no deal breakers so far.

Selectman Proulx proposed the board look into possibly using the former Textron Superfund Site to produce solar power. She said there are limitations on what the property can be used for so it continues to just sit there. She added this may be a way for the town to recoup the back taxes owed to the town by the previous owner.

Chairman King noted that sooner or later the 110 acre property will come out of the state's hands and suggested the Town Administrator give the information about the property to the solar company for consideration.

Mr. Capello said he will contact the company and the state to find out if that would be a suitable use for the property.

12). Town Administrator's Business:

A). School Budget Reports- Mr. Capello asked the board if they wished to receive copies of the monthly School District Budget Reports. Consensus of the board was to receive the school reports twice a year. Mr. Capello added that the School District plans to return \$200,000 to the town. Mr. Johnson said they took some savings from the discounted heating oil price and the unexpended fund balance to cover health insurance costs.. Mr. Capello noted that the town and school district have locked in the oil price at \$1.65 a gallon through April 2017.

B). TAC Appointees- Selectmen received a letter from the Strafford Regional Planning Commission seeking a representative to the Strafford Metropolitan Planning Organization's Technical Advisory Committee. The TAC is responsible for making transportation planning recommendations to the SMPO. Selectmen may keep the current appointee or appoint a new one and may also appoint an alternate representative. The current appointee is Martin Laferte and the alternate position is vacant. Selectmen requested Mr. Capello contact Mr. Laferte and see if he is interested in remaining as the TAC appointee and to post for an alternate appointee.

C). Overlay and Conservation Funds- At the previous meeting Selectmen asked for the total amount spent out of the overlay account. Including abatements \$26,892 was spent and \$20,000 was budgeted. Mr. Capello said that it was previously stated that the Conservation Fund contained about \$130,000. The fund actually contains \$38,231.36 he said.

D). Groundbreaking Expenses- Mr. Capello provided a spreadsheet of expenses for the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Public Safety Building. Selectmen authorized \$700 for food and items related to the event and a total of \$442.93 was spent he said.

E). Hardship Request- The board decided to discuss this matter in non-public session.

F). Coast Bus Stopped- Mr. Capello told the board he received a letter from Executive Director Rad Nichols notifying the town that the North bus will cease operations as of Sept. 30, 2016. Community Action Partnership of Strafford County will provide transportation for Farmington seniors beginning Oct. 1, 2016.

G). Town Vehicle Policy- Selectmen signed the previously approved policy.

13). Next Meeting: Monday, July 11, 2016.

14). Non-Public Session B:

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (King, Johnson, Horgan, Proulx, Titus- yes) at 7:50 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 7:55 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to seal the minutes until the matter is resolved passed 5-0.

15). Non-Public Session C:

Motion: (King, second Johnson) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) Compensation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (King, Johnson, Horgan, Proulx, Titus- yes) at 7:58 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Horgan) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 8:40 p.m.

16). Adjournment:

Motion: (Titus, second Horgan) to adjourn the meeting passed 5-0 at 8:40 p.m.

Respectively submitted

Kathleen Magoon

Recording Secretary

Charlie King

Paula Proulx

Neil Johnson

James Horgan

Ann Titus