

Town of Farmington Board of Trustees Meeting – January 21, 2021

The Board of Trustees were called to order by Joe Pitre, Vice-Chair at 6:00 PM, with the following members present:

Manny Krasner – Chairman – Remotely Via Phone

Joe Pitre – Vice-Chairman

Debra L. Reed – Board Member/Secretary

Kathy Seaver – Treasurer for the Trustees

The Minutes of the December 17, 2020 meeting were approved as presented.

Motion by Krasner, seconded by Pitre. Vote: 3/0

Pubic Comment: Ruth Ellen Vaughn, Superintendent from the Farmington High School District was with us this evening.

Old Business:

- A. Review of Completed Deposit/Withdrawal Requests

New Business:

- A. Review of New Deposit/Withdrawal Requests

Deposits:

The following deposits were presented from the Farmington School District.

WA 11 Special Education Expendable Trust CRF in the amount of **\$50,000.00**

Motion by Krasner, seconded by Reed. Vote: 3/0

WA 14 Farmington School District Expendable Trust CRF in the amount of

\$50,000.00. Motion by Reed, seconded by Pitre. Vote: 3/0

This fund to be setup/established through Kathy Seaver, Treasurer for the Trustees.

WA 13 Kitchen Equipment Fund CRF in the amount of **\$35,000.00**. Motion by

Reed, seconded by Krasner. Vote: 3/0.

WA 12 Farmington School District Bus CRF in the amount of **\$50,000.00**. Motion by Krasner, seconded by Reed. Vote: 3/0

Total amount of the above WA's 11, 12,13, &14. **\$185,000.00**.

Total amount of the above accepted Warrant Articles was accepted by the Board of Trustees and will be deposited in the appropriate accounts. Vote: 3/0

Scholarships:

It is with pleasure that the Board of Trustee approves the following scholarships presented from the Farmington High School Scholarship Committee.

A request was received on behalf of Adrianna Zappala from the Megan Scanlon Memorial Scholarship Fund in the amount of **\$500.00** for the University of New Hampshire. (June of 2020) Motion by Krasner, seconded by Pitre to facilitate this request: Vote: 3/0

A request was received on behalf of Marcus Berko in the amount of **\$500.00** for the New Hampshire Technical Institute from the J. T. Lamantia Memorial Scholarship. (Jan 14, 2021) Motion by Krasner, seconded by Reed to facilitate this request. Vote: 3/0

A request was received on behalf of Adrianna Schulpall in the amount of **\$1,000.00** for the University of New Hampshire from the FHS Faculty Scholarship (Jan 11, 2021) A motion was made by Reed, seconded by Krasner to facilitate this request. Vote: 3/0

A request was received from Kaitlyn Phair in the amount of **\$1,000.00** from the Beulah Perkins Thayer Scholarship Fund for the University of New Hampshire. Motion by Reed, seconded by Krasner to facilitate this request. Vote: 3/0

A request was received from Kyle Rhines for Northland College in the amount of **\$2,500.00** from the James E. Thayer Scholarship Fund (Jan 14, 2021) A motion was made by Krasner, seconded by Reed to facilitate this request. Vote: 3/0

It is a pleasure to facilitate the request of these college students and we wish them all well in their endeavors and careers.

The Board of Trustees discussed the letter that was received from the BOS of the Town of Farmington, New Hampshire. This letter was concerning the Hornetown Bridge Project. Krasner mentioned that there are things that we need to consider before making decisions on this letter. The Trust funds are not suppose to be used for regular town government business; and also should regular normal town government business be funded by Trust Funds? Krasner said that in the Feb 24th meeting, the BOS stated that they had \$286,000.00 in funds for the Hornetown Bridge Project and that it come in on budget. If we give them the money they are requesting, they would have over \$310,000.00. It seems to this Board that they do not need the money, since the BOS stated that the Bridge Project (mentioned above) came in on budget, so why are they needing additional Trust Funds? The BOS has not given our Board a reason why they wanted the Trust Funds and no inquiry from them either, as to if funds were indeed available. After much discussion between the Board of Trustees, our Board gave the Town of Farmington \$12,403.59, which was taken from the Beulah L. Thayer and the James E. Thayer Trusts for the Hornetown Bridge Project. A motion was made by Krasner, seconded by Pitre to facilitate this request and issue a check for that amount to the Town of Farmington for the Hornetown Bridge Project. Vote: 3/0"

Pitre inquired "what do we do with the balance?" Krasner moved that we deny the request for additional funds because our Board is unclear as to "if" the BOS needs the additional funds and should anything be expended for this type of activity? Motion seconded by Pitre. Vote: 3/0

A motion by Krasner, seconded by Pitre that we deny the request from the Farmington BOS for additional funds on the rational that this Board is unclear as to why they need the funds. The BOS has not made clear. to this Board, why they need additional funds from the Trust Funds, when they stated that the Hornetown Bridge Project came in on budget. Vote: 3/0

Reed asked if Krasner would draw up a letter from the Board of Trustees to the Farmington Board of Selectman stating the reasons why this Board denied the request for additional funds from the Trust Funds. Krasner to draft a letter and send it to the BOTrustees (Joe and Debra) to edit and send back our suggestions for a new letter, before Krasner sends our final letter to the Board of Selectman. Krasner brought up that the letter is to be sent to the Town Administrator and the BOS. Krasner is aware that our Town Administrator, Arthur Capello, is on

Administrative leave and Krasner felt that Mr. Capello should not be handling Town affairs. Krasner stated that he would send the completed letter, from our Board, to Paula Proulx, BOS Chairman and to the Town Administrator; as in this case Acting Town Administrator, Paula Proulx. A motion was made by Reed, seconded by Pitre, that a letter be facilitated by Krasner representing the Board of Trustees and send it to the BOS of the Town of Farmington when completed.
Vote: 3/0

Reed asked to enter in the record the following pieces of information:

- 1) The Life Resource Program offered through HealthTrust. It is available to all elected officials and volunteers on the Boards and Committees, regardless of insurance coverage. This also includes all those living in your house and dependents up to the age of 26. Received from Meghan Taylor-Fetter
- 2) I have all the receipts from Dawn Weeks from the Community Christmas for "2020" that was spent from the McLaughlin Fund.
- 3) I have all the correspondence sent back and forth from the BOS and the Trustees of the Trust Funds and would like to make them part of our file.

Motion by Reed, seconded by Krasner to make these part of our record.
Vote: 3/0

Krasner mentioned that he would like the Board of Trustees to think about looking into some of the Trust funds that we facilitate, such as the McLaughlin Fund, which we have used for several years to help the needy at Christmas time along with St. Peters Church. Krasner said that we need to think of ways to use these Trust Funds for the betterment of helping those in need in Farmington so that these funds aren't sitting around gathering dust.

With no further business to come before the Board of Trustees, a motion was made by Krasner, seconded by Pitre that we adjourn; meeting adjourned at 6:40PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Reed, Board Member/Trustee

