

FINAL



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
March 13, 2017**

PRESENT: KEITH R. LACASSE, CHAIRMAN; TOM CLOW, VICE CHAIRMAN; JENNIFER BOHL, SELECTMAN; SELECTMAN JOHN (JACK) MEANEY, SELECTMAN

Not present: FREDERICK W. HIPPLER,

RECORDING SECRETARY: Kathleen Humphreys

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi Bolton

GUESTS: Frank Campana, Jan Snyder, Finance Director Beth Rouse, Eileen Meaney, John Vanloendersloot, Donna Osborne, Jon Osborne, Mackenzie Peacock, Richard Butt and Fire Chief Bob Vezina.

The meeting started at 6:30pm with an informal coffee hour.

Chairman Lacasse called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance & moment of silence then announced a live Call-In Program for viewers at home to call into the meeting to ask questions or make comments. The phones will be opened until 8:00 p.m.

Resident Frank Campana asked why the back-up statement in the mailer for the default budget use the phrase the Selectmen cannot recommend this budget because it will have ã significant decreaseö. He noted it was discussed at a previous Selectmenø meeting the statement would not adequately provide for safety services. He felt this was a misleading and a scare tactic.

Richard Butt also asked why the wording changed. He reviewed his notes from a previous meeting where Police Chief Sean Kelly made a statement there is nothing left to cut from the budget.

Mr. Butt questioned if there was still a need for a part-time secretary position for the police after Senate Bill 12 passed last month which eliminated a permit for concealed carry/weapon and in his opinion the workload should be reduced. He questioned the value of the \$13,000 part-time secretaryø salary for gun permits in addition to the time involved to compile Right to Know Law request in which last year made revenue of \$95 for copies. Selectman Meaney explained that figure does not account for the hours they have to file paperwork, legal review, weed through and remove the sensitive material line by line and type answers. Mr. Butt felt it was a revenue loss and suggest charging a fee while Chairman Lacasse felt the spirit of the Right to Know Law is on the person making the request, they have the right to obtain the material and itø not a privilege. Vice Chairman Clow mentioned the full-time secretary works over-time on a regular basis which will be reduced after a part-time secretary is hired. That clerk position has been part of the labor contract but was unfilled.

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Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to approve the minutes of March 6, 2017 as written. Passed 3-0-1.

MANIFESTS

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to order the Treasurer to sign accounts payable and payroll checks dated March 16, 2017 as included in the following manifests:

Payrolls Manifest	\$50,560.49 (Weekly payroll including payroll taxes)
Accounts Payable Manifest	\$54,025.26
John Stark Reg. Account Payable Manifest	\$250,000.00
Weare School District Payable. Manifest	\$450,000.00
TOTAL	\$804,585.75

Passed 4-0-0

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

-A recent meeting was held with a resident regarding a tax abatement.

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to approve the tax abatement for Tax Map 406, Lots 15 and 40. Passed 4-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Richard Butt had a question about Article 16, hazardous waste, about the language in the original proposed article that states ñnull and voidö. He was informed the money is in line 593 HHW (page 14 under Transfer Station)

Mr. Butt asked why the board didn't amend the operating budget during the Deliberative Session to put the ambulance per diem and part-time police secretary back in. He was reminded there was a motion to restrict reconsideration. Eileen Meaney responded that legal counsel told them once they reached that they could not change it.

Frank Campana questioned the policy in Article 10 that ask voters to approve \$185,000 for the truck while it really cost \$220,000 with \$35,000 from the Capital Reserve Fund. He felt the warrant should ask for the total amount. It was noted by the Board the voters already were asked to raise and approve the \$35,000 in the fund and there is additional information in the mailer. He questioned the warrant that list the 1982 Mack Truck and felt it didn't illustrate an accurate story that this truck was purchased used two-years ago and that voters could assume it has been with the town since 1982. He also has concern about applying this rational to the older police vehicles in the fleet.

Mr. Campana wanted assurance the three police cars will be auctioned off or sold for scrap metal. The Board will verify this with the vehicle identification numbers at the state auction and show the scrap metal revenue.

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Moderator Meaney reminded residents that tomorrow is voting 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Weare Middle School.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

The list of back taxes is \$113,384.50 not including 2016. That is more than two-years ago.

Resident Jan Snyder asked if the proposed budget of \$5.6 million was reduced by \$108,000 that locks the Selectmen into making those reductions. She was informed it would be up to the departments to go line by line to determine what that reduction would be but the \$46,000 is still in the proposed budget for the fire department.

Frank Campana noted the town tax rate went down 2% while the school tax increased 28 cents and wondered if the calculations were correct. Two pieces not mentioned until the tax rate is set are the "Overlay" and "Veteran's Exemption" which are exemptions. Last year that added a minimum of 25 cents to the town's portion of the taxes.

At 8:00 p.m. the phone call-in portion of the meeting ended.

Chairman Lacasse is not running for re-election. He wanted to thank the Board of Selectmen and said it has been a pleasure. He thanked Vice Chair Clow who he served with for 9-years and added, "We might not always have agreed but you are an honorable man." He read a list of name of people he has served with. He felt the police department is well on its way to being a really great department and that there is a good and different culture there and that the new fire chief has restored relationships with other towns.

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to adjourn at 8:05pm. Motion passed 4-0.

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Kathleen Humphreys, Recording Secretary