

WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES January 22, 2018

PRESENT: TOM CLOW, CHAIRMAN; FREDERICK W. HIPPLER, VICE CHAIRMAN (arrived at 7:05 PM); JON OSBORNE, SELECTMAN; JOHN (JACK) MEANEY, SELECTMAN (arrived at 7:40 PM); AND JAN SNYDER, SELECTMAN.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Naomi L. Bolton **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:** Naomi L. Bolton

GUESTS: Richard Butt; Frank Campana; Lori Davis; Beth Rouse, Finance Administrator; Benji Knapp, DPW Director; Mike Sullivan, Library Director; Fire Chief Bob Vezina; Police Chief Sean Kelly

Chairman Clow called the meeting to order at 6:39 PM, welcomed everyone present and watching, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Clow stated that he was going to jump around on the agenda tonight, as we are waiting for all Board members to arrive due to weather conditions.

DEPARTMENT HEAD/COMMITTEE ITEMS:

Richard Butt, Cable Committee updated the Board on all the things that the cable committee is working on. They have a Cable Committee member that is working with the students of the John Stark and Hopkinton Robotics Team. She will be traveling with them and covering their events. They are going to be working on doing some local programming that will consist of reoccurring segments with the Police Department and Historical Society. They welcome other community organizations to reach out if they would like some additional coverage opportunities. They are also working on updating their policies and procedures. Lastly, Mr. Butt stated that there is a possibility that deliberative session may not be able to go live. They are going to work diligently with the school, but it appears that when fiber optic was installed it changed things. It will be recorded for rebroadcast.

MEETING MINUTES:

<u>January 15, 2018 Minutes:</u> Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Osborne seconded to approve the January 15, 2018 minutes as amended. Passed 3-0-0

PUBLIC HEARING: To hear public testimony and comment on the second of two (2) public hearings for an employment contract for the position of Town Administrator. (First one was 1-15-18)

Chairman Clow opened the public hearing at 7:02 PM and welcomed anyone present to speak. Being there was no one present interested in speaking, Chairman Clow closed the public hearing at 7:03 PM.

MANIFESTS

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Osborne seconded to order the Treasurer to sign accounts payable and payroll checks dated January 25, 2018 as included in the following manifests:

Payroll Manifest \$ 52,589.71 (Weekly payroll)

Accounts Payable Manifest \$ 26,360.65

Weare School District Manifest \$ 450,000.00

TOTAL \$ 528,950.36

Discussion: Selectman Osborne questioned a couple of invoices that were over the \$1,000 limit without going out to bid. The first was Huntress and the second was Quantum EMS. (Vice Chairman Hippler arrived at 7:05 PM) Chief Vezina explained that Huntress has been the supplier for the uniforms for some time. They have established a work relationship with the vendors and the item are ordered by piece. Chief Vezina pointed out that it is his recollection that this order was placed before the requirement of 3 written bids. Chairman Clow stated that this is where he feels is one of the glitches in the purchasing policy. Chief Vezina stated that the Quantum EMS is a sole source provider. When transporting children they have to have this device/restraints for the patient. He admits that it exceeds the amount for quotes, but no one else out there has this particular item. They are the sole source provider. Vice Chairman Hippler stated that he will not be signing this because there is no pay sheet for Sgt. Frisbie. There are a total of hours worked but not a sheet with the breakdown of days. Chairman Clow stated that there could be a provision added that the payroll is not released before the time sheet is released. Vice Chairman Hippler stated that he would approve it with that stipulation. Vote: 4-0-0

DEPARTMENT HEAD/COMMITTEE ITEMS:

Library Director Mike Sullivan informed the Board that a trade magazine picked up a copy of the Weare in the World Newsletter he puts out. The Associated Press has provided coverage on the newsletter and tomorrow NPR radio will be doing a piece on it. He feels this is a good time to get information out on the airways to get people to send him information. From now until Town meeting the newsletter is going to be filled with information regarding the upcoming Town Meeting vote.

FINALIZE 2018 BUDGETS AND WARRANT ARTICLES: Chairman Clow wanted to review the articles particularly as there were initial votes and feedback at the last Finance Committee meeting.

Article 3- Non-Union Employee Raises: Chairman Clow stated that there was some feedback regarding this article. The Finance Committee suggested that they would support 2% as it was more in line with the social security increase versus 3%. The Board discussed the feedback and felt that if that was going to get favorable buy in they would be willing to drop the percentage to 2% and it would be done equally across the Board. Vice Chairman Hippler moved, Selectman Osborne seconded to drop this article from 3% to 2%. Passed 4-0-0

Article 4 ó Government Building & Maintenance Fund: Chairman Clow stated that the feedback was that there would be support of the Bell Tower article but not both. Chairman Clow suggested removing the article all together. Selectman Snyder agreed and indicated that leaving the two of them could be confusing. Vice Chairman Hippler was not in favor or eliminating it completely. He would like to drop it to \$15,000 because

there are a couple of projects that may sneak up on the Board this year. The roof at the safety complex is not in great shape. The furnace at the South Weare Fire Station appears to be on its last leg, so he would like something to go in there versus nothing. Vice Chairman Hippler moved, Selectman Snyder seconded to amend this article by changing the amount to \$15,000. Passed 4-0-0

Article 5 ó Police Cruisers: The consensus of the Finance Committee was they would be inclined to vote in favor of one, but not two cruisers this year. Chief Kelly stated that it is not worth the risk of losing a car, so he would be okay with one cruiser this year. The fleet that is left is too unpredictable, therefore he would like to keep both old cars if the article gets moved to one car. Selectman Osborne stated that he would be opposed to one if one car does not go away. Vice Chairman Hippler agreed with Selectman Osborne. He understands the Chief reasoning but if we dong get rid of one for a new one, the appearance that is left is that the fleet is increasing. Selectman Snyder concern is that we could end up with none. Chief agrees but asked that if the Board goes to one car he would like to have the vehicle maintenance line increased. (Selectman Meaney arrived at 7:40 PM). Selectman Meaney agreed and felt that one is the best way to go right now. Selectman Osborne moved, Selectman Snyder seconded to amend the article for \$44,571 for 1 fully equipped cruiser. Passed 5-0-0

Article 6 ó Additional Officer: Chairman Clow stated that the consensus from the Finance Committee is that they are not in favor of this article. Chairman Clow is in favor of leaving it on the warrant as presented and let the Town vote on it. Chief Kelly stated that his is merely a legal change in the landscape by hiring an additional officer of our own, versus using the State Police. Chief Kelly wanted to be perfectly clear that this is not a slight at all for the State Police. They have been gracious in helping us out in any time of need.

Article 7 6 Fire Department 6 Purpose change of Special Revenue Fund: There was mention that the warrant should reflect the exact title of the article that was approved in 1999. Vice Chairman Hippler moved, Selectman Snyder seconded to amend the first sentence to have the original fund name listed properly. Passed 5-0-0

Article 11 ó Part Time DPW Help: Vice Chairman Hippler asked DPW Director Benji Knapp if this was only for winter help. Director Knapp replied that it was intended for winter, but if he has another summer like last year he would use this person for flagging as well. He spent most of the year two employees short. Vice Chairman Hippler moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to add the word "truck" between the words time and driver. Passed 5-0-0

The rest of the warrant was not changed from the previous week.

The Board then reviewed the budget and default. It was determined that they had pretty much locked everything into place, so it would go onto the DRA forms as last week showed.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: Nothing new to report.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Frank Campana stated that he first owes DPW Director Knapp an apology. Last week he accused him of keeping the old backhoe and adding to the fleet, by replacing the old backhoe when it needs replacing, when it was never mentioned by Director Knapp that it would be replaced. The intention is to have the old backhoe live out the rest of its useful time at the Transfer Station. Director Knapp thanked Mr. Campana.

Mr. Campana pointed out that last week during public comment a speaker talked about civility and respect. The speaker indicated that they had taken copious notes and mentioned phrases that were said. He assumed the speaker was referring to him. He takes exception to that. There were phrases used like õstupidö that he didnøt say. He reviewed the YouTube video and he stated no one present spoke like that.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Library Director Mike Sullivan wanted to inform everyone that the Library holds a community coffee hour on the first Thursday of the month. This upcoming February coffee hour is scheduled for Thursday, February 1st beginning at 9:30 AM. He has invited all the Town and School residents running for office as well as officials who can explain and answer any questions that may come up that morning. He would love to get as many as he can to attend. It is open to the public to attend. He will be serving refreshments.

NONPUBLIC SESSION:

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 8:39 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (a & c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Snyder – yes; Chairman Clow – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Hippler – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to exit from the nonpublic session @ 9:16 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Osborne – yes; Selectman Snyder – yes; Chairman Clow – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Hippler – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Vice Chairman Hippler moved, Selectman Osborne seconded to seal and restrict these nonpublic session minutes. Passed 5-0-0

Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Chairman Clow moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to adjourn at 9:17 PM. Passed 5-0-0

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Naomi L. Bolton Recording Secretary

Naomi L. Bolton