

FINAL



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
January 16, 2017**

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

RECORDING SECRETARY: Kathleen Humphreys

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi Bolton

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 6:30 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (a&c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Bohl – yes; Selectman Hippler – yes; Chairman Lacasse – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to come out of nonpublic session @ 7:00 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Bohl – yes; Selectman Hippler – yes; Chairman Lacasse – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 5-0-0

The Board met with Chief Sean Kelly for his annual evaluation.

GUESTS: Frank Campana, Jan Snyder, Richard Butt, John Lawton, Matt Whitlock, Steve Roberts, Jeffrey Brown, DPW Director Benjamin Knapp and Finance Director Beth Rouse.

PUBLIC HEARING

For the purpose of hearing public testimony and comment on the 2017 overall Proposed Town Budget, including all separate, special, and petitioned Warrant Articles, as well as disclosure of the Default Budget.

Public Hearing started at 7:02pm

ARTICLE (Operating Budget)

Resident Richard Butt asked why the default budget is greater than the proposed budget. He was informed by Chairman Lacasse the Board had a discussion about each line and made the choice to present the proposed budget in this format.

Resident Frank Campana spoke to the police budget and had a concern about the figures.

Resident John Lawton commented he was disappointed the default budget came in close to the proposed budget. He would like to see this corrected. He pointed out the fuel line was more in the default budget. Vice Chairman Clow mentioned the fuel budget was reduced last year and it's currently a difficult fuel environment. In 2016,

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fuel costs were lower resulting in fuel savings in conjunction with a mild winter. The numbers were carried over. He also mentioned this process is legal.

ARTICLE (COLLECTIVE BARGAINING – POLICE)

The Police Union has been without a contract for the past two years. The police have been paying 7% for health insurance while the rest of the town departments paid 10% therefore the police are moving to 10%. A salary agreement of 3% was reached and the increases will be 3%, 3% and 3.5%. It was noted there was no salary increase the past few years. Vice Chairman Clow informed the guests the contract has stronger language which makes it a better contract.

John Lawton questioned the increase in 2018. Vice Chair Clow explained 2017 only has a nine month period from April-December of increases but in 2018 includes a full year's costs.

Finance Director Beth Rouse explained if the warrant passes the retirement increase would start on July 1 and everything else would go in effect on April 1. The figures for 2018 include a full-year of pay increase and full-year of the New Hampshire Retirement increase.

Richard Butt asked if the management rights were strengthened and was informed they were.

Matt Whitlock asked for clarification and was told there is only a step increase in the third year and the other line items are salary increases.

John Lawton questioned the wording and felt it was misleading. It was clarified the tax rate will be set on what needs to be raised, which this year is \$16,627. It reads Estimated Increase.

ARTICLE (Raise – Non Union Personnel)

No comments.

ARTICLE (CRF – GOVERNMENT BUILDING & MAINTENANCE)

Richard Butt asked how much was expended from last year's budget. Vice Chairman Clow reported there is around \$70,000 in the fund now but there are substantial estimates for repairs to Town Hall for around \$179,000 and the gazebo. As of Aug. 31, 2016 \$17,853.97 was spent.

Mr. Butt felt these were projects and should go through the Capital Improvement Process like all other requests. The Board felt fixing trim rot and face boards are an example of maintenance repairs.

ARTICLE (Police Cruisers – purchase)

Frank Campana inquired if there is any other money available for the purpose of police vehicles such as detail work and if so he would like to see that utilized as well. Chairman Lacasse explained because of understaffing the police details were down and not as many opportunities were available. Mr. Campana spoke to the maintenance line and felt the cars should be in shape. Selectman Meaney explained that as a former police officer he can attest that police vehicles do take a beating and noted that about \$100,000 has been spent on vehicle maintenance in the past two years.

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Chief Sean Kelly would like a fleet of seven vehicles. One vehicle is out of service due to rust. The intention is to ask to replace two vehicles in 2018 and at that point the department can start to replace vehicles that have value. The equipment cannot be transferred from the Crown Victoria or Expedition to the new vehicles.

ARTICLE (SCBA – Air Packs)

No comments

ARTICLE (10 Wheeler)

Mr. Butt felt the wording is misleading and should include total estimate and manufacturer's retail price plus keep in mind the trade-in value to show what is coming out of the CIP. Vice Chair Clow reminded him the town attorney and DRA has reviewed the language and approved it.

ARTICLE (Backhoe)

Mr. Butt asked if the backhoe can be new or used equipment and was informed the language allows either.

ARTICLE (Road Reconstruction)

Jeff Brown felt the town should push back on the DRA for a language modification.

ARTICLE (Bridge Improvement)

No comments

Article (Boat Ramp Repairs)

Richard Butt asked questions about the condition of the boat ramp and felt it was too premature to be a warrant article.

ARTICLE (Cemetery Cy-Pres)

No comment

ARTICLE (HHW) Household Hazardous Waste Collection

The Board explained that they would like to have HHW in the operating budget in the future.

ARTICLE (Fireworks)

Matt Whitlock asked why this article says "non-transferrable". It was agreed to strike both "non-transferable" and "may not be transferred for any other purpose" from the article.

ARTICLE (Conservation Commission)

Mr. Lawton asked how much money is in the fund and was informed \$168,998 is in Forest Account. The Conservation Commission has about \$87,000. Town Administrator Bolton will look into four RFPs that were opened last week.

ARTICLE (Transact other business)

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No comment

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Bolton seconded to close the public hearing on Town Warrants and Budget at 9:02 p.m. Motion passed 5-0-0.

Mr. Butt had a comment on fees vs services and spoke to the bulk item charges at the Transfer Station. He discussed a potential lawsuit. He also felt the Park and Recreation Committee's fees don't cover their operation cost and asked what happens with their fees. He felt the taxpayers are covering the difference of a fee-based system and the cost should be paid by the people who use it.

Frank Campana felt the town is double-dipping on the fees for furniture and bedding at the Transfer Station.

DEPARTMENT HEADS/COMMITTEE ITEMS

No items were discussed.

MINUTES

Vice Chairman Clow moved, Chairman Lacasse seconded to approve the minutes of January 9, 2017 as amended. Motion passed 5-0-0.

MANIFESTS

Chairman Lacasse moved, Vice Chairman Clow seconded to sign accounts payable and payroll checks dated Jan. 19, 2017 as included in the following manifests:

Payroll Manifest	\$35,310.56 (Weekly payroll including library but excluding Police Department)
Supplemental Payable Manifest	\$16,255.66 (Police Department Weekly Payroll)
2016 Accounts Payable Manifest	\$45,051.31
2017 Accounts Payable Manifest	\$30,009.11
TOTAL	\$126,626.64

Motion passed 5-0.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Town Administrator Bolton handed out the RSA regarding the Government Electronic Records which states records held longer than 10-years have to be transferred to paper. It was noted there is a policy in place.

RSA 5:29 VI: included what they mean by electronic and it includes video.

Changes to the website enhancement were revealed which will be more a responsive format to smart phone or tablet use.

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Skateboard Park Joint Meeting with the Weare School Board is scheduled for Tuesday, January 24, 2017 at 6:30pm at the Library with a snow date of January 31, 2017.

Deliberative Session is scheduled for Saturday, February 4, 2017 at the Weare Middle School.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CORRESPONDENCE

Chairman Lacasse inquired on the progress from District 5 on Duck Pond. Town Administrator Bolton will check into it further, but she informed the Board that DPW Director Knapp and Burt Brown have met.

Town Administrator Bolton reported that there is \$348,144.57 going in as unexpended funds with \$208,742.16 from the unexpended 2016 budget and \$139,402.41 in 2016 revenues that came in over budget.

Application for voluntary change of address:

The Assessing Department put a voluntary change of address form for the Board to sign for Lynn McDuff at 11 Center Road changing it to 132 North Stark Highway. There was only one signature line.

Selectman Meaney made a motion, Vice Chairman Clow seconded to approve a voluntary change of address for the McDuff home at 11 Center Road to 132 North Stark Highway. Motion passed 5-0-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

Chairman Lacasse moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 9:29 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (a&c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Bohl – yes; Selectman Hippler – yes; Chairman Lacasse – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 5-0-0

Selectman Hippler moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to come out of nonpublic session @ 10:30 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Bohl – yes; Selectman Hippler – yes; Chairman Lacasse – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Vice Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 5-0-0

The Board met with the Board of Firewards Chairman regarding a personnel matter.

Selectman Bohl moved, Selectman Hippler seconded to adjourn at 10:31 pm. Motion passed 5-0.

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Kathleen Humphreys, Recording Secretary