

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Working Session: 4:30PM
Minutes of March 17, 2011

Chairman Dick Gandt called the meeting to order at 4:03PM. Board members present in addition to Chairman Gandt, were Martha Morrison, Eldon Goodhue and Laura Powers. Nancy Luther was absent. Of the Selectmen's staff, Town Administrator Virginia Wilder and Board Secretary Donna Rich were in attendance. Other persons present during all or part of the meeting were residents Jeanine Cunniff and Ken Vogel and Town Accountant Pam Wood.

Announcements:

Chairman Gandt announced that the meeting would be videotaped by a resident.

New Business:

Chairman Gandt reminded the Board that previously there had been discussions relative to non-union employees receiving a 0% increase for FY12 and no movement on the personnel grid. It was discussed that this issue should be finalized via a vote at the next meeting.

Chairman Gandt discussed the snow removal off the Town Library at a cost of \$2,000 and the elementary school removal of snow off the roof costing about \$50,000. Ms. Wilder informed the Board that a vote or votes are required for the movement of these expenses to the Snow & Ice budget. Selectman Morrison made a motion to move the expense of the removal of snow off the roofs at the Town Library and the Steward and Proctor Elementary Schools, to the Snow and Ice budget; seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 4-0.

Old Business:

Annual Town Warrant: Chairman Gandt began the discussion reviewing the capital items.

Selectman Powers made a motion to remove the Library Slate Roof Repairs article from the Warrant, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 4-0. It was noted that the documentation provided was not clear enough at this point.

Selectman Goodhue made a motion to remove the Permitting Software article from the Warrant, seconded by Selectman Morrison; so voted 4-0.

Selectman Morrison made a motion to remove the Town Hall Lighting article from the Warrant and that there be an attempt to fund the project through a Special Town Meeting transfer, seconded by Selectman Powers; so voted: 4-0.

Selectman Powers initiated a conversation on the outright purchase or lease to purchase of the Highway Dump/Sander/Wing/Plow Truck. The discussion includes the cost of \$145,000 as onetime cost for the purchase versus the lease purchase cost of \$165,000 over a 6 year period.

Selectman Powers made a motion to place the purchase of the Highway Dump/Sander/Wing/Plow Truck at \$145,000 as a capital exclusion on the Warrant and as a ballot question, seconded by Selectman Goodhue; so voted: 4-0.

Chairman lead a discussion on the FY12 budget items in an effort to begin structuring the override amount. The Board discussed the different budgets that were submitted over guidelines, the \$100,000 capital expense items, and warrant articles that carry a dollar amount. There was also discussion on the number of ballot questions that might be used. Four (4) override questions seemed to be the maximum the Board would consider.

The concept of a trash fee was reviewed as a potential revenue stream worthy of research. A fully funded fee would be about \$185 per household. The town's contract for trash collection in FY12 is \$383,060.

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Chairman Gandt reminded members of the meeting with the Finance Committee this evening at 7:30PM at Proctor School Library. Chairman Gandt noted that for the record the Board had come to a consensus that there will be override ballot questions for those that did not remain within Guidelines. No final decision has been made.

At 6:30 PM, Selectmen Powers made a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a Police Union contract issue; seconded by Selectman Goodhue. In a roll call vote, a yes vote was recorded for Chairman Gandt, Selectman Morrison, Selectman Goodhue, and Selectman Powers. The Board would not return to open session.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Rich, Secretary
Selectmen's Office

Approved as written at the May 18, 2011 Board of Selectmen's meeting.

<p>Pursuant to the 'Open Meeting Law,' G.L. 39, § 23B, the approval of these minutes by the Board constitutes a certification of the date, time and place of the meeting, the members present and absent, and the actions taken at the meeting. Any other description of statements made by any person, or the summary of the discussion of any matter, is included for the purpose of context only, and no certification, express or implied, is made by the Board as to the completeness or accuracy of such statements.</p>
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