**Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes**

**February 12, 2024**

**1:05 PM** Selectman John **Quinlan** called the meeting to order. Also present was Selectman Jack **Esposito** and Selectman Howard **Brown.** The Board discussed taking on an Interim Building Inspector while we put together a job description to post.

The Board reviewed the Warrant Articles that were tabled on 2/5/24 in preparation for tonight’s Public Hearing. **Esposito** stated that he has always been an advocate of a single bond. He feels differently this time; the road bond can be done on a 15-year schedule at a much lower rate than if we combine it with the library bond for 30 years. The Board went over changes to the wording of Article 5 given by the Bond Bank Counsel.

The Board met with Ray Bent to discuss the position of Interim Building Inspector. **Quinlan** explained that basically we had a disagreement with the previous Building Inspector with how things were being done. They had a discussion with him; as a result of that discussion, he effectively resigned as of last Friday. We need a new Building Inspector. The Board went over our expectations as far as prioritizing outstanding/active permits. It was agreed that this is an interim position as of now. **Esposito** motioned to appoint Ray Bent as our Interim Building Inspector seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

The Board went back to reviewing the tabled Warrant Articles. **Brown** motioned to support Article 5 seconded by **Esposito.** Two in favor, one abstention. **Brown** stated that in his opinion, the abstention sends a bad message to all the work that has been done in town. If we can’t support something unanimously, he feels it’s kind of a slap in the face. **Esposito** stated he does not see it that way; he has said from the beginning that we do not need a building of that size and the amount of money we would have to spend on it is more than the town can afford.

**Esposito** motioned to support Article 7 seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

**Esposito** motioned to amend Article 10 down to $25,000 seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

**Esposito** motioned to amend Article 11 down to $25,000 seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

The Board discussed if we have enough in the Town Counsel line to cover legal fees should everything pass at Town Meeting. Cleary feels we have an adequate amount. **Esposito** noted that if we wish to change the amount, we will have to amend at Town Meeting as the hearing on the Budget already took place.

**2:22 PM** As there was nothing further before the Board **Esposito** motioned to adjourn seconded by **Brown.** All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Cleary