

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes January 21, 2019

7:00 pm Meeting called to order by Board Chair, John Quinlan. Also in attendance were Selectmen Jack Esposito and Kim Roberge.

Board signed checks and manifest.

Board reviewed minutes of January 14. Esposito motioned, seconded by Quinlan to accept the minutes of January 14, 2019 as written. Two in favor; Roberge abstained as she was not in attendance at that meeting.

Roberge came to the meeting prepared to work on the Town buildings with Bill McKinney.

Quinlan said that he couldn't get ahold of McKinney, so that would have to be bumped till next week.

Roberge asked for an updated agenda each week so that she would know what to prepare for.

Board discussed the warrant articles that have been turned in so far.

Quinlan: The library trustees have two articles. One for \$10K to the capital reserve and the other for \$25K to fund additional site assessment work.

Roberge: Will they forgo the \$10K if they get the \$25K?

Quinlan: No, they want both.

Roberge: Will the \$25K come out of the capital reserve?

Quinlan: No, the more capital reserve they use, the less they will have to contribute to the new library.

Esposito: I think it should be one or the other.

Roberge: The \$10K isn't making much of a difference.

Esposito: I will support the \$25K, but not the \$10K.

Roberge: I would like to confer with the library trustees before I make my decision.

Brown: The Town Clerk has not turned in the anticipated petitioned warrant article yet.

Quinlan: The Fire Department wants to buy a new truck. There is at least 5 years left in the vehicle they would be replacing, but they don't want to hit the Town when another big article is on the warrant.

Brown: The article is for the lease/purchase of a \$580,000 truck with a non-funding clause so that we would be raising only the first year's payment this year.

Roberge: There are higher priority items that should be addressed first.

Quinlan: We should address this in 5 years, and I am not even sure I can support their other article for \$75K to fund the capital reserve. Their article has been \$35K for the past few years, I think I can support that.

Roberge has questions that she would like to ask the Library Trustees, Fire Wards and the Conservation Commission.

Brown explained that all three of those entities will be presenting their warrant articles to the Budget Committee on Thursday night; she could get all of her questions answered at that time. Roberge agreed.

Quinlan: Last year we added \$25K for building maintenance, this year we should probably add \$50K.

Roberge: The architect said that there were people walking on the membrane in the McCollom building basement. There are some water issues, the windows to be replaced, the chimneys need fixing and we need to

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eventually do something to the back of the building. In here (Town Hall) the foundation and foundation beams need attention.

Quinlan: We need to take care of the Selectmen's meeting room too; the wall, new paint, redo the floor and new furniture. Kim, could you get a ball-park figure for these items?

Roberge: Yes, I can probably get a ball-park.

Board discussed the Budget as it appears thus far:

Quinlan said that he and Esposito had discussed the Payment in lieu of Holiday, and have agreed that the figures that the Chief turned in are appropriate, but that the time, nor money could accrue past the end of the year.

Esposito said that he did not agree with the 4th full-time officer at this time.

Roberge agreed and said that the cost does not warrant the benefit. Our full-time officers get at least average pay and 100% of their health insurance paid by the Town. I don't want us to forget that.

Roberge asked what they had decided about the truck for the highway department.

Quinlan explained that they will be cannibalizing the 2014 to use the bed on the '07 and the plow and plow frame for use on the new truck.

Quinlan said that he and Esposito had initiated a conversation regarding adding an hour per week to the part-time office administrative assistant, elevating that position to full-time with benefits.

Roberge disagreed quite vehemently. There was a lengthy heated discussion over this issue.

Esposito motioned, seconded by Quinlan to make the administrative assistant position full-time as of March 14, 2019. Two in favor, Roberge against.

Roberge: Based on the fact that previous conversations regarding the change in office hours were not acted on, and information from the Selectmen's Secretary the justification is not warranted for the extra hours.

8:55 pm As there was no further business before the Board, Esposito motioned, seconded by Roberge to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Brown