

## Selectmen's Meeting Minutes March 25, 2019

**7:00 pm** Meeting called to order by Chairman Jack Esposito. Also in attendance were Selectmen Kim Roberge and Tim Berry.

- Board reviewed and signed checks and manifest.
- Board reviewed minutes of March 18, 2019, Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to accept the minutes of March 18, 2019 as amended.

Brown let the Board know that Paul Branscombe, the Wilton Town Administrator, called to see if they could meet with our Board on April 1 or 15 to discuss MACC.

Roberge said that Milford is putting together an RFP, and will be given to the Board of Governors and the Town's soon.

The questions are: will they start negotiating the contract immediately, and what is the RFP for? When will MACC find when they meet with the Auditor on April 17 or 18? One of the items discussed was to use the "extra" funds to invest in a multi-site repeater system which won't benefit us?

Furlong said that it will benefit us in the long run – when we need to replace our repeaters.

Esposito reminded that Mont Vernon's share of any surplus is only 10% to 11%.

Roberge said that we will see the RFP before we need to make a decision on the surplus.

Esposito said that he would rather have the money here in Town in the event that we need to contract with someone else for dispatch service.

Roberge feels that MACC may become more enticing to other towns if they invest in infrastructure.

Milford's new representative on the BOG is their new Selectman LaBonte.

Chief Furlong told the Board that Corporal Slavin, our Use of Force Instructor as well as being on the Monadnock Regional Special Response Team, has been accepted to attend the Tactical and Patrol Tactics Conference in NY. It is covered under a grant for the whole thing. Furlong asked for a signature from the Board. Board agreed and Esposito signed the contract.

Furlong wanted to discuss what he feels is a mistake on the increase in his salary as of Town Meeting. The minutes reflect that Furlong's Salary was increased to \$80,000, a 5.2% increase. He feels that the 5.2% should be added to his current pay to come up with his new weekly pay. The Office had taken the \$80,000 and divided by 52 to arrive at a weekly amount. After some discussion, it was left that the Board would look into it and get back to the Chief.

Karen Blood of the Daughters of the American Revolution came before the Board to ask that they proclaim March 29<sup>th</sup> as Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran Day. Blood introduced herself and read a statement explaining what the DAR organization is and what they try to accomplish. If the Board agrees to the proclamation, there will be a ceremony at the War Memorial in Town where a Veteran would read the proclamation and hoist the Anniversary Flag to be flown for a week. Board agreed, and signed the proclamation. It was then decided to ask former Selectman John Quinlan, who is an Army Veteran to read the proclamation at the ceremony at 6:30 pm on Thursday the 28<sup>th</sup> so the flag will be up and flying for the 29<sup>th</sup>. Blood also presented Selectman Esposito with a lapel pin to commemorate his years of service.

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Eileen Naber came before the Board to show them the plans for the septic system for the Library. It seems that the septic tank is next to the library building and the distribution box is under the Town Green to the left of the gazebo. The pipe goes all the way under Grand Hill and Old Amherst Road over to the Town Green. Naber left the plan for the Office to file with the Library paperwork.

**8:10 pm** Board again discussed the Chief's pay. The 5.2% increase mentioned in the minutes was actually the increase from the 2018 budget and the \$80,000 2019 budget amount – not the amount intended for the raise.

Esposito and Roberge agree that the intent was to pay the Chief \$80,000 for the annual period of Town Meeting to Town Meeting. After considerable discussion, Roberge asked for the week to look into the matter more fully. Chief will continue to be paid at the rate of \$80,000 divided by 52 rate until Roberge reports back.

**8:40 pm** Brown asked about Wilton's request to meet with the Board. Esposito would like to wait until the RFP comes out from Milford and they have the meeting with the Auditor takes place.

Brown will find out if there is something specific that Wilton wants to discuss now and if so, set it up for the 15<sup>th</sup>.

Brown brought in an email from Supervisor of the Checklist, Peter Ecklund. Peter received a text from the Town Clerk that she is again upset at something that Ecklund has done, but the text does not elaborate. He has asked her for clarification, but has received none so far. He is unaware of anything that he could have done to elicit such a response from her. Board would like to speak with the Town Clerk at their next meeting.

Esposito relayed that he asked her to make sure the Deputy is fully trained and she said that she would be happy to.

Roberge wants to re-start the conversation about the junkyards in Town now that the snow is melting.

Roberge asked about agendas and getting an agenda set well in advance of the meetings. It is decided that if anyone has anything to put on the agenda, they should get it to Brown before Wednesday.

Roberge also wants to compare benefits that our employees are getting vs. other towns.

Roberge discussed with the Board the possible appropriate ways to respond on social media.

**9:20 pm** As there was no further business before the Board, Roberge motioned, seconded by Tim to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Laurie Brown