

SELECTBOARD MEETING  
APRIL 21, 2015  
MINUTES

Meeting opened at 6:00pm

Present: Alan Vint, Chair; Howard Knickerbocker, Clerk; David DiNicola  
Duane Pease, Administrative Assistant (AA)

No warrants

Minutes approved on motion by Alan, Howard 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote 3-0.

Alan advised the Winter Assistance Recovery Program from Mass DOT was approved in the amount of \$23,385. Also, the Chapter 90 funding for the coming Fiscal year is \$155,711.

Board met with Finance Committee (FC) and reviewed Annual Town Meeting Warrant. Article 20 is for purchase of new pumper for the Fire Dept. Dave had located a truck and he and Fire Chief Ron Radwich had gone to Egremont to inspect a pumper truck that Egremont is replacing, Ron took the truck for a test drive and it seems this truck would do nicely for the Fire Dept. The truck had been advertised for bids, with a minimum \$20,000 bid, and no bids were received so the truck was not sold during the process. After much discussion, it was agreed this would be perfect for the Town. Alan motioned that the article be rewritten to reflect this truck and to take \$30,000 from Free Cash for the purchase. The purchase price will be negotiated with Egremont after the funding is approved.

It was also agreed that Articles 21-24 be funded from free cash. These articles were for a transfer case for the Autocar truck, plow for the new Ford 550 that will be delivered shortly, storage shed for the Highway Dept and the purchase of new chairs for the Town Hall auditorium.

Article 31 is a Citizen's Petition and has to go on the warrant as written; the article is confusing and may not be legal.

Article 30 was to allow the Selectboard to appoint a Town Administrator (TA) and appropriate \$35,000 for the position. There was much discussion regarding this, including the \$3,000 increase in the funding for the AA. If the article is voted down, the AA increase would be used for additional hours and giving the AA more responsibilities. If the TA is approved there were questions regarding grant writing, job description, etc. Alan stated the Hampshire Council of Governments now has a grant writer and that person would also be able to help in the grant writing.

The warrant amended to reflect the changes and the Selectboard (SB) will meet at 9:00am Friday to do the final review and then sign the warrant so it can be posted.

Dave said the SB needs to interact with the FC earlier in the budgeting process so the Board can review the requests made by the various departments.

Highway Superintendent, Skip Savery, advised he needed a copy of the Town Meeting Warrant and vote that closed the far end of Ryan Road from Coles Brook to the Washington line. This was requested by Kathy Stevens of mass DOT in Lenox. Skip is still looking at used rollers and he has contacted 2 engineering firms regarding an estimate for inspecting two bridges in need of repairs.

In Open Forum, there was discussion regarding the Town flag and the entrants received so far. Many of the concepts were good but the art work needs so refinement. Judy Hoag said there were still a few designs that were not received but were on their way.

Steve Harris requested the Board set procedures and approvals for use of the new audio-visual system that has been installed in the auditorium. He has written instructions on how to use the system. There was discussion on approvals, any costs that should be reimbursed or charged up front. The AA will do a rough draft of a usage agreement.

Howard brought the new hauling contract the Board received from HRMC subsequent to the agenda being posted. The contract is a 3 year contract for hauling solid and bulk disposal and metal removal. Waste Management and Complete Removal were the 2 contractors selected by HRMC. Howard motioned to accept these vendors, Dave 2<sup>nd</sup>. After discussion it was agreed to further investigate the contracts before signing. Howard withdrew his motion, Dave withdrew his 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Dave suggested the Board send a letter to the Egremont thanking them for the courtesies shown to him and Ron when they went to inspect the tanker. AA will compose a letter for Friday's SB meeting.

Alan motioned to adjourn, Howard 2<sup>nd</sup>; vote 3-0 and meeting adjourned at 8:37pm

Minutes respectively submitted by:

Duane Pease  
Administrative Assistant

Minutes accepted with/without changes by:

Alan Vint, Chair

Howard Knickerbocker, Clerk

David DiNicola