

Minutes of Select Board Meeting
March 20, 2018

Members Present: Jeff Adams, Tiffany Maiuri, David Leavitt, Ruth Cushman, Keith Swett and Rhonda Irish (Town Manager)

Also Present: Amber Kapiloff, Frank Donald, Heidi Wilcox, Sonny Dunham and Liz Marquis

Item #1 Minutes of the Meeting March 6, 2018

Keith/Ruth m/m/s to accept the minutes as written; vote: unan

Item #2 Public Comment - None received

Item #3 Police Department Quarterly Report - Chief Wilcox

Questions/Comments from the Board included:

David: When we use money from grants and we are short staffed do we use reserves to help cover those grants? The training level for the reserves is not the same and the Public doesn't have good rapport with them. This has actually created more work for the full-time officers. We are actually using the grants from when shifts overlap.

Tiffany: There were over 1,000 calls in ten weeks? That is right on par with calls for Public Service, building checks and elderly checks. The crashes are up but, hopefully with the grant money there will be an increase in OUI arrests and fewer crashes.

What about emergency preparedness? The Police Advisory Board got together and reviewed all of the crash data and looked at ways to fix the road (for example the road by Big Apple). This is a group of citizens who will do emergency preparedness geared toward elderly residents and what would they do in certain situations. Examples would be fires, power outages and natural disasters.

Keith: When the weather is warmer do we get fewer calls? You can never tell; the calls happen as they happen.

A. Request for Purchase of Police Vehicle to replace 2015 Police Vehicle

It is time to order the next cruiser as part of the Capital Improvement Plan. Does the Board want to open the bids at the meeting, or, have them opened prior to the meeting?

Questions/Comments from the Board included:

Ruth: If they were opened prior to the meeting then we could check references and specs to make sure there are no errors in the bids, they could be opened in the Town Clerk's presence and certified. Heidi explained that most interceptors are already built with a police package.

Jeff: Most dealers are able to get them stock for you? In the past we have bought them from Bailey Brothers, Farmington Ford and the last ones have come from Quirk.

We don't have a dealership in Town, but we do want to get the best price.

When do we get the best return? When it is between 110,000-125,000 miles. We do most of our own maintenance and we are getting twice as much back for these as we were for the sedans.

Keith: What is the time frame? The Capital Improvement Plan is one last year, one this year and skip the third year, this is the normal run. Rhonda explained that we got into this routine because at the 2015 Town meeting the Townspeople amended an article and

voted to buy two cruisers. The newest vehicle goes to the Sergeant, the second to the front-line patrol officer and the oldest to the chief.

Tiffany: 120,000 is the top number? The optimum return is 110,000 to 125,000 miles, after that we start having issues.

There was an additional cruiser that was eliminated from the fleet. Heidi explained that this has cut down on maintenance costs.

Ruth/Keith m/m/s to put it out to bid to purchase a new interceptor, to have Heidi and Rhonda review the bids and to present them at the next Board Meeting; vote: unan

Item #4 Fire Department Quarterly Report - Chief Dunham

*Calls have been up 20% since January 1, 2018; this is 68 or 69 more calls than last year at this time.

*There have been lots of structure fires in the area in the last couple of weeks

*There have been more chimney fires than in the last ten years.

Questions/Comments from the Board included:

Ruth: How many Firefighter I or Firefighter II? About three quarters of the department are either Firefighter I or II. There are twenty-five active firefighters, the four new members will go through the course in April and there are currently two hot shots that are going through the class.

How many are interior firefighters? About three quarters of them. The department is averaging twelve to fifteen firefighters after 5 pm and between six and seven firefighters during the day. People really want to do it now.

Keith: What about your SCBA equipment? The Department has been working on it for years, the bottles are only good for fifteen years and most were bought with a grant in 2003 or 2004. For the last four or five years they have been trying to buy three with the budget. They have gotten three from MMA as well. They will need one extra bottle for every air pack that they have. There are seventeen air packs on the trucks and three are out of service. They are looking into a program that would recertify them, but the cost would be between \$300-\$500; the bottles are \$800 new.

Jeff: Encouraged to hear that people are showing up.

Item #5 Consideration of Architectural Services for Recreation Skate/Office Building

They have put together bid documents and have discussed going with the architect who made the original proposal. He would do the construction drawing, bid work, assist in putting together a contract for the contractors. Once a contractor was chosen that person would be in charge. If the bids come in over what is figured possibly the Town would be the general contractor and he would take care of that. It would be about \$2500 to put together the specs.

Questions/Comments from the Board included:

Keith: He is talking about sending him money every two weeks, it seems really simple why would it take two weeks? It seems really simple, but there is a lot that we don't see for example the bathrooms, water/sewer and insurance.

How is it going to be paid for? Can it be paid for out of the Trust Fund grant, or he does have other money that he can use to pay for it. He has \$10,000 that was donated earlier in the year that hasn't been totally used.

Jeff: What is included in the design? Construction drawing, site plan, floor plan, elevation; we will have all of the bid specs to contract out. A General Contractor will have all they need to do the building.

Do we have everything that we need? He is supposed to do that, we will have the opportunity to review it before they start.

Not sure what the going rate is for this type of design, there is nothing to compare it to. Are there funds other than the Trust that he can utilize? It is Frank's preference that all of the money for the project comes out of the Trust.

Ruth: It is a very reasonable price, no problem with it. We will see a contract before we sign.

We need to make sure that we comply with all the requirements for Public buildings David/Tiffany m/m/s To approve \$2,500 for building specs with architectural design and to make sure that the money to do this comes out of the \$10,000 gift or Portland Trust Recreation Trust Fund Portfolio; vote: unan

Item # 6 Forster Mill Demolition Update

It is moving along and they seem to have accomplished quite a lot. They are recycling the beams in the building, but they are not able to recycle the floor.

Questions/Comments from the Board included:

Keith: Do we know how much they have hauled out? Not at this point, Rhonda will contact Jamie for a report.

Tiffany: Have there been any issues with traffic? People are pulling over to the side to see, but there have been no problems there.

Item #7 Report of 2015 Foreclosure Status due to Unpaid Liens

The date has come and gone, there are approximately fifteen parcels that are not paid for. We would like to ask the Board to allow them one more month to pay their bill. At the April 17 meeting we will request a Public Hearing for May 1 to determine how to sell the unpaid properties. This would give us time to check with the owners to see what their plans are. This would also allow the CEO to check out the properties.

Questions/Comments from the Board included:

Ruth: How many properties? Eighteen worth \$9,160.57

Do we have the authority to put off the Foreclosure date? The foreclosure date is a set date. However, a lot of these are people's homes.

Believe they have to pay all of the taxes up front and not just that year.

How many have mortgages? None of the ones that are left

Don't feel so bad about taking an empty piece of land or a vacation home.

Tiffany: Give them as much time as needed as long as they are working with us in good faith. We will stay within State statutes as best we can.

Keith: Can we postpone? Do they have to pay in full?

Jeff: There are fifteen accounts that fell into this? Actually eighteen

Item #8 Consideration of Joint Broadband meeting with Jay, Livermore Falls and Farmington

Do we want to hold one to concentrate on our own Town? Charlie from the GFDC will get the company down that put the idea together. Rhonda will get some dates together.

Item #9 Manager's Report

A. Budget Meeting: The first budget meeting for the Select Board will be on Monday March 26 and then would be held April 2, and April 4. If needed one could also be held on April 6.

B. Nomination Papers Available: Nomination papers are currently available for Select Board Member #3 for one year, Select Board Member #5 for three years and an RSU9 School Board Member for three years. Papers were available on March 2 and will need to be returned by April 15, 2018. None of the current seat holders are running for re-election. One person has taken out papers for the one year Select Board seat and one has also taken out papers for the School Board seat, no one has returned them.

C. Petition Request: A local citizen brought in a petition for reconfiguration of the RSU9 School Board and has asked that it be allowed on the Town Office counter.

Questions/Comments from the Board included:

Tiffany: It is not appropriate, these tend to be partisan in nature on either side. We could be flooded with all types of petitions for any issue.

Ruth: If we open that door we can't say no to another petition. The Select Board or the Town Office is not the place to generate these opinions.

Board consensus to not set a precedent with allowing petitions at the Town Office

Item # 10 Other Business - none

Item #11 Executive Session pursuant to 1MRSA § 405(6)(A) Personnel and 1 MRSA Sec. 405(6)(E) Legal

Ruth/Tiffany m/m/s to enter Executive Session pursuant to 1MRSA § 405(6)(A) Personnel; and 1 MRSA Sec. 405(6)(E) Legal vote: unan

Personnel entered at 7:02 out at 7:19

Legal entered at 7:19 out at 7:27

Legal entered at 7:28 out at 7:54

Keith asked where we are with the buildings that were sent to the attorney, Rhonda will check on this.

Ruth/Tiffany m/m/s to adjourn at 8:02 pm