

Select Board Minutes
March 28, 2012

Select Board: Norman Russell, Chair, Doug Field, Paullette Leukhardt
Interim Executive Administrator Mary Fitz-Gibbon

The meeting is called to order at 7:00 p.m.

APPOINTMENTS:

No one present.

NEW BUSINESS:

Inspector of Animals

The Department of Agricultural Resources requested the Town to reappoint the Inspector of Animals as of April 1st to align with their appointments schedule, May 1, 2012 through April 30, 2013.

VOTE: Motion was made, 2nd, Passed to appoint Kim Reardon of West Rd. as Inspector of Animals.

Police Department

Request from Chief Droney to appoint Diane Wilder to the position of Corporal.

Moved by Doug Field, 2nd by Norman Russell

Discussion: Russell stated the need for an officer in charge when Chief is out of town or on vacation. A question from the floor asked about money. Russell stated there has been discussion about a small stipend, however, it is not in the budget nor has the Chief requested a pay raise for Officer Wilder. Leukhardt says she feels some people have concerns about the department changing at all.

VOTE: 2 yea (DF, NR) 1 nay (PL); Motion passes to appoint Diane Wilder to Corporal, APD.

Fire Department

Select Board is considering putting a Fire Truck article on the Annual Town Meeting (ATM) Warrant.

Discussion: The Board makes no assumptions; if it goes to ATM it will be a vote of the Town. Board looks into bid process details. The bid is in order to have firm figures to take to Town Meeting.

VOTE: Moved, 2nd, motion passes to put an article on the warrant.

OLD BUSINESS:

Special Town Meeting

At the Special Town Meeting held on February 28, 2012 at Town Hall all nine (9) articles on the Warrant passed, including Article 5 which transferred up to \$35,000 from Free Cash for the purchase of a new Police Department vehicle.

Old Police Vehicle

VOTE: Doug Field made a motion to sell the Taurus pending an assessment and bids. Paullette Leukhardt seconded. The motion passed.

Election Workers

Motion made, seconded and passed to appoint election workers from list provided by Ann Dunne, Town Clerk.

Green Committee:

At the recommendation of the Green Committee a motion is made, seconded and passed to approve a Green Communities Engineering Services Agreement with Vreeland Design Associates for \$1800 for work to improve energy use at the treatment plant greenhouse. The work will be paid for by the treatment plant.

FY13 BUDGET DISCUSSIONS:

Due to heavy snow and some Finance Committee members being out of town there was not a quorum of the Finance Committee. The Select Board decided to proceed with scheduled reviews with the two FC members present attending as members of the public.

Board of Health

Duncan Colter, BOH Chair, presented the BOH budget. BOH expenses remain level; the budget for the Health Agent is reduced from \$10,748 in FY12 to \$8,000 for FY13.

Town Hall and General Government

Budget requests were generally level funded but with a 2% labor increase for all town employees.

Supplemental requests for additional funds in some areas will be revisited once the core budget is set.

The legal expense line in the General Government budget was increased from \$5,000 to \$15,000 to cover known obligations.

School Committee Budget

Ted Murray reads MTRSD budget letter; the Town's assessment is down from last year. Next year the Capital line will increase due to the roof repair project.

General Budget Discussion

There is some discussion in regards to leaving the FRCOG Inspection program. Ted Murray, Chair, Finance Committee, discussed the services the Town would need to replaced should that be considered.

LIAISON REPORTS:

Personnel Board

Leukhardt reports that the Personnel Board is preparing to advertise the Executive Administrator position. The Personnel Board would like approval to use the new revised application form. Most of the changes in position are in terms of qualifications. The advertisement will be put online and in the weekend editions of The Recorder and The Gazette. The deadline for applications is the end of April and the Personnel Board will bring recommendations to the SB in late May or June with a starting date of July 1, 2012. Chair Russell thanks the Personnel Board for their work on job positions and Personnel Policies.

Highway

Field reports that FEMA has brought on two new people to assist Ashfield with the FEMA reimbursement process.

Town Hall

Russell voices a request that people using the Committee Room try to be quiet, especially when meeting during the business day. A better fitting door will be installed so that it may be closed during meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

FUTURE MEETINGS:

The next Select Board meeting will be Wednesday, March 7, 2012 at 7 p.m.

After a motion was made, seconded and passed, the meeting adjourned at 10:45p.m.