

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

March 9, 2010

Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to go into Executive Session per 1 M.R.S.A. §405 (6)(A) for a Personnel Issue at 5:38 p.m. Vote 3-0-0. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to come out of Executive Session at 6:02 p.m. Vote 3-0-0.

PRESENT: Gordon Littlefield, Dennis Abbott, Jon Gale, Nancy Brandt, Dave Lowe, Bob Gobeil, Tina Cote, Dave Williams, Lisa Faith, Dianne Holden, Chief Matt Bors, and Mike Dagle.

Meeting opened by Selectman Abbott at 6:05 pm with Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Selectman Abbott reminded everyone to recycle.

APPOINTMENTS

Tina Cote reviewed the Finance Committee recommendations and noted that they are not in favor of a 2% pay increase which also affects FICA, Medicare, retirement etc. Selectman Littlefield stated that they are not recommending a pay increase but it's more of a place holder for collective bargaining because the town has to bargain in good faith. This is just to allow for negotiations. Tina stated that they asked that question and were told no, it is for pay increases. Also explained that they would all like to give salary increases but based on what we are looking at for an increase in our taxes now is not the time. Reviewed their recommendations per the spreadsheet attached and explained the reasons behind the recommendations. Stated that they based a lot on what was spent last year and what's been spent to this point this year. Their final recommendations are \$117,309.11 less than the Selectmen's budget. Selectman Abbott suggested they all sit together one more time in a workshop. Tina stated that their only other concern is receiving the actual warrant so they can make their final recommendations. Selectman Abbott explained that the warrant will not actually close until May 12th but assured them that they will get a final draft to make their recommendations. Selectman Littlefield stated that it is evident that the Finance Committee has worked very hard and commended them for that.

Reviewed the correspondence and Selectman Abbott noted that the board needs to review the abatement request. Requested that it be sent to Selectman Moore for her review.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

1. Reported that Friday is the deadline for prequalification for the insurance bids and market allocations.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

1. Selectman Gale reported that he and Selectman Littlefield went to listen to the Superintendent and Business Manager for R.S.U. 57 talk about the budget as it stands with the Finance Committee. Selectman Littlefield did a power point presentation on the different scenarios.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Motion by Selectman Girard and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to approve the partial payment waiver. Vote 4-0-0.
2. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Girard to accept the resignation of Pam Fay from the Library Board of Trustees and thanked her for all her work. Vote 4-0-0.

COMMITTEE/BOARD REPORT

Lisa Faith reported for the R.S.U. 57 Directors. Began by stated that the Superintendent and Business Manager both appreciate the participation of the town Selectmen in the meetings they have been conducting on the budget. Stated that the financial picture is still bleak. R.S.U. 57 will be receiving an estimated \$20,000.00 from Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

the \$20,000,000 of found money and feel that estimate is pretty accurate. We lose between \$800,000 and \$1,000,000 each year because we are aligned with Sanford instead of Biddeford for EPS funding. They have been working for over three (3) years that she knows of to correct this but the state won't discuss it. The Finance Committee is meeting every Wednesday night and tomorrow will received the preliminary budget. Noted that even with the large increase it is actually a big cut to their budget. Encouraged citizens to attend any or all Finance Committee meetings. The Curriculum Committee is proposing trimesters instead of semesters and will reduce credits required for graduation from 32 to 30 and each trimester will equal ½ credit. Explained in detail how this will work and the benefits to the students. Selectman Littlefield questioned why when R.S.U. 57 is being fiscally responsible are they being penalized. Lisa explained that the Governor maintains he is not raising taxes which he is not at the state level but they are required by law to fund schools at 55% and are only funding at 45% so when the state doesn't fund at the level they are supposed to then they don't raise taxes at the state level but we have to at the local level just to maintain what we are doing.. Explained that the board looks at everything with a fiscal eye but their primary function is to give the students the best education they can. Selectman Gale questioned the drop out rate and Lisa explained that even if they get their GED through adult ed they are considered a drop out. Explained that they do have a drop out committee within the district to try and reduce those numbers. Stated that each director sits on two (2) committees and more if they have ad hoc committees. Reported that they know they are losing three (3) buses and the state has approved for two (2) so will need to purchase one (1) bus. They are also looking at purchasing some vans for when they only need to transport a few students, the current vans are no longer road worthy. Selectman Littlefield questioned the vans they just purchased and Lisa explained that it is her understanding that there will be four (4) total so assumes that means two (2) additional but should check with the Superintendent. The Transportation Committee had been looking at propane buses but have pulled that due to start up costs. The Policy Committee is up to day and just working to amend a couple of policies. They are also working to make sure all policies are available on-line. The P/R Committee is in the process of making sure all web-sites within the district are similar. Explained that the layoff of six (6) teachers has been rescinded and providing they receive the Maine Care reimbursement by June 1st everything will be fine but if they do not or it's not the amount that would have been covered by those layoffs then every employee in the district must give up one furlough day. Discussed the loss of teachers and dealing with the curtailment issue. Lisa explained that negotiations with the ed techs has gone to mediation. Selectman Littlefield expressed how fortunate we are that our members come in and report because other towns aren't as fortunate. Lisa will mention to the chair of the P/R Committee and see if they can encourage other directors to report to their towns. Frank questioned who decides who we are aligned with and Lisa explained it is at the state level but not sure who but will try to find out. Rep. Wagner is also working on this.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectman Abbott suggested running the memorandum of agreement with LAC through the attorney before signing. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to have it cleared by the town attorney. There was some concern about liability. Tina questioned why we don't use the lake instead of paying \$125 per week to use the pool. Vote 3-0-0.
2. Discussed the bill for sanding private roads and Selectman Abbott stated that he spoke with the plow contractor and he did plow some private roads at the direction of the road commissioner but did not bill as that's part of his contract. Selectman Littlefield felt we are paying twice for the same work. Selectman Gale stated that if we are paying for the roads through a private contract then shouldn't pay extra under special circumstances. Selectman Gale stated that he wants a definition of why these were done. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield not to pay until we receive a satisfactory explanation. Vote 3-0-0.
3. Discussed a request from a resident to purchase a piece of town owned property and Selectman Abbott questioned how the town came to own it. Mr. Dagle explained that he needs it for his setbacks so he can build a garage. Selectman Abbott requested that we define who owns the road and need to look at the sub-division plan. Will add this to pending decisions.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to go forward with the door and that once done that it is guaranteed to be ADA compliant and be stated as such in the contract. Vote 3-0-0.
2. Explained that Alpha One will do an assessment on what we need to make both buildings ADA compliant for an hourly fee to total approximately \$3,100. That would do this assessment based on current and upcoming legislation. Selectman Abbott questioned if we put in the door would we then be compliant but Nancy explained that there are other issues involved. We can get a grant but need to do the work first then they reimburse us. We do have money appropriated for the door then when we get the reimbursement would use that money to fund some of the other aspects. Will put under pending as ADA compliance.

OTHER

1. Motion by Selectman Littlefield and seconded by Selectman Gale to sign the warrants for bills and payroll. Vote 3-0-0.
2. Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to accept the minutes of 3/2/10 as written. Vote 3-0-0.
3. Selectman Abbott read reminders.

PENDING DECISIONS

1. Committee Involvement
2. Training Proposal
3. Staff training
4. Comprehensive Plan
5. Map 41 Lot 13

DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

1. Spirit of America Award

SIGNED:

1. Warrants for bills & payroll
2. Minutes of 3/2/10

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Selectman Gale and seconded by Selectman Littlefield to adjourn at 8:15 p.m. Vote 3-0-0.

APPROVED:

Date: _____
