

September 8, 2015

Present was James Lehan, Scott Bugbee, Jeffrey Palumbo, Jack Hathaway, Town Administrator and Susan Jacobson. Marian Harrington was not in attendance.

The meeting was held in Room 124, Town Hall. Jim Lehan opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. This meeting is being video and audio taped.

Jack Hathaway read the agenda.

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Action Items

Jim Lehan moved to open the discussion of public comment for Water, Solid Waste and Cemetery rates for the Department of Public Works. The deadline for discussion is January 5, 2016.

Scott Bugbee moved to open the hearing. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Town Counsel Selection

Scott Bugbee started discussion on the appointment of Town Counsel. Scott, Jim and Jeff, said they had been disappointed in their response time and the detail of what they provided.

Scott Bugbee moved to appoint Murphy, Hesse, Toomey & Lehane, LLP as Town Counsel. Jeff Palumbo seconded and it was **so voted**. Jim thanked Kopelman and Paige for their service to the town.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Jim felt it was important to have roundtable conversation with all Committee Chairs. He feels that it would be very helpful.

Jim said he attended the CPC meeting at their invitation and they discussed the Highland Lake Dam. CPC did a great job raising issues that the Board of Selectmen had not raised. CPC raised the possibility of what type of pollution may be on that site. They have not voted to pursue it but they have not thrown the project out either. It is however a financial burden to the Town. CPC will continue to look into it but it does have some issues. Jim said that there are cameras available to make sure no one is tampering with the dam's water levels.

With respect to Free Cash, Jack said that Julie Siewko, who is retiring in January, has done her last balance sheet. This shows money left over from prior years budgets, or unanticipated revenues. Jim said that when you hit those numbers that is great budgeting. It is a good job overall and congratulations to you and your managers. The budgets are managed very well. We did have funds that we committed to through the town meeting process. \$383,427 of the snow and ice deficit. We are getting \$100,000 from FEMA, so we will look to pay that off. We can clean up the bills and go into Spring Town Meeting with \$600,000 and we do anticipate prison mitigation money this fall.

FALL TOWN MEETING

Jim asked how many articles were in. Jack said we had eight and they will be putting them together and sending something out over the next few days.

Jim said that they had the Southwood Agreement and he would like any comments/suggestions provided to Ray Goff, Town Planner. Jim said the next meeting will be a very busy meeting. There was general discussion about the fire/police override.

The King Philip ribbon cutting is on September 20, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Scott Bugbee moved to accept the minutes of July 28, 2015, August 11, 2015 and August 25, 2015 regular and executive session. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

Jack said that Julie Siewko is retiring in January 2016, and Mary Noris is retiring this October. They are both in the Accounting Department. Jack said that he was very happy with the candidates that applied. Julie McCarthy is going to be the Finance Director. She is the Assistant Finance Director in Lynnfield and has been there since 2001. Jack believes she will fit in very well and will work us to accomplish what needs to be accomplished. She is going to start on October 19, 2015. Julie will hire a new Assistant Town Accountant. Jack is very excited about that.

At 7:32 p.m., Scott Bugbee moved to go into executive session to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was a roll call vote: Jim Lehan, **aye**; Scott Bugbee, **aye**; and Jeff Palumbo, **aye**.

At 7:45 p.m., Scott Bugbee moved to adjourn the meeting. Jeff Palumbo seconded, and it was **so voted**.

This is a true and accurate report of the Selectmen's Meeting of September 8, 2015.

Scott Bugbee, Clerk