

Selectmen's Meeting

March 8, 2016

3:00 p.m.

The meeting opened at 3:00 p.m. Present were Selectmen Glenn Dochtermann and George Donovan. Also present was Joyce Wood, Administrative Assistant and Fred Holt, Treasurer.

The Selectmen reviewed and discussed in detail 2016 budget spreadsheets. The Selectmen's votes on the budget have brought the LD1 limit over by \$230,534.23. The Board agreed there was need to review the votes and to bring this down to a lower figure if possible.

The spreadsheet on the votes taken was reviewed article by article and discussed. The vote was taken to make the following changes with motion made by George Donovan, second by Glenn Dochtermann and approval by the Board:

- Home Health visiting Nurses \$1,000
- York County Shelter \$0.00
- Capital Improvement \$25,000.00
- Employee Benefits \$211,042.67
- Park and Recreation \$10,000 and removed request for a tractor/mower from the budget
- Per Diem \$57,000

Next discussed was the need to increase the Emergency Authorization article due to the recent breakdown of the MSW Compactor that meant replacement of the piston at approximately \$5,000.00. It was moved by George Donovan, seconded by Glenn Dochtermann and approved by all to increase the previous vote on Emergency Authorization to \$5,000.00.

These changes brought the LD1 limit to \$114,335.10.

Figures to make the necessary changes if the LD1 Article does not pass were then reviewed. The articles were discussed individually with many changes agreed upon by the Board in preparation of making the changes on the Town Meeting floor if the LD1 does not pass. These changes would eliminate the overage in the LD1 limit. The Board agreed to have the paperwork necessary drafted to be able to have these changes in writing so that the amount of each article that needed to be reduced or cut would be clear. These article changes would have to have a motion made and seconded before approved.

The Board then discussed meeting with the Budget Committee and with the department heads and committee chairs on the status and details of this budget and the potential changes if the LD1 article does not pass. Because of the Candidates Night and Informational meeting scheduled for next Tuesday, it was agreed to invite all in to the Selectmen's meeting on March 22nd at 6:00 p.m. and to start that meeting at 4:00 p.m.

Darcy Hobgood, Tax Collector, shared copies of her end of month report for February and gave explanation of the property taxes, excise tax and the inland Fisheries collections for the month.

Mr. Dochtermann asked for public comment. There was none.

The Board discussed the "full-time" employee as explained in the personnel policy of the Town. The policy currently states that an employee who works 25 hours per week is considered "full-time" and is eligible for benefits as described in the policy. Much discussion followed and it was then moved by

George Donovan to increase the definition of a full-time employee from 25 hours per week to 32 hours per week effective immediately and to apply to any newly hired employee and not to employees who are currently employed. Glenn Dochtermann seconded the motion and all voted in favor.

The minutes of the March 1, 2016 Selectmen's meeting were read. Mr. Donovan made a motion to approve as written. Mr. Dochtermann seconded and all voted in favor.

George Donovan reported on a conversation he had with a Legislative Representative about the potential court construction project in York County. He shared documents on legislation that has been brought to the Legislature and said that there is a potential that the State will be setting up committees in each County to assist in decisions about where the court systems will be located. The Representative, Karen Gerrish, told Mr. Donovan that she would keep him updated on this matter.

Joyce Wood updated the Board on the negotiations with Time Warner on the 15 year franchise agreement. Time Warner just this week sent revised agreement wording on the requested equipment list. She asked the Board for the authorization for the Town Attorney to speak with the Consultant, Anthony Vigue about this and to determine how the Town should proceed after this latest revision. After the two discuss this, she said, they have agreed to meet with the Board to discuss their recommendations. It was moved and seconded to authorize that the Consultant and the Attorney converse and report back to the Board.

The emergency repair to the MSW compactor was then discussed. Mrs. Wood explained that Morgan Stearns reported that the piston broke and the compactor was unusable. Atlantic Leasing inspected the unit and gave a quote of \$5,800 to repair including cost of the piston, shipping and labor. The unit was repaired on Monday, March 7th and is now back in operation. It was moved by Mr. Donovan to, when the invoice is received, pay for this out of the Emergency Authorization account and if needed to take remainder out of the Solid Waste account.

After discussion, all were in agreement that John Cook will moderate the Candidates Night forum giving one hour for this so that the informational review of the warrant could start at 7:30 p.m. next Tuesday, March 15th.

The notice for the Candidates Night/Informational Meeting were reviewed.

The notice for the Annual Town Meeting was read.

The Town Clerks end of month report for February was read.

The Board read the 12-Town Group agenda for Monday, March 14th.

Joyce Wood reported on behalf of the Road Commissioner, Jon Lord, that he has salted the roads twice during the past week due to icy roads. He used 4 yards of salt for 40 miles of road as a total.

After discussion about the drain/spoon ditch at the corner of Bennett Road, it was moved and seconded to not spend any Town funds on this. The Board voted in favor.

Tom Stonehouse met with the Board. He said that he is meeting with the Board as a citizen and not a Trustee of the Library. He had a question about the personnel policy on the hours worked by part-time employees. He said that he felt that the Assistant Librarian should be able to work at a different times/hours making up for the hours lost when there is a holiday which, as a part-time employee she does not get paid for. The Selectmen explained that this is the policy and that no other "part-time" employee has any option to work to make up for holiday which falls on an "open" day. This matter

was discussed in further detail.

Chris Caswell, Park & Recreation Chairman, met with the Board. The Board reported to him that the request for an irrigation system at the park has not been approved and will not go on the warrant. He was also told that the Board has voted to reduce the Park and Recreation Budget and to also take out the request for a tractor/mower. Mr. Caswell shared his concern that he was not told this sooner and that he has done much research and has spoken with reps from companies and has been able to get a large reduction in the cost of an irrigation system. He added that he feels that because of this, it will make it difficult to work with these folks again, especially on any reductions of costs. The LD1 factor that has caused this decision to be made was explained to Mr. Caswell. He then asked the Board if they would consider leaving the tractor in the budget as he felt that this would create a long term saving for the town because he and another member of the Park & Rec would do the mowing and the cost to hire a company would be removed. After discussion on this, the Board agreed that this could not be an option at this time.

The warrants were reviewed. Mr. Donovan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant as submitted. Mr. Dochtermann seconded, all voted in favor and the warrant was signed.

When Mr. Dochtermann asked for public comment, Jim Ward asked the Selectmen if they were aware of the State surplus equipment option. This was discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.