

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING FEBRUARY 17, 2009

Mr. Foyle called the meeting to order in the Senior Center at 6 PM with Mrs. Walter also present. Mr. Petraitis joined the meeting at 6:05 PM. Also present were many department heads, including the Police Chief, Fire Chief, Highway, Water, and Sewer Superintendents, the Town Clerk, the Town Collector, the Town Accountant, the Treasurer, the Assessors, the School Superintendent, and School Committee Chairman, the Council on Aging Director, and the Chairman of the Board of Health.

Mr. Foyle thanked everyone for coming, and offered a brief chronology of the "Budget Crisis Management Timeline." The Selectmen and the Finance Committee have been very proactive in anticipating the cuts in local aid, and in planning for the cuts with minimal disruption of services.

Bob Smith, co-chairman of the Finance Committee, gave a preview of what can be expected from the state in FY2010. The town will most likely experience an actual cut in local aid over 28%.

The voters at a special town meeting in March will have to vote to amend the FY09 budget in order to mitigate the effects of the \$96,639 in local aid cuts.

Mr. Foyle and Mr. Smith thanked everyone for their cooperation. The meeting was recessed at 6:35 PM.

At 7 PM Mr. Foyle reconvened the meeting.

I. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the minutes of February 3rd and 10th as written. So voted.

IA. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve school warrant #1036 for \$88,254.28. So voted. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve general warrant #1037 for \$214,372.18. So voted. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve general warrant #1038 for \$33,987.82. So voted. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve payroll warrant #17 for \$282,855.17. So voted.

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Mrs. Walter explained that North Brookfield applied to the Department of Revenue that may want to borrow money to pay costs associated with the December ice storm. There will be a hearing before the state's Emergency Finance Board to approve the request. Mrs. Walter explained that we are not

locked into borrowing, but this will leave the option open in case it is needed. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to attend the hearing before the Emergency Finance Board. So voted.

B. Regarding the town house surveys, it was agreed that Mrs. Walter will number the surveys, and that Mr. Caille and Ms. McCarthy will tabulate the results.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Chad Cheras, CFO of the VFW and Stars and Stripes, Incorporated, was present with paperwork requesting a change of manager for the alcohol license associated with Stars and Stripes. The new manager will be Darryn Swallow, who was also present. Mr. Foyle moved, and Mrs. Walter seconded, a motion to approve the change, pending ABCC approval. So voted.

B. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve and sign a mortgage subordination request for Cecelia Daniels of 4 Barrett Road. So voted and signed.

D. Mr. Petraitis reviewed the police report for the month of January as submitted by Chief Thomasian. He noted 45 incidents and 53 civil citations for the month. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to accept the report and place a copy on file. So voted.

E. Mr. Foyle read a memo from the Zoning Board of Appeals noting that they have reorganized, and that Robert Bishop is now the chairman.

C. Mr. Foyle explained the need to hold a special town meeting in order to reallocate town funds in an effort to mitigate the effects of the state's cuts in local aid for FY2009. Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to set March 20th at 7 PM as the date and time for a special town meeting. So voted.

F. The selectmen reviewed anticipated spending reports from the Sewer, Water, Police, Highway, and Selectmen. All were found to be necessary spending, and were approved.

At 7:25 PM the Board voted to go off-camera to sign bills.

At 8 PM Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant