

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING APRIL 12, 2016

Chairman Hevy called the meeting to order in the Selectmen's office at 3:30 PM with Mrs. Walter and Mr. Smith also present.

The Selectmen reviewed potential articles for the May 6th Annual Town Meeting, and agreed to include a request from the Highway Department for a new truck. The final warrant must be signed and posted next week.

The Board continued its review of the FY17 budget. Mr. Smith explained how he is approaching the budget: he took the FY16 beginning budget numbers, and subtracted the total from the total FY17 revenue projections. According to this formula, there is approximately \$220,000.00 to distribute among the various town budgets. Mr. Hevy used a different formula, and came up with three different scenarios on priorities to be funded. Mrs. Walter said that she has used yet another approach to the budget.

After reviewing Mr. Smith's and Mr. Hevy's lists of items to be potentially funded, it was noticed that approximately \$17,600.00 needs to be added in for the Collector's sick leave buyback. In addition, Mr. Smith wondered if the Town Accountant had figured in a \$34,000.00 reduction in the cost of borrowing for the school windows project in FY17. If not, that could be in the Town's favor.

It was agreed that Mr. Smith would recheck his figures, and Mrs. Walter and Mr. Hevy will redo their budget proposals for the next meeting.

Mr. Hevy is working on a proposal to present to the Selectmen and the three Fire Chiefs to receive a set stipend that would include all of their administrative, training, and office hours. Mr. Hevy explained that he took a ten year average of fire calls, training hours, office hours and inspections in order to come up with his figures. Currently the Chief receives \$21 per hour, and the Deputy Chief and Assistant Chief receive \$20 per hour. He believes that there would be approximately \$30,000.00 available in the fire salary account after deducting the new stipends for the Chiefs and the Accountant's salary. Mr. Hevy would like the other two members to review his proposal for the next meeting.

Mrs. Walter stated that she has a new budget format for the Fire Department that can be implemented in FY18. She will explain this further later in the budget process. She noted that the Fire Department budget currently has 54% remaining as of the end of March.

The Selectmen also reviewed figures from the Town Accountant showing the totals of a 1%, 2%, or 3% raise for non-union town employees. This will be discussed further.

There being no further business, at 6:15 PM Mrs. Walter moved, and Mr. Smith seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Leslie Scott Burton
Administrative Assistant