

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting
April 13, 2015**

Present: First Selectman Dan Jerram, Selectman Jack Casey; Water Pollution Control Authority Members Denton (Bud) Butler, Chairman; Joe Toro; Republican American Reporter Kathryn Boughton (in at 6:10), Administrative Assistant Christine Hayward.

Selectman Alesia Kennerson participated in the meeting via speaker phone due to being away on vacation with her family.

First Selectman Jerram telephoned Ms. Kennerson by speakerphone and called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.

Discussion and action regarding additional appropriation in an amount not to exceed \$58,500 to cover winter weather related expenses and move to Board of Finance for consideration:

First Selectman Jerram informed the Board of his concern of where things stand with respect to finances for the remainder of the 2014-2015 fiscal year. He noted that at this point of the fiscal year, there is generally an average of \$300,000 available to cover expenses for the remainder of the year; however, due to a very hard winter, expenses were above average and there is only \$99,500 in funds available. Jerram noted that it would be possible to get through to the end of the year with those funds, but that services would be extremely limited due to not being able to purchase supplies or fix equipment. Potholes are severe due to the extreme weather; yet without restoring funds to the highway department, there would be no funds for purchasing patch. Additionally, there are a couple of drainage repairs slated to be performed in the spring (one on Ramstein Road and one on Lair) –these two projects are estimated to cost between \$20,000 - \$30,000 and cannot be done with the department in the financial shape it is currently in. It was noted that when the 2104-2015 budget was prepared, the Board of Finance had encouraged the Selectmen to reduce some of their highway department line items and had indicated that if additional funding was needed due to unforeseen circumstances, an additional appropriation would be considered.

The Selectmen agreed that it is important to seek approval from the Board of Finance to go to Town Meeting to request an additional appropriation.

MOTION: by Casey to seek approval from the Board of Finance for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$58,500 to cover winter weather related expenses in the highway department and take to Town Meeting for approval; seconded by Kennerson.

Unanimous.

Discussion and Action regarding an appropriation of \$30,000 to cover expenses related to New Hartford WPCA sewer study; such funds to be reimbursed following expenditure by DEEP Grant Funds:

First Selectman Jerram asked the Selectmen to re affirm their commitment to support the Water Pollution Control Authority by requesting an appropriation at Town Meeting to fund sewer related studies they wish to undertake. The WPCA will be seeking a Grant to cover some of the expenses. It is

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the intent of the WPCA to use the grant funds to reimburse the General Fund. Therefore there will be no costs incurred by the Town; it is, in essence, a temporary loan. The WPCA does not have the funds available within their budget to pay for the studies upfront; therefore, they are seeking the assistance of the Board of Selectmen to provide interim funding. Jerram noted that the Selectmen had originally included this request as a line item in the proposed budget, with the revenue listed to offset the expenditure. The Board of Finance, however had asked to have this removed from the proposed budget and had proposed having it be presented as an additional appropriation for consideration at Town Meeting.

MOTION: by Kennerson to seek approval from the Board of Finance for an additional appropriation of \$30,000 to fund the WPCA sewer study and take such request to Town Meeting for approval; seconded by Casey.

Unanimous.

Set time, date, manner of Annual Budget Meeting:

First Selectman Jerram asked for a motion to set the date and time of the Annual Budget Meeting.

MOTION: by Casey to hold the Annual Budget Meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 7:00 PM in the Senior Center/Meeting Room of the New Hartford Town Hall; seconded by Kennerson.

Unanimous.

Remove item #1 from the Call of The Annual Budget Meeting:

First Selectman Jerram stated that, as per usual course of action, the 2105-2016 will be voted on at Referendum and therefore the Selectmen need to set the date of the Referendum.

MOTION: by Jerram that, in accordance with CGS 7-7, remove Item Number 1 from the Call of the Annual Budget Meeting and take such vote on the 2015-2016 budget and move it to referendum; such referendum to be held on Tuesday, May 4, 2015 from 6:00 AM – 8:00 PM at the usual polling places; seconded by Casey.

Unanimous.

Set time, date, manner of Annual Town Meeting:

Selectman Jerram noted that there were three items to be included on the agenda for the Annual Town Meeting. The two additional appropriations that were discussed earlier in the evening and the election of representatives to serve on the Stanclift Cove Authority.

Jerram noted that the Call of the Annual Meeting needs to be published and that the call would be approved tonight in order to meet publication timeframes. If the Board of Finance does not approve the requests presented to them for consideration, those items could be removed from the agenda the evening of the Town Meeting.

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MOTION: by Kennerson to hold the Annual Town Meeting on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 immediately following the Annual Budget Meeting which begins at 7:00 PM in the Senior Center/Meeting Room of the New Hartford Town Hall; seconded by Casey.

Unanimous

First Selectman Jerram asked the Selectmen to consider recessing the meeting so that he could attend the Board of Finance meeting which has been scheduled to begin at 7:00 PM. The Board of Finance will be making their final decisions tonight regarding the 2015-2015 proposed budget. Mr. Jerram wished to reserve the right to call the meeting back to order if there needed to be any action taken by the Selectmen regarding the budget.

MOTION: by Casey to recess the Board of Selectmen meeting at 6:16 PM and reconvene following the closing of the meeting of the Board of Finance; seconded by Kennerson.

Unanimous.

Jerram reconvened the April 13, 2015 meeting of the Board of Selectmen and called the meeting to order at 8:45 PM.

Present were First Selectman Jerram, Selectman Jack Casey and Administrative Assistant Christine Hayward. (NOTE: Selectman Kennerson was not contacted to participate at this reconvened meeting)

Jerram noted that the Board of Finance had adopted a proposed budget to take to referendum and that there was no further action needed on the part of the Selectmen; therefore he made a motion to formally adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: by Jerram to adjourn at 8:46 PM, seconded by Casey.

Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Hayward, Administrative Assistant