

**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting
Monday, March 11, 2019**

MINUTES

Present: First Selectman Dan Jerram, Selectman Alesia Kennerson, Selectman Eric Claman;
Member of the Public Dave Rosengren (out at 5:40 PM); Administrative Assistant Christine Hayward.

First Selectman Jerram called the meeting to order at 4:38 PM.

Line Item Transfers:

First Selectman Jerram informed the Board that there are currently 2 line items that need inter-departmental transfers. The zoning legal and professional line item has very little funds remaining and there are additional invoices to pay. Jerram commented that this year has seen the highest legal fees for this department in many years. There have been several lawsuits that the town has been involved in as a third party that have required lawyers and court appearances. He mentioned the Gorski Appeal (Zoning Board of Appeals) the Hall Quiet Title Action (a dispute over access to property); and the Starble versus Schiffert matter (an Inland Wetlands decision that had been appealed) as examples. Also, there have been several complicated applications brought before the zoning board of appeals that have required legal assistance. Additionally, the Planning and Zoning Commission required assistance and guidance as they review/update and make changes to the zoning regulations.

Another line item transfer is needed to balance the WPCA debt Service Line item. This is only over expended by \$1.00 due to rounding; however, it requires a formal transfer to make it whole.

The First Selectman stated that the constable line item in the public safety department will be under expended due to savings that occurred when one of the officers was out on an extended medical leave. He suggested that funds from this line item cover the expenditures in other departments.

MOTION: by Kennerson to make an interdepartmental transfer in the amount of \$12,000 from the Constable line item to zoning legal and professional fees; seconded by Claman.

Unanimous.

MOTION: by Kennerson to make an interdepartmental transfer in the amount of \$1.00 from Constable line item to WPCA debt service in the amount of \$1.00; seconded by Claman.

Unanimous

Appointments (Recreation Commission):

First Selectman Jerram recommended that Greg O'Brien be considered to fill a vacancy on the Recreation Commission. He stated that Mr. O'Brien had come forward to volunteer to be on the commission. Mr. Jerram said that Mr. O'Brien lives in the area of Brodie Park and he likes to walk and hike in that area.

MOTION: by Kennerson to appoint Greg O'Brien to fill a vacancy as a member of the Recreation Commission; term to expire December 31, 2021; seconded by Claman.

Kennerson stated that Greg will make a great addition to this Commission.

Unanimous

2019-2020 Budget Workshop:

The Selectmen continued their review of the draft budget.

Wages of non-union and elected official employees were reviewed and 3% increases were added to several positions. Additionally, both Registrars salary line items were increased as the Selectmen felt that an error had occurred in the initial calculations of those wages.

The proposed capital plan was reviewed. Jerram commented that if there are funds remaining in the Constable line item at the end of the fiscal year, it might be prudent to use those funds to purchase the police equipment currently included in the Capital expenses.

Ms. Kennerson noted a concern with the Visiting Nurse Line item being titled "Foothills Visiting Nurse." She recommended that it be relabeled Visiting Nurse and therefore would allow for an option of exploring different agencies, if that ever came to be.

MOTION: by Kennerson to change the title in the budget document from "Foothills Visiting Nurse" to "Visiting Nurse Services;" seconded by Claman.

Unanimous

MOTION: by Kennerson to approve the 2019 -202- General Administration Budget in the amount of \$24,856.640.14 to the Board of Finance for consideration; seconded by Claman.

Unanimous

Executive Session:

First Selectman Jerram informed the Board that there was a document related to the contract with LaRosa Construction that the attorney had forwarded for review and consideration. Since there is still the potential for pending claims between the town and the contractor, Jerram asked for the discussion to be held in Executive Session.

MOTION: by Kennerson to enter into Executive Session at 5:45 PM for the purpose of discussion related to Carpenter Road Bridge; seconded by Claman.

Unanimous

Jerram, Kennerson, Claman and Hayward entered into Executive Session at 5:45 PM.

Executive Session ended at 6:00 PM.

MOTION: by Kennerson to authorize First Selectman Jerram to execute Change Order number 1 with LaRosa Construction for the Carpenter Road Bridge project as presented; seconded by Claman

First Selectman Jerram explained, for the record, that agreeing to this Change Order by both parties releases all future claims with respect to the project. This agreement will secure the project cost to remain at \$477,585.00 with no additional costs to either the Town or to LaRosa. This document has been reviewed by the attorney and it is his recommendation that this be executed.

Ms. Kennerson remarked that this is “light at the end of the tunnel.”

Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine Hayward, Administrative Assistant

Attachments:

Change Order # 1 (not executed)