



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: Monday, May 27, 2015 – Business Meeting
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: Conference Room A, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Pepe, Vice Chair Fritze, C. Woodbury, and Administrator Gaudette.
Clerk G. Woodbury arrived at 6:30. Selectmen Stevens was absent.

At 6:08 p.m. Chairman Pepe called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reorganization

The Board agreed to table until the June 8th meeting.

Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes of the Business Meeting of April 27, 2015 (C. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 3/0.

Citizen Input

None

Communications:

Administrator Gaudette congratulated U & F Superintendent Steven Tyler on receiving the 2015 CMRPC Transportation Planning award. The reward will be presented to him at a ceremony on June 11th.

New Business

Policy Introduction: Fire Department Awards Policy

Chief Parsons introduced an awards policy for the Fire Department in an effort to increase recruitment and retention and to acknowledge accomplishments throughout the year.

A vote on the policy will take place at the June 8th meeting.

Selectmen Fritze commended the Chief and the Department on an outstanding job responding to the recent fire on Maple St. The Board concurred and thanked the Department for keeping the fire contained.

Policy Introduction: Police Department Policies (12 amendments and 6 new)

Chief Darrin introduced new Police Department policies and Amendments to existing policies.

Amendments include Vehicle Pursuits, Weapons Policy, Handling Juveniles, Transportation of Prisoners, Traffic Accidents, Ambulance Calls, Abandoned 911 Calls, Bomb Threats, Preliminary Breath Tester, Emergency Restraint Chair, Fire Calls, and Mutual Aid.

New policies include Defibrillator Use, Child Requiring Assistance, Authorized Firearms, Harassment Prevention, Active Shooter, and Officer Involved Shooting.

Chief Darrin noted policies are established by the Mass Chiefs of Police Association; therefore Town Counsel review is not necessary.

A vote on the policies will take place at the June 8th meeting.

Action Item: Appoint Town Counsel

Mr. Gaudette advised the Board to reappoint Collins & Weinberg as Town Counsel for a two year term.

A motion to appoint Collins & Weinberg as Town Counsel (Fritze/C.Woodbury) passed 3-0.

Action Item: Appoint Assistant Treasurer/Assistant Collector

Treasurer/Collector Susan Lacaire requests the Board appoint Rebecca Pedone as Assistant Treasurer/Collector. Mr. Gaudette noted that Ms. Pedone will have authority to sign in the absence of the Treasurer and advised the Board to appoint her.

A motion to appoint Rebecca Pedone as Assistant Treasurer/Collector (Fritze/C.Woodbury/) passed 3-0.

Old Business

Discussion: Annual Town Meeting and Annual Town Election Follow-up

Mr. Gaudette was disappointed over the failure of the Questions on the Town Election Ballot. He noted that State Statute requires the language to include the term Proposition 2 ½ as part of the Question and this created confusion with voters thinking it was an Override instead of a Debt Exclusion. To ensure voters are well informed in the future, information will be provided in a variety of locations and methods.

Town Administrator Report

Request to begin Contract Extension

A motion to move forward with the Town Administrator's contract renewal (C. Woodbury/Fritze) passed 4/0.

Board Liaison Reports

None

Citizen Input

None

Board Member & Staff Comments

Mr. Gaudette said ramifications for reductions in building inspection services include delays with obtaining permits and inspections and wants to look for ways to fund additional hours noting the building inspection fees have not been raised since 2006. Further discussion will take place at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:50 pm. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials
Fire Department Awards Policy
Police Department Policies