



Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen

Date: March 19, 2018 – Workshop
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall, Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chairman Pepe, Vice Chair Woodbury, Clerk Monette, members Stevens, Hicks, and Administrator Gregory.

At 6:10 p.m. Chairman Pepe called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Dr. Hicks announced that Mr. Monette would be participating remotely in accordance with Regulation 940, CMR 29.10 of the Open Meeting Law due to geographic distance.

Authorization for a 5-year Lease for Spencer Fire Rescue Vehicle - Chief Parsons

Chief Parsons reported that he found a 1990 rescue truck in California and after having it checked out, received a report that it is mechanically sound. The asking price has been reduced from \$100,000 to \$69,500, mainly because the color is yellow, not red which resulted in limited interest from potential buyers. The actual value is over \$119,000. He would like to utilize surplus funds from the Fire Department salary line item to put towards a down payment, which will be at least \$15,000. The vehicle will be owned by the Town after the 5-year lease is up. Gregory noted that the Municipal Modernization Act allows for the transfer of funds with a vote of the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee. This will be on the March 26th joint meeting agenda.

Chairman Pepe and the Board commended the Chief for his creativity in finding the vehicle.

If approved, Chief Parsons will coordinate the bid specs as required by the Inspector General's Office.

A motion to authorize specs for the truck and the invitation for bid (Hicks/Woodbury) passed with a roll call vote: Hicks-yes, Pepe-yes, Monette-yes, Stevens-yes, Woodbury-yes

Review FY19 Draft Budget & Calendar

Administrator Gregory reported that there is currently a \$250,000 deficit in the FY19 proposed budget. He eliminated the full time accountant and highway position and removed extended Town Hall hours. A \$200,000 placeholder to fund firefighter salaries has been added to ensure funding is available when the grant expires.

Review SEBRSD FY19 Budget & Consider Vote on Assessment

Administrator Gregory advised the Board to hold off voting on the assessment until SEBRSD Comptroller Suter determines if there will be a reduction in proposed new positions and in health insurance numbers which will help close the budget gap. An update is expected on March 21st.

Vote to dissolve the Town Administrator Search Committee

A motion to dissolve the Town Administrator Search Committee (Hicks/Woodbury) passed 5/0 with a roll call vote: Hicks-yes, Pepe-yes, Monette-yes, Stevens-yes, Woodbury-yes

Chairman Pepe reported that Mr. Philip Delongchamp passed away unexpectedly. He was a beloved teacher in the SEBRSD and will be greatly missed. Dr. Hicks said over 1,200 people attended Mr. Delgonchamp's wake. He was able to reach children in ways that other teachers could not, even spending his own money to purchase items needed by students. A scholarship has been set up in his name at the DPHS. His life exemplified public service and he was a role model for all.

A moment of silence was observed in honor of Mr. Delgonchamp.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35 pm all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials

Rescue vehicle lease, FY19 Draft Budget, SEBRSD FY19 Budget