

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
Tuesday, January 16, 2018 – 5:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Barbara Miller, Tyler Ward

Also Present: Rodney Bartlett, Nicole MacStay, Brenda Fox-Howard, Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla; Scott Guinard, Ed Walker

Chair Ward called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.

Town House 100th Anniversary Celebration

Ms. Peggy Shaunessey began by presenting a brochure that lays out the Centennial Celebration, including a time capsule project in collaboration with the elementary school. Also on February 2nd a historical photographic exhibit of the townhouse is scheduled. Also included will be a history activity book for children, and she presented a sample poster of the Pop-Up Museums throughout the town. Ms. Miller asked if there was a way to promote the walking tour. Ms. Shaunessey said that it would be included. Also, there will be a photographic day, for groups to stand in front of the town hall for a group photo.

Mr. Bartlett said the renovations for the town hall are in design and it is anticipated to have the new floor installed before town meeting. There are also acoustic and audio improvements anticipated and a new slate roof installed.

Review and Approve the Minutes of December 5, 2017 and January 2, 2018

Motion: Ms. Miller made a motion to accept the minutes from December 5, 2017 and January 2, 2018.

Vote: Chair Ward seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Old Business

Mr. Bartlett presented the scheduling issue regarding the Open Session for Town Meeting. While in communication with Monadnock Chorus, a conflict exists with using the Upper Main Hall on the Thursday of the week of Town Meeting, as they are scheduled to set up for their event that day. One option would be to use the Community Center, which includes a \$460 rental fee for three hundred chairs. He also looked into a sound system, the vendor agreeing not to exceed \$2000 for a sound system for the community center. Ms. Miller asked how the cost compared. Mr. Bartlett said the usual cost is \$400.

Ms. Miller asked if it was feasible to continue the meeting a week later if necessary. Ms. MacStay said that it's possible. Mr. Bartlett added that the library article would be the main draw, and consequent attendance for the additional articles might not pull people back for discussion if the second portion of the meeting is a week later. Ms. Miller suggested starting earlier, at 6 pm instead of 7 pm. Ms. Miller asked if we could schedule different dates with the articles scheduled for those dates. Mr. Bartlett said the recess is dependent on the moderator and wasn't sure if that was possible. His recommendation is to schedule the Saturday that week at the Community Center but recognized that starting at 6 pm on Wednesday might be feasible. Chair Ward asked the audience for their opinions and those that spoke were in alignment with the one day Saturday schedule. Chair Ward stated he did not have a preference.

Ms. Miller had concerns about the sound/acoustics in the Community Center. Mr. Bartlett confirmed the sound contractor felt confident he would be able to set up a system that would work. Ms. Miller expressed favor for starting at 6 pm in the Upper Main Hall. Chair Ward agreed and felt optimistic that there would be a sense of urgency in keeping comments to a minimum.

Motion: Chair Ward made a motion to begin the Open Session at 6 pm on Wednesday at the Town House and continue throughout that evening until it's finished.

Vote: Ms. Miller seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Other Business

Chair Ward presented information about an award from the US Environmental Protection Agency presented to Peterborough as a 2017 regional EPA industrial pretreatment program excellence award given to Anthony Carland.

Ms. Miller asked about the Franklin Pierce University micro-credentialing program for water quality operators. Mr. Bartlett explained it is a three month summer program with internships with municipal water supply utilities. It is a twelve credit college course, to be stacked with an associates or bachelor's degree. He explained that there is a national shortage of trained workforce for these positions.

Mr. Bartlett brought up a resolution requested by the Governor in support for offshore solar from municipal governments and asked for Select Board support or to be put on the ballot at Town Meeting. It was decided to be addressed at a later time.

Mr. Bartlett also brought up a water billing issue with Pheasant Wood Center explaining a calibration/technical issue with the new meter when it was installed. The meter read ten times less than actual usage, leaving \$101K shortfall. The solution with the nursing home is to spread payments out for sixteen quarters until the shortfall is caught up, which would stop the lien process due to the arrearage.

Motion: Ms. Miller made a motion to authorize Mr. Bartlett to sign the documentation for the amortization of arrearage payments with Pheasant Wood Center.

Vote: Chair Ward seconded. All in favor. Motion carried.

Joint Select Board/Budget Committee

Mr. Patten introduced the board: Ron McIntyre, Bob Hanson, Rick Clark, Carl Mabbs-Zeno, Mandy Sliver, Don Parkhurst, Ed Henault, and Paul Sullivan

Mr. Bartlett presented the Draft 2019 Budget Summary. He explained that expenditures are at -1% not taking into the change in account revenues. The revenues have not been worked into the numbers presented, but projected lower than the previous year, leaving an overall 1% net increase.

Police Department

Chief Guinard presented the highlights of the Police Department budget, including a decrease in gasoline costs due to lower gas prices. Increases include retirement system, salary, health insurance, payroll taxes, workers compensation, building repair and maintenance for a video system in the police station, and software updates. In addition, an increase is anticipated with a Police cruiser purchase that had been underestimated in past years.

Fire Department

Chief Walker explained that the department would be anticipating spending more money on training, due to new fire fighters being hired and additional fire fighter training for established employees. The salary line decreased slightly. He also anticipated an electricity cost increase, after moving away from using oil exclusively for heating the fire station to using two mini-split electric heaters for heating a portion of the area. On the capital expenses side, the refurbishing of the ladder truck is anticipated in order to postpone its replacement.

Emergency Management

Chief Walker said this budget remains unchanged. The outside services budget line represents six thousand dollars spent on the emergency management plan that was offset by a government grant from the Department of Homeland Security.

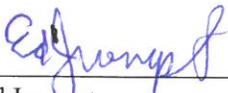
Ambulance

Chief Walker explained the allocation of the budget, sixty percent on the 911 side, and forty percent on the transfer side. Chief Walker also explained the capital outlay fixed assets line, items classified as a capital purchase, but purchased out of operating funds which includes ventilators, vent pump and widget for the ambulance.

Chair Patten moved to adjourn at 6:35 pm. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Department Assistant

PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:



Ed Juengst



Barbara Miller



Tyler Ward, Chair

