

MINUTES
SELECT BOARD
TOWN OF PETERBOROUGH
Tuesday, January 17, 2017 – 5:00pm
1 Grove Street, Peterborough, New Hampshire

Present: Barbara Miller, Ed Juengst, Tyler Ward

Also Present: Rodney Bartlett, Nicole MacStay, Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla,
Budget Committee: Roland Patten, Ron McIntyre, Danny Parkhurst, Mandy Sliver, Rick Clark, Bob Hanson,
Steve Jones

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

Bill Chatfield – Expenditure of Funds Appropriated for Economic Development Authority at 2016 Town Meeting

Mr. Chatfield expressed his concerns about the importance of hiring an EDA coordinator, mentioning specifically the demise of the country club. He expressed his displeasure with the change in process of hiring additional positions with regard to funding this position.

Ms. Miller responded as the liaison for the EDA, emphasizing the important of fiduciary responsibility. She explained that after the warrant article was passed, the Town began seeking expert advice to use the funds in the most strategic and responsible way. After speaking to several specialists, the advice received was that the town would be better served if individual projects were to be evaluated and to hire individuals for each project. The viewpoint was that no one person would have all the expertise, therefore multiple contractors will be hired instead. A press release was sent to the newspaper, as well it was discussed publicly at every EDA meeting. She emphasized the importance of transparency. Mr. Chatfield responded that his problem is what was presented at town meeting and then was modified later, but he mostly wanted to reveal this issue to the public in case there were others who felt the same way.

Parks Committee – Review of 2016, Plans for 2017; Appointment of Maude Odgers, Terry Reeves and Laura Trowbridge to the Parks Committee

Ms. Odgers introduced the committee. She explained that the other members of the committee have been working in the town gardens for 10 years, herself for 20 years. Their current focus has been to finish Putnam Park, with limitations because of the drought as well as they are hoping to finish Putnam Park and Bocelli Park in the spring. Tree work was successfully accomplished last year. Mr. Juengst expressed his gratitude to the volunteer work from this committee. Ms. Miller asked if there was anything the committee needed. Ms. Reeves expressed that financial support is always appreciated. Ms. Odgers added that having support from the Buildings & Grounds department is extremely important and without that help they would not have been able to achieve what they did.

Motion: Mr. Ward made a motion to appoint Maude Odgers, Terry Reeves and Laura Trowbridge to the Parks Committee.

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

Review and approval of minutes from December 20, 2016

Motion: Ms. Miller made a motion to accept the minutes from December with an amendment to change “EPA” to the correct “NEPA” in one of the sentences.

Vote: Mr. Juengst seconded. All in favor. Motion approved.

JOINT SELECT BOARD/BUDGET COMMITTEE MEETING
Fire and Emergency Management

Chief Walker introduced Deputy Chief Joshua Patrick and announced that there are no significant increases for this year for the Emergency Management budgets. He further explained that Emergency Management’s role is to prepare for disasters, and the most critical right now is rewriting a Local Emergency Operations Plan. (LEOP) There is a matching grant of \$13K from Homeland Security, and SW regional Planning

Commission has been hired to assist with this. The objective is to match New Hampshire's State Plan, and helping to coordinate with other towns in the area. Fire Department overall budget has not significantly increased, aside from a change in special detail wages for life safety issues, i.e. Maccowell Medal day, or other large concentrations of people like Children and the Arts day, matching the rate to the Police Department's rate. SCBA grant did not come to fruition but the department is still in need of replacing this equipment. Chief Walker explained the tanker's background history and spoke to the lifecycle of the vehicles used in the Fire Department. Ms. Miller asked if we did preventative maintenance, could we extend the lifecycle of the vehicle. Chief Walker explained that yes, but to a point. The vehicles may not have high mileage but high usage due to keeping the engines running, as well as being parked outside being affected by the elements. He explained the problems with the consistency with the SCBA so leasing them to create consistency amongst the apparatus will help to keep the cost down. He explained the change lifecycle of five years to four years for the fire department command vehicles.

Mr. Ward asked about uniforms budget being up 67%. Mr. Walker explained about how the uniform costs are split amongst the departments. Protective clothing cannot be used after 10 years, must be destroyed or can be repurposed for non-firefighting uses.

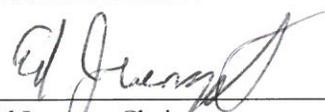
Ambulance

Deputy Patrick began by explaining why the department needs full time staff. With primary transport to over 13,500 residents in 6 communities, paramedic intercept for four ambulance services, primary inter-facility transport service for Monadnock Community Hospital and limited inter-facility transport from The Cheshire Medical Center in Keene and Dartmouth Hitchcock in Lebanon. Currently we utilize 17 full-time equivalent employees to staff two ambulances. Call volume is steadily increasing. People are waiting longer before calling the ambulance with advanced stage infections or issues. Seasoned paramedics are needed for our department because of the type of patients that are commonly encountered. The natural progression is to expand our program to a critical care level. The closest area with a critical care level is Dartmouth Hitchcock. Two of our ambulances already have most of the required equipment and the department is working toward an iStat machine (mobile lab) and an ultrasound unit. Adding full time paramedics allows for Mobile Integrated Healthcare, allowing for the opportunity for ambulances to come to the home to follow up and diagnose a patient's needs and therefore creating a stream of revenue as well as optimizing our regional health care system. Expansion of the transfer program has created more revenue, but we currently cannot meet the demand due to current fleet and staffing challenges. The level of service presently cannot continue to provide a professional full time service with only part time employees. Many paramedics with high level of abilities leave for full time positions elsewhere. Our survival depends on the ability to hire, retain and further educate our paramedics. Chief Walker added that budget projections are based on a worst-case scenarios, as the demand will only increase with an aging population and will have an increasing impact on our system.

As there was no more business to discuss Mr. Patten made a motion to adjourn at 7:23 pm. Mr. Hanson seconded. Motion carried.

Respectfully Submitted,
Vanessa Amsbury-Bonilla, Department Assistant

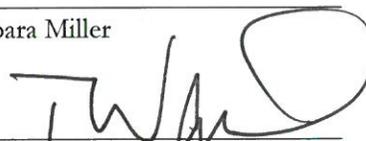
PETERBOROUGH
SELECT BOARD:



Ed Juengst, Chair



Barbara Miller



Tyler Ward