



TOWN OF WORTHINGTON

SELECTBOARD

August 11, 2015 Town Hall

Selectboard Offices

Minutes

Board Members Present: Chairman Dick Wagner, Evan Johnson and Charley Rose

Present: Administrative Assistant Peg O'Neal, Charlene Baiardi, Paul Dunlevy, Bob Mason, Auditor Tom Scanlon and Tom Wisnauckas.

Applicants: Allan Kidston, Donna Dunlevy and Nancy Grossman.

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Dick Wagner, at 5:30 for the purpose of interviewing three candidates for the position of Town Treasurer: Allan Kidston at 5:30PM, Donna Dunlevy at 6:00PM and Nancy Grossman at 6:30PM. The Board reserved the right in advance, by posting a separate meeting for August 27th, to formally interview Kirstin Henshaw, the current Tax Collector, if a clear candidate did not emerge from tonight's interviews. The salary to be offered was discussed with each candidate and agreed to be the FY2016 appropriation, reduced by 10 percent, and prorated to the date of appointment which would be determined. Subsequent to the three interviews, Evan Johnson moved to offer the position to Allan Kidston, pending checking of references. This was seconded by Charley Rose, and approved unanimously.

Packard Park donation: Two 6 foot long desert tan benches were ordered for \$793.40. \$1,000 was appropriated. They should arrive in two weeks and be placed in Packard Park.

Draft mini-audit review: Tom Scanlon audited the Treasurer/Collector position. The Treasurer balances with the banks, no variance and no unusable reconciling balances. A monthly basis on balancing is preferred. The bond should be increased to 100,000 for both the new treasurer and collector. Cash payments should be cash stamped. Both the Treasurer and the Collector are well documented and are assets to the town.

Bond rating: You need to have a plan in place by the time of construction.

Police Budget and unfunded mandates:

The Selectboard requested that Chief Kevin Moran and Sargent John Scobie run a plate on a blue car parked at the corner of Kinnebrook and Rt. 112. The car has been for sale for 10 days at the site. This action was questioned by a resident.

An email with the MA Police Training Council confirmed that the rules for training did not apply to a part-time police force. They only have authority for full time police officers, university police and environmental police. Because of lack of funds, officers are not receiving sufficient training; are not confident and do not work. It costs \$1,773 to outfit an officer. In the past 4 years, Worthington has lost 5 officers. A policy will be looked into about reimbursement for officers who leave the force.

Russell State Police Barracks #5 and Worthington have not hired a female officer. In case of special duty, female officers are available in surrounding towns.

The budget covers 3.5 hours per officer each week. Officers will not travel long distances for this amount of hours.

Options were considered: The training expense could be taken out of an expense account, or placed on a warrant at the Special Town Meeting. The police will report back with an exact number.

Grave Search: Doug Warner is searching for his grandmothers' grave to put a stone on it. Doug has contacted the Commissioner of Ringville Cemetery Diane Meehan but has not received a response. He wants to donate several plots to veterans. Evan will call Pat Kennedy and Dick will call Diane Meehan.

HRMC transfer station report: Paul Dunlevy picked up three gaylords in Williamsburg to store 100 gallons of paint. Highway Supervisor Cork Nugent will be asked to get pallets, locate and assemble the gaylords. Evan volunteered to sort the paints.

George's Propane takes Propane Tanks for free.

Attendant's hours were discussed. A lot of monitoring is required. Paul will work on Saturdays' alone. Sue will work 4 hours on Wednesday with Paul working 1 hour. Evan will inform Sue about the cut in hours.

Broadband: Paul Dunlevy stated that the Finance Committee's goal is to explore options to finance Broadband. Debate ensued.

ACTION ITEMS and DISCUSSION

Minutes: July 28th and August 4th minutes were signed.

MBI Broadband Assistance Grant was signed. The town will accept the \$5,000 grant.

A Special Town Meeting is scheduled for September 15.

The articles on warrant are John Dearie's two and half hours pay, the Petition for the temporary bridge, Disposal Hours, and the Commonwealth Legal Fund. The Attorney General's office and Worthington have filed a motion to dismiss and are trying to set a date. Funds are exhausted.

School Contracts/payments vouchers were discussed.

It was agreed to have Julian Traista start the chimney work at the Conwell School to repair the leak.

It was agreed to sell the remaining bids at the Transfer Station for \$10 each.

Bid Opening: Septic System Design: Bid was received from Homestead Inc., Ashfield, MA. for \$2200. Cork is providing backhoe services for the perc test. Expenses will be taken out of the Town Hall Expense Account to hire a local septic system viewer at \$25 per hour for 3 to 4 hours. \$40,000 was appropriated for the design and installation. Evan made a motion to award Homestead Inc. the contract for Design Work at the amount of \$2200. Charley seconded the motion. The design work needs to be completed by September 25. Motion passed unanimously.

Paving Bid: Cork recommended Warner Bros. for the paving bid of \$381,418. Dick moved to accept Warner Bros. bid for \$381,418. Charley seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

Brian Dodge complaint re: 967 Huntington Road and BOH response. Dick read Brian Dodge's complaint and the BOH response. Diane Brenner's' attorney feels that Brian's voicemail to the BOH was indeed threatening. It was recommended that Diane forward any perceived threatening email to her attorney and to the Police Chief.

Smith Vocational tuition and sped fee is \$17,568 per SPED student

July 16th Conservation Commission minutes

Mass Dot Chapter 90 Project Request approval

Adjournment: Dick moved to adjourn at 10:30 P.M. Evan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne C. Lemieux
Recording Secretary