

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – February 1, 2017

MINUTES:

Meeting called to order at 11:02 AM. Present were First Selectman Don Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech and Mark Hemenway.

DELEGATIONS: No delegations were present.

PUBLIC COMMENT: No representatives from the public were present.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mark Hemenway, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 10, 2017 Meeting.

MOTION: A motion was made by Mark Hemenway, seconded by Ray Pech, and passed unanimously to approve the following tax refunds:

\$ 2,438.45	Corelogic	refund
\$ 414.49	Michael Mottola	refund

DISCUSSION:

The Selectmen reviewed the latest draft of the FY '17/'18 budget, which is still somewhat preliminary due to late inputs from various agencies and on-going negotiations with the employees union. The values in the draft budget for salaries and benefits are still placeholders until the negotiations are concluded. The goal at this point in time is to draft a recommended budget with an increase of less than 2%, which would include the need to hire a consultant to create a new website, since the current consultant is getting out of the web business. Additional funds are also being requested for tree work, which is becoming a bigger expense, and for additional IT support and scheduled replacement of computers, as these systems are getting more complex.

The Selectmen reviewed the press release from Governor Malloy, dated 1/31/2017, and concluded that the mandate relief contained in the press release would be of very modest value to the Town and that the key will be the Governor's Budget Address on February 8.

They also reviewed the status of the funds available for road maintenance and improvement, based on the balance required for the two STEAP grants, Town Aid Road and the Town budget. Assuming that the 2nd FY '17 TAR payment is received, the Town could end this fiscal year with in excess of \$100,000 available for the start of the next road maintenance season. Depending on the amount of money allocated in the Town's budget and whether the State authorizes TAR funding next fiscal year, the Highway Department should be able to undertake a couple of significant projects.

Don Stein also provided reports on the Town highway department vehicle fleet, which will be used to help the Town plan its long term capital budget, and a report from the Town's Pavement Management Program regarding the highest priority activities that should be considered for maintenance funding.

At their next meeting, the Selectmen will need to finalize the budget input for the Board of Finance meeting on February 21.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Mark Hemenway and passed unanimously to enter Executive Session at 11:30 with only the Selectmen, to discuss union negotiations.

The Selectmen left Executive Session at 11:48 – no motions were made during the Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:48. It was noted that the February 14th meeting will be canceled and a Special Meeting will be held at 9:00 AM on February 16th.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman