

BOARD OF SELECTMEN – Special Meeting - January 29, 2015

MINUTES:

Meeting called to order at 7:15 PM. Present were First Selectman Donald Stein and Selectmen Ray Pech. Mark Hemenway was absent. Also present was Kathryn Boughton of the Republican-American.

DELEGATIONS: No delegations were present.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Don Stein, and passed unanimously to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2015 meeting.

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

\$ 8.76	Darryl Bradshaw	credit
\$ 216.17	Nutmeg State Federal CU	refund

DISCUSSION: The Selectmen reviewed the preliminary 2015/2016 capital plan and General Government budget. Highlights of the discussion are below and the Selectmen agreed to finalize both budgets at the meeting on February 10 for referral to the Board of Finance.

- General Government capital projects for the coming fiscal year will be \$30,000 for the Plan of Conservation and Development and \$160,000 for a new plow truck to replace a 2001 International. The replacement vehicle for the Highway Foreman was deferred to the following year and the \$25,000 purchase of a grapple was moved to LOCIP funds, which will have \$53,000 available when the State makes its March 1, 2015 deposit. Rich Novak will look into the possibility of refurbishing the plow truck, which could allow changes to the plan. That will be reviewed at the next BOS meeting.
- With the current balance in Town Aid Roads and the budgeted amount for road construction, there is about \$325,000 available for 2015/16 projects. Rich Novak has requested that we allocate \$120,000 for a second course on the portion of Park Road previously paved, \$80,000 for completion of Old New Hartford Road to the Winsted town line, \$125,000 for chip sealing to preserve West River Road, and \$10,000 for crack sealing. The exact figures will be determined when the State bid for paving is available. These projects are not fully aligned with the Pavement Management System data, but it was felt that it was better to complete these projects and then start using the database for the coming years.
- The Selectmen reviewed and discussed the budget, which is at a 3% increase, based on:
 - Pay increases of 2.5%
 - Health insurance increase of 7.5% and dental insurance increase of 3%
 - The department and commission budgets only increased by 0.4%, and the highway department increase was 0.77%, primarily due to accounting for the heating oil usage that has been seen for the town garage.
 - Health and Public Safety increased by 4.6% due to an expected increase in the

- cost to the Town of the Resident Trooper and a request to utilize the Town Constable (School Resource Officer) during the summer (\$7500), to supplement the Trooper's time on weekends and other busy times during the vacation period.
- Of the total requested increase of \$59,404, the costs for employee salaries and benefits is higher by about \$41,000, heating oil by \$3500, and the cost for police coverage increased by \$12,800. All of the other increases only totaled \$2,100.
 - Don Stein also agreed to clarify with the bank how the payments for the school construction project loan would be structured and whether we would have to make a payment in 2015 or if the first payment is not until 2016.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Don Stein, and passed unanimously to appoint Tony Gorman to an alternate position on the Inland Wetlands Commission for a term from January 30, 2015 to December 31, 2016.

MOTION: A motion was made by Ray Pech, seconded by Don Stein, and passed unanimously to appoint Gail Bates to an alternate position on the Economic Development Commission for a term from January 30, 2015 to December 31, 2017 and to appoint Bill Bowles to an alternate position on the Economic Development Commission for a term from January 30, 2015 to December 31, 2015.

No appointments were made to the Recreation Commission and the discussion of the Town of Farmington regulations was tabled to the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald S. Stein
First Selectman