



SELECTBOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 5, 2011

Members Present: Brian Kellogg, Min Cote, Dave Yacovone, Mickey Smith, Bob Beeman.

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Richard Keith, Chief of Police ; Mary Ann Wilson, Town Clerk/Treasurer; Carol Bradley, Finance Director; Todd Thomas, Zoning Administrator; Tricia Follert, Community Development Coordinator; Charlie McArthur, Listing Coordinator.

Guests: Tina Sweet, Amy Menard, Irene Wilkins, Sheila Demar, Dennis Smith, John Duffy, Joie Marshall, Gloria Wing, Lee Sturtevant, Jane Paine, Barb Kiley, Mary West, Sue Sargent, Kevin Dorain, Joe Yacovone, Annette Smith, Ann Shattuck, Sherry Lefevre, Ruth Brown, Pat Stevens.

Meeting was called to order at 6:00PM in the Community Meeting Room by Brian Kellogg.

I. AGENDA ADDITIONS/ CHANGES /ANNOUNCEMENTS

- None

II. BUDGET REVIEW

- **Pleasant View Cemetery-** Dave Yacovone questioned why the endowment revenue line item was increased in the Pleasant View Cemetery Budget. Joie Marshall explained that they usually roll over the interest into the endowment funds; however, they anticipated needing some of that funding this year. Dave mentioned that the Selectboard should meet with Pleasant View Cemetery at a later date to discuss having an Endowment Policy.
- **Morristown Cemeteries Budget** - The Morristown Cemeteries are not asking for an appropriation this year. They have not asked for money for the last few years because the maintenance contract is paid by the Town budget. Dennis Smith expressed his concern that the current contractor is doing a poor job of maintaining the cemeteries. Dennis brought in pictures that show stones being moved after mowing. He feels that the zero turn mowers go too fast and hit the stones and cause damage. Dan Lindley explained that the contract is going out to bid in February/March and we should be real specific about our expectations for this contract in order to address everyone's concerns. We should add wording about push mowing between and around the stones in order to avoid damage. It was also suggested to start with a one year contract. The Selectboard asked that the Morristown Cemetery Association come up with wording for the contract that is specifically what they would like done for maintenance and what type of equipment they would like utilized. It was decided to increase the contract line item in the budget as the new contract would be more labor intensive. Dennis Smith also expressed the need for fencing at the Riverside Cemetery behind the Library. This cemetery has some fencing along all sides except the north end which is frequently used as a path. There is little grass due to this walking path and trash is commonly found. The Selectboard asked Dennis to come up with a dollar amount for the fencing that was needed and they could add it into this budget.
- **Morristown Centennial Library** – The Library would like the Selectboard to put an article on the warning asking for \$300,000.00 in order to finish the Library expansion, renovate the original library, update the façade of the original library, exterior lighting,

parking lot and the security system. The Library Board was given a price of \$450,000.00 to complete all of the work. They intend to still fundraise, but they want to get the project finished as soon as possible. Dan suggested that we would need to ask the voters to fund this request over a period of no more than 5 years to avoid Australian Ballot. It would be approximately a little over a penny on the tax rate. Dan also suggested that the Library Board come up with a hand out and possibly a presentation for the voters at Town Meeting.

- **Recreation Budget** - Amy Menard explained that they had fewer kids due to competition of day cares and camps. They have added more field trips and varied some of the activities in order to attract more kids. It is the goal of the summer recreation program to generate enough funds to be self sustaining and not rely on taxpayer dollars for funding.
- **General Government** - Dave Yacovone asked what MACC uses their funding for. The Town gives them \$6500.00 annually. Tricia mentioned that MACC used some funds to purchase street lights on Portland Street. Carol felt that they may save up money for projects that cost more, like the street lights. Dave felt that we needed to do some activities to bring in more people to the Downtown. He wanted a line item added for \$2,500.00 for an event similar to Johnson's "Tuesday Night Live". He thought we should explore the possibility of reducing MACC's line item by this amount. Both Johnson and Waterbury have these events with bands playing and vendors. This brings in a lot of people. It has become an event that eventually gets sponsors to fund it. Tricia felt that the event would have more success if it was a Town event.

Min Cote mentioned that we need to fix the rear end of the Champion Grader now regardless of trading it or keep it. If we don't fix it now, it will cost a lot more later on.

- **Review Investment Policy Language** - Mary Ann created an investment policy that will satisfy auditor's requests as well as our investment company.

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Mickey Smith to approve the investment policy as presented. Motion approved. (5/0)

Motion made by Dave Yacovone, seconded by Min Cote to adjourn meeting at 7:35PM. Motion approved. (5/0)

Respectfully submitted and filed this 6th day of December, 2011
Tina Sweet for Erica Allen, Administrative Assistant

Please note that all minutes are in draft form unless otherwise stated and are approved at the next meeting.