

Selectmen's Meeting – April 15, 2015

First Selectman Schlag called the meeting to order at 6:00 P.M. at the TH. Duval and Donlan were present.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes – April 1, 2015: Donlan moved to approve the minutes as submitted. Approved unanimously.

Schlag motioned to move the agenda item New Business Transfer Station Permit Proposal from the Transfer Station Task Force up in the agenda after Public Comments to accommodate the Chairman of this committee to speak. Approved unanimously.

Public Comments: Ed Munster asked the BOS if any discussions or decisions were held regarding cell towers. Schlag stated nothing concrete at this time.

New Business – Transfer Station Permit Proposal from the Transfer Station Task Force: Steve Bayley, Chairman of the Transfer Station Task Force, was present to give the BOS a proposed policy for stickers for the Transfer Station. A suggestion is to only allow two stickers per household. There was a brief discussion about the other changes and Schlag asked the BOS to review the proposal and this subject will be discussed further at the next BOS meeting.

Correspondence: Schlag stated the BOS received an email from Bruno Morasutti regarding open space. Ed Munster read the letter from Bruno into the record.

Reports – Municipal Agent for the Elderly for March 2015: The center received a used laptop from Raymond Collin of Hartford. The hard drive is being cleaned and it should be in service soon. Thank you to all the volunteers who have been helping to keep the Senior Center clean. Lundgren stated he went to the Groton Senior Center with a member of Committee on Aging to tour their facility and vendor booths for an upcoming open house. He also went to a first statewide Dept. of Aging training seminar. Increased Medicare costs were discussed at length and the recent legislative action making Municipal Agents and Senior Center Directors mandated abuse reporters. More information to come.

Animal Control Report March 2015: The month of March was a very busy time dealing with complaints about roaming dogs, dogs barking excessively, injured animals, etc. Once again the ACO continues to do a great job dealing with the many issues that come her way.

Announce Town Meeting Date: There will be a Town Meeting on April 16, 2015 at 6:00 P.M. at Fire Station #1 to consider and act upon two changes to the elderly Tax Relief Program.

Tax Refunds: Donlan moved to approve the following tax refunds.

Joann Baroni Foristall - \$12.00 over payment on real estate.

Roseann Marchetti - \$80.99 over payment on real estate.

Both of the above approved unanimously.

Resignations: None at this time.

Appointments – Conservation Commission: Donlan moved to reappoint Thomas Worthley and Walter Bragoni for another three-year term, to expire May 1, 2018 to the Conservation Commission.

Approved unanimously.

Old Business – School and Town Budget Update: Schlag stated the BOF finished the budget and the school budget has changed to \$23,465,437 down \$600,000 from the original budget proposal, after more savings were found by Superintendent Thiery. The town's portion of the average daily membership is 58.82%. The town's government portion of the budget is \$7,482,635 up \$188,000 from the proposed budget. The BOF added the \$188,000 for various departments. Donlan stated the BOF should not determine what to buy and what the town needs. The BOF role is how to pay for something whether bonding is needed or just to purchase items. He feels it's odd for the BOF to add costs to tax payers. The whole concept is for a dept. to come to the BOS for funding to run their departments.

Schlag made a motion to add another Executive Session to the agenda for the New Director of Finance's terms of her hire. Approved unanimously.

Public Comments: There was further discussion about the transfer station stickers. Steve Bayley questioned the debt service amount in the budget of \$600,000. We should not have that much in that fund. The town should know what their debt service is each year, and give the rest back to the taxpayers. Ed Munster asked the First Selectman to read Bruno Morasutti's email for the record. Schlag did read the email.

Executive Session – Potential Real Estate Acquisition and New Director of Finance's terms of hire:

Donlan moved to go into Executive Session at 6:45 P.M. Approved unanimously.

Came out of Executive Session at 6:50 P.M. Schlag moved to hire Barbara Bertrand as the Finance Director, working an 18 hour week at \$46.00 per hour. Duval moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55 P.M. Approved unanimously.

Minutes taken by – Alice Zanelli