

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

April 6, 2015

The meeting opened at 7:00 PM with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendees included Arnie Stymest, Selectman Chairman, John Halter, Selectman, Stephen McGerty, Selectman, Harry Power, Compliance Officer, Jim Coffey, Town Administrator and Patricia Putnam, Administrative Assistant. Several members of the public were in attendance.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:00 – PJ LaMothe – Fire Department budget and Warrant Articles – Joe Sarcione and PJ LaMothe presented a report on the condition of the current Rescue Vehicle. Lt. Weaver had Tucker's list the problems with the vehicle with the main issue being the Turbo is gone. It is a 6.5 Diesel and the Turbo being non-operational results in it not being able to climb hills efficiently. Also there are leaks around gaskets, the wiring in the transfer case if bad, the back-up alarm is not working, the shocks on all 4 corners need to be replaced. Tucker's is estimating \$10,000 - \$14,000 to repair these issues. The seals on the doors need to be replaced also. It is a 15 year old 1994 Chevrolet Truck. Valley estimates, to upgrade to fire apparatus standards would cost more than it is worth. They recommend it be placed in reserve. PJ LaMothe reflected that Stoddard has 54 square miles of land area. Stoddard had 117 calls, Nelson had 70 calls, Marlow had 32 calls and Sullivan had 60 calls last year. She has researched the cost of purchasing a \$197,600 rescue vehicle @ \$35,000 in 2015, \$38,000 in 2016, \$36,000 in 2017, \$35,000 in 2018, \$35,000 in 2019 and \$33,600 in 2020. She also warned that the tanker is a 1990 vehicle and by the time the Rescue is paid for it will be over 30 years old but she feels she can live with the present tanker for now. PJ LaMothe reflected that the CIP calls for both the rescue and the tanker to be replaced. Steve McGerty moved and John Halter seconded to support the warrant article for the Rescue replacement, the board approved.

TO BE SIGNED/APPROVED: None

PUBLIC QUESTIONS & COMMENTS: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

SELECTMEN'S COMMENTS: Steve McGerty suggested that the Board put forth an article on the Warrant to eliminate the elected positions of Sexton, Auditors and Constable. These are positions that no longer are necessary as the town now has a Police Chief and 2 fellows that do the Cemetery work and the Auditors' positions have not been filled for several years and the town hired professional Auditors to perform the required annual audits. Steve McGerty also suggested the board establish a Fire Ward position that is a 3 year position with the first 3 years being staggered. That would make 1 one year position, 1 two year position and 1 three year position until the Board is fully established. The board generally agreed to these suggestions. Jim Coffey will write a warrant article to ask the voters to eliminate the superfluous positions. The compensation for the Town Clerk includes fees collected for various licenses. This makes the Clerk's pay fluctuate up and down depending on the number of licenses issued in any month. The thought is to have the Town Clerk on a salary and the fees to remain in the General Fund.

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADJOURN: John Halter moved and Steve McGerty seconded to adjourn at 8:15 PM, the board agreed.

Respectfully submitted:

Patricia E. Putnam
Administrative Assistant

Approved:

Arnie Stymest

John Halter

Stephen McGerty