FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Chairman Ryan Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Andrew Buckland, Joshua Bell and Michael Fogg. Stephan Bunker was unable to attend. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Wastewater Superintendent Steve Millett, Channel 11, and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Ryan Morgan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ITEM 2: To Consider a Request to Reserve the Gazebo at Meetinghouse Park for Musical Performances from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. the first Friday of each Month beginning in April 2015 (Malcolm Porter, Jr.)

Richard Davis reviewed Malcolm Porter's email request, which also includes ITEM 3. Mr. Porter was present and further explained that these musical performances will be a part of the First Friday Art Walk series that the Downtown Association is organizing beginning April 3rd. Open flame in the form of candles was discussed and the Parks Policy, which prohibits open flame, was reviewed.

Joshua Bell moved to approve a request to reserve the gazebo at Meetinghouse Park for musical performances from 5:00 P.M. to 8:00 P.M. the first Friday of each month beginning in April, 2015; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Stephan Bunker)

ITEM 3: To Consider a Request to hold a Spring Equinox Celebration in Meetinghouse Park from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. on Saturday, March 21, 2015 (Malcolm Porter, Jr.)

Chairman Ryan Morgan reiterated that open flame is prohibited per Park Policy, and the Selectmen suggested substituting battery operated candles.

Joshua Bell moved to approve a request to hold a Spring Equinox Celebration in Meetinghouse Park from 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. on Saturday, March 21, 2015 with no open flame allowed; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Stephan Bunker)

The Selectmen thanked Mr. Porter for his efforts.

ITEM 4: To Discuss Staffing Requirements in the Sewer Department

Richard Davis reported that he has hired Dan Worcester as a temporary employee at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to fill in while Terry Norton is out on medical leave. Mr. Davis further explained the department's short staffed challenges, especially with the upcoming retirement of Steve Moore in May. He pointed out that Maine Department of Environmental Protection inspection reports have cited for the past several years that the Plant is understaffed. Mr. Davis explained that Superintendent Steve Millett is currently working on the 2015 Sewer Department budget and would like to budget for another fulltime plant operator with a Grade I license, as well as retain the part-time laborer position after Steve Moore retires. Steve Millett reported that the Plant was originally designed to be run by six operators, but it was his and Mr. Davis' opinion that four operators would be sufficient. Mr. Millett reported on work zone safety, as well as the potential for a training school in the Winthrop plant for new operators that may provide an internship program that could benefit the Town as well. The Selectmen discussed eliminating the part-time laborer position and possibly filling in with part-time employees from other departments, vocational technical students, or inmate labor once the Franklin County Jail is operational again.

Joshua Bell moved to implement an additional full-time operator position in the upcoming budget process and eliminate the part-time laborer position; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Stephan Bunker)

ITEM 5: To Determine a Course of Action with regard to Structural Deficiencies in the Roof of the Control Building at the Wastewater Treatment Facility

Richard Davis reviewed the structural repair proposal from Lincoln/Haney Engineering Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$18,150, as well as the roof construction estimate in the amount of \$75,000. He stated that Michael Cunningham of Lincoln/Haney is recommending that the Town engage the services of Walter Barschdorf of Independent Roofing Services (IRS) to oversee the project, compile a bid packet, and handle the construction administration when the project goes out to bid. The proposal from IRS back in June, 2014 to do that work was \$5,390, but will most likely need to be updated. Mr. Davis further stated that the funding for this project will come out of the Reserve Account. The Selectmen discussed the recommendation, how it came about, and the proposed design of the roof. Mr. Davis pointed out that Lincoln/Haney has offered to hire IRS under its contract.

ITEM 5: To Determine a Course of Action with regard to Structural Deficiencies in the Roof of the Control Building at the Wastewater Treatment Facility (Cont.)

Ryan Morgan moved to authorize the Town Manager to contact Lincoln/Haney to proceed with its recommended proposals, including hiring IRS under its contract; Andrew Buckland seconded.

Joshua Bell generated further discussion regarding whether all repairs should be done at the same time all under one contract.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Stephan Bunker)

ITEM 6: To Discuss UMF's offer to Connect the Community Center to the University's Planned Biomass Central Heating Plant

Richard Davis reported that a legal opinion has been obtained and provided to the Selectmen, but recommended that they table any discussion until the project has the Planning Board's approval. Funding and the controversy that this project has generated were briefly discussed, as well as the inspection of the Community Center and Public Works garage to see if installation of a pellet boiler in either would be feasible.

ITEM 7: To Review and Approve the Warrant for the 2015 Annual Town Meeting

Richard Davis reviewed, and the Selectmen discussed, the following Articles of interest: Fourth, Seventh, Thirteenth, Seventeenth, Nineteenth, Twenty-Third, Thirty-Ninth, Fortieth, and Forty-First. Mr. Davis reported that the audit report was received today and the Unassigned Fund Balance figure is slightly different, but he has corrected it in the copy of the Warrant that the Selectmen will sign tonight.

Michael Fogg moved to approve the Warrant for the 2015 Annual Town Meeting; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Stephan Bunker)

The Selectmen signed two copies of the Warrant. Mr. Davis further reported that the Town Report will be going to the printer this week.

ITEM 8: To Approve the Minutes of February 3 and 10, 2015

The minutes of February 3 and 10, 2015 were tabled as they were not yet available.

ITEM 9: To Discuss Other Business

A) Richard Davis reviewed a Municipal Quitclaim Deed that just came in today for Dustin C. Duchesne and Katherine M. Duchesne.

Joshua Bell moved to approve a Municipal Quitclaim Deed for Dustin C. Duchesne and Katherine M. Duchesne; Ryan Morgan seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Stephan Bunker)

The Selectmen signed the Quitclaim Deed.

- B) Richard Davis pointed out that the Town of Farmington has received its Business Friendly Certification and will be receiving its sign soon. He stated that Farmington is the thirty-first Town in Maine to receive this certification, and the first in Franklin County. The Selectmen thanked Richard Davis and Cindy Gelinas for their due diligence in this process.
- C) Richard Davis pointed out that the Franklin County Commissioners will be holding its County Budget Committee caucus on Monday, March 2, 2015 at 5:00 P.M. at the courthouse. Ryan Morgan urged all those who could to be there, and Joshua Bell asked for the Selectmen's support as he is running for membership on the Budget Committee.
- **D)** Andrew Buckland reviewed and left a stack of pamphlets for distribution of Maine's Unclaimed Property Program and shared the website of www.maine.gov/upsearch where one can go to view the list.
- E) Ryan Morgan pointed out that he has only one more Selectmen's meeting and one more Town Meeting left in his service as a Selectman, and urged the remaining and future Board members to look into the equipment sharing program that Wilton and Jay have formed to see if it would be anything beneficial for Farmington. He also urged the continuation of the Fire Service meetings.

To Hold an Executive Session Pursuant To 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.A to discuss a Personnel Matter in the Public Works Department

Joshua Bell moved to go into Executive Session at 7:47 P.M.; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Stephan Bunker)

ITEM 10:	To Hold an Executive Session Pursuant To 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.A to discuss a
	Personnel Matter in the Public Works Department (Cont.)

The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 8:01 P.M.

No action was taken

There being no further business to come before the Board, Joshua Bell moved to adjourn; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 **ABSENT** 1 **MOTION CARRIED** (Stephan Bunker)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

Stephan M. Bunker - Secretary