

# FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, November 8, 2016

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Matthew Smith, Michael Fogg, Andrew Buckland, and Stephan Bunker. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Police Chief Jack Peck, Channel 11 and members of the press were also in attendance.

## **ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Chairman Joshua Bell led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

## **ITEM 2: To Hold a Public Hearing on Proposed Additions to the Town of Farmington Site Review Ordinance Performance Standards regarding Highway and Background Connectivity**

Richard Davis stated that the proposed additions have been reviewed and vetted by the Planning Board, and been advertised as a Public Hearing. He further stated that they will be voted on at the upcoming Special Town Meeting if the Selectmen approve the Warrant later in this meeting. Mr. Davis explained the purpose of the proposed additions.

Chairman Joshua Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:32 P.M.

There were no comments from the public.

Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:33 P.M.

Mr. Davis reiterated that no vote is necessary at this time.

## **ITEM 3: To Consider Participating in the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program to Receive Donations of Excess Federal Property**

Richard Davis referred the Selectmen to the email of information from Police Chief Jack Peck dated November 3, 2016 that he had provided them. Chief Peck reviewed the type of equipment available and process for receiving such donations. He explained that the only requirement and cost is paying for shipping or retrieval of any item. Chief Peck asked for the Selectmen's approval and guidance in participating in this program.

**Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Farmington Police Department's participation in the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program and to authorize the Police Chief and Town Manager to make any purchase decisions, unless either of them feel it necessary to consult with the Selectmen; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**ITEM 3: To Consider Participating in the Law Enforcement Support Office (LESO) 1033 Program to Receive Donations of Excess Federal Property (Cont.)**

Matthew Smith stated that he has a nephew who belongs to a police force out in Minnesota that utilizes this program, and says it has been a very successful program for them. Chief Peck pointed out that the program is for law enforcement only but becomes the property of the Town after one year, so much of the equipment could be utilized in other departments.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 11: To Discuss Other Business**

A) Police Chief Jack Peck reported that he recently hired Brandon Tiner as a new officer for the department, and reviewed Officer Tiner’s information. Chief Peck stated that as a conditional employee Officer Tiner has been started on a 10-week field training program. Chief Peck has applied for Officer Tiner to attend the Police Academy in January, but because of the large number of applicants he most likely will be unable to attend until next August.

**ITEM 4: To Award the bid for Engineering Services Related to the Renewal of the Wastewater Treatment Facility’s Waste Discharge License**

Richard Davis explained that the wastewater treatment plant’s license is up for renewal, and because of new phosphorus removal limits that have to be met in this license renewal some engineering will be required in order to submit a plan for meeting the new limits. Mr. Davis reviewed the bid tabulation, explaining that even though it is not a large project, he wanted the Selectmen to be aware of it as there will be capital costs in the future. He stated that this needs to be in place by June, 2021.

**Stephan Bunker moved to award the bid for engineering services related to the renewal of the Wastewater Treatment Facility’s Waste Discharge License to Wright-Pierce Engineers for \$500; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

Discussion continued regarding the projected cost of the project, which Mr. Davis estimated will be over \$100,000 but less than \$400,000, and most likely will be in the range of \$250,000-\$300,000, with funding to come from the Reserve accounts.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 5: To Adopt a Resolution Declaring November 17, 2016 “World Pancreatic Cancer Day” in Farmington**

Richard Davis reviewed the letter of request, as well as some statistics on the estimated number of deaths of various cancers by State.

**Stephan Bunker moved to adopt a Resolution declaring November 17, 2016 “World Pancreatic Cancer Day” in Farmington; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

The Selectmen signed the Resolution.

**ITEM 6: To Approve a Warrant for a Special Town Meeting on November 22, 2016**

Richard Davis reviewed the six Articles on the draft Warrant.

**Stephan Bunker moved to approve a Warrant for a Special Town Meeting on November 22, 2016; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

The Selectmen signed the Warrant.

**ITEM 7: To Approve an Amendment to the Town of Farmington Personnel Policy**

Richard Davis explained that the employees of the Wastewater Treatment Plant have been members of the Farmington Municipal Bargaining Unit in the past. The Agreement actually expired in 2007, but the members were content with the terms as they were and it therefore continued in place. The question came up recently whether newly hired employees fall under the Bargaining Unit Agreement or the Town’s Personnel Policy. Mr. Davis stated that the legal opinion that he got from Town Attorney Frank Underkuffler is that employees are grandfathered under said Agreement for three (3) years after its expiration, but after that it is a question which they are covered under. Mr. Davis further stated that he is in receipt of a letter from the Bargaining Unit saying they will be dissolving, thereby absolving the Town from re-opening and re-negotiating the Agreement. The only difference between the Agreement and Personnel Policy is an annual clothing allowance that the employees have traditionally been paid, which they would like to continue. Mr. Davis is proposing it be incorporated into the Personnel Policy. Mr. Davis pointed out that the same issue exists with the Public Works Department’s Bargaining Agreement, which he will be discussing with them in the near future.

**ITEM 7: To Approve an Amendment to the Town of Farmington Personnel Policy (Cont.)**

**Matthew Smith moved to approve an amendment to the Town of Farmington Personnel Policy; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 8: To Consider a Proposal for Engineering Services for a Public Restroom on Church Street**

Richard Davis reviewed a proposal dated October 25, 2016 from Dirigo Engineering of \$4,000.00, which included design and a construction cost estimate. Discussion included: heat and what type, and size and type of building material of the structure.

**Matthew Smith moved to approve a proposal of \$4,000.00 from Dirigo Engineering for engineering services for a public restroom on Church Street, with funding to come from the Downtown TIF Reserve account; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

Joshua Bell suggested that this matter be discussed at the Downtown TIF Committee meeting the following evening.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 9: To Accept Tom Saviello's Resignation from the Downtown T.I.F. Advisory Committee**

Richard Davis reviewed an email from Tom Saviello that he received last week in which Mr. Saviello stated that he is no longer able to participate on this Committee.

**Matthew Smith moved to accept Tom Saviello's resignation from the Downtown T.I.F. Advisory Committee, with thanks for his services; Andrew Buckland seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 10: To Approve the Minutes of October 25, 2016**

**Matthew Smith moved to approve the minutes of October 25, 2016; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

