FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

Vice Chairman Stephan Bunker called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Michael Fogg, Matthew Smith and Scott Landry. Chairman Joshua Bell was unable to attend. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Police Chief Jack Peck, Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Foster, Channel 11, and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Vice Chairman Stephan Bunker led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business

A) Vice Chairman Stephan Bunker apologized to the Selectmen, explaining that he had asked for an agenda item too late for it to be a regular item, but there were people there to ask the Selectmen to discuss reaffirming or clarifying their budgeting position for the annual Town Meeting as it relates to Outside Agencies. Mr. Bunker further explained that this came about after he pressed the policy issues with the County Commissioners. The Selectmen agreed to discuss this issue under Other Business at the end of the meeting.

ITEM 2: To Hear a Presentation on the Walton's Mill Dam Feasibility Report (John Burrows and Joe McLean)

John Burrows, Director of New England Programs for the Atlantic Salmon Federation, and Wright-Pierce engineering project manager Joe McLean reviewed the project findings to date, the estimated time line, and how estimated costs were derived for the different options. They also discussed the estimated costs of the rough draft park design concept, dam removal, culverts, water shed to improve Temple Stream for salmon and trout habitat. Also discussed were the creation of a park endowment by the Atlantic Salmon Federation and other partners involved in paying for the dam removal, and annual maintenance. Observations and feedback from the last public meeting held at the Community Center were reviewed. Mr. Burrows stated that the final report will be reviewed at the last public meeting which will be held at 6:30 P.M. at the Community Center on Wednesday, February 21st. Mr. Burrows reiterated that there will be no funding required from the Town for this estimated \$1.2M project other than possible site labor, as well as a willingness to assist with writing any available grants. He stated that there is also a possibility that the Conservation Commission will be coordinating a presentation by representatives from different State and Federal resource agencies to address public questions regarding the eco-system. Mr. Burrows also reiterated his association's intentions to assist the Town in whatever way it can if it chooses to go with the fish passage alternative option instead of the dam removal option, although the funding will be much less. It was pointed out that anyone seeking information gathered to date may review a hard copy during business hours at the Town Office, or access the same information by link on the Town's website at www.farmington-maine.org.

ITEM 3: To Hear an Update on the Status of Adult Use Marijuana Regulation

Stephan Bunker stated that Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser and Senator Tom Saviello are unable to attend the meeting tonight as planned due to the weather and flooding issues. Richard Davis explained that there are two processes currently taking place, local and State, with the local process being dependent on how the State will be implementing the will of the people regarding what is now being referred to as "adult use marijuana" rather than "recreational or retail marijuana". Mr. Davis stated that he has information that Senator Saviello provided on what is being looked at right now for LD 1719, amendments to which Legalize Maine and a couple of other groups have offered draft amendments as well. Mr. Davis stated that it seems likely that the Legislature will extend its moratorium, which is set to expire on February 1st, tentatively for three months. He further stated that although he feels the Planning staff is ready to present the Town with a draft Ordinance and licensing scheme they will most likely recommend an additional moratorium be adopted at the March annual Town Meeting to give the State time to complete their review. There is also some discussion of possibly rolling medical marijuana into the mix. Luke Sirois, medical marijuana advocate, was present and asked for the Town's endorsement of the proposed regulations that are about to come out of the Legislative Committee, which will promote a tightly regulated system. Scott Landry spoke briefly on the issues that the Committee is currently trying to work out. Mr. Davis pointed out that Senator Saviello could take his cue from the Maine Municipal Association since it has taken a position in support of LD 1719. It was the general consensus of the Selectmen to wait and see what regulations are proposed by the Legislative Committee.

ITEM 4: To Authorize the Police Department to accept a Homeland Security Grant through the Franklin County Emergency Management Agency to Purchase a 75" Smart Display Monitor and Software for Training

Police Jack Peck was present and explained the reason why application was made for this grant, and the proposed purchase if the Police Department is allowed to accept it. Chief Peck reported that Franklin County EMA Director Tim Hardy assisted the Police Department with securing the grant. The Police Department will have to pay the upfront costs, but will be reimbursed 100% by Homeland Security and Maine Emergency Management Agency. Chief Peck pointed out that the training room in the Police Station is made available to the public during business hours. He asked for the Selectmen's authorization to accept the grant for the proposed \$8,899 monitor and software purchase.

Scott Landry moved to authorize the Police Department to accept a Homeland Security Grant through the Franklin County Emergency Management Agency to purchase a 75" smart display monitor and software for training; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	MOTION CARRIED
			(Joshua Bo	ell)	

ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business (Taken out of order)

A) Stephan Bunker reported that he approached the Franklin County Commissioners for clarification from them on their budget process as it relates to Outside Agencies. The Commissioners clarified that any agency zeroed out the previous year most likely would not be welcomed back this year, and those who received funding the previous year should expect the likelihood of a further or total reduction in its proposed appropriation this year. This brought the issue back to the agencies as to whether or not to solicit the individual Towns, and whether or not the individual Towns will allow any solicitation. The Selectmen discussed whether to abandon their policy and accept requests, or continue, per their policy, to not consider funding of any outside agency. Discussion included: which requests to fund; funding options; and the petition process. Residents Fenwick Fowler and John Rosenwald, Jen Bell from SAPARS, Bill Crandall from WMCA, and Ed David from GFDC all contributed to the discussion, urging the Selectmen to reconsider their no funding policy, at least for this year, and include an article on the Town Meeting Warrant asking the voters to appropriate Farmington's \$18,000 portion of the \$143,000 that was cut from the County budget. Richard Davis stated that the 2018 budget process is too far along for this to be added to the Town Meeting Warrant and suggested that more discussion be held at a later date to determine a plan for moving forward. The consensus of the Selectmen was to table this matter until a later date.

ITEM 5: To Award the bid for Printing the 2017 Annual Report

Richard Davis reviewed the summary of the five bids received and recommended that the bid be awarded to Bromar Printing Solutions at a cost of \$1,888.00 for 1,000 saddle stitched reports.

Matthew Smith moved to award the bid for printing the 2017 Annual Report to Bromar Printing Solutions of Skowhegan at a cost of \$1,888.00; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	MOTION CARRIED
			(Joshua Bo	ell)	

ITEM 6: To Designate the time period for the Availability of Nomination Papers to fill the Vacancy on the RSU 9 Board of Directors Created by Ryan Morgan's Resignation

Richard Davis reviewed a memo from Town Clerk Leanne Dickey dated January 18, 2018 explaining the statutory process for shortening the nomination period, and her recommendation to make nomination papers for this one position available on January 29th and returned to the Town Clerk by the close of business hours on February 8th. Mr.

ITEM 6: To Designate the time period for the Availability of Nomination Papers to fill the Vacancy on the RSU 9 Board of Directors Created by Ryan Morgan's Resignation (Cont.)

Davis stated that he has a notice to this effect ready for the Selectmen to sign if they so vote. Mr. Davis pointed out that Ryan Morgan resigned January 11th, effective immediately, so the Selectmen also have the ability to appoint an interim Director until the end of the school's fiscal year. If anyone is interested, an interim director can be appointed to serve until the election process is complete.

Matthew Smith moved to shorten the nomination period for this one position as recommended by Town Clerk Leanne Dickey; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	MOTION CARRIED
			(Joshua Bo	ell)	

The Selectmen signed the Notice of Shortened Nomination Process.

ITEM 7: To Accept the Resignation of Michael Mansir from the Downtown TIF Advisory Committee and Consider the Appointment of Derek Hayes as his Replacement

Richard Davis explained that Michael Mansir is stepping down because he is retiring from Franklin Savings Bank in April. He stated that Derek Hayes also works at Franklin Saving Bank and would like to contribute his expertise to this Committee.

Michael Fogg moved to accept the resignation of Michael Mansir from the Downtown TIF Advisory Committee and appoint Derek Hayes as his replacement; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Joshua Bell)

The Selectmen asked Richard Davis to send letter of thanks to Michael Mansir on their behalf.

ITEM 8: To Approve a *Resolution for Membership and Appointment of Voting Delegate Representative and Alternate* for the Maine Service Centers Coalition

Richard Davis explained that this is an annual reappointment in which he typically serves as the voting delegate representative, and the Chairman has served as the alternate. Mr. Davis stated that he is willing to continue serving as delegate.

Scott Landry moved to approve a Resolution for Membership in the Maine Service Centers Coalition, and to appoint Richard Davis as voting delegate representative and Joshua Bell as alternate; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	MOTION CARRIED
			(Joshua Be	ell)	

ITEM 9: To Schedule a Special Meeting to vote Recommendations on the Proposed 2018 Departmental Budgets

Richard Davis explained that the Budget Committee plans to meet on Wednesday, January 31st to make their recommendations on the budget so that the Warrant can be finalized and sent to the printer. Since the Budget Committee would like the Selectmen to make their recommendations before they do, a meeting to do so needs to be set for a date sometime before the 31st. The Selectmen discussed their availability and agreed to meet on Thursday, January 25th at 5:00 P.M.

ITEM 10: To Abate Property Taxes Pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 841 to Correct an Error in Assessment

Richard Davis reviewed an email dated December 28, 2017 from John O'Donnell to Treasurer LucyAnn Cook, to which he had added information explaining the issue with the over assessed trailer tax error and abatement thereof.

Matthew Smith moved to abate property taxes pursuant to 36 M.R.S. § 841 in the amount of \$2,242.14 to correct an error in assessment; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Joshua Bell)

ITEM 11: To Approve two (2) Municipal Quitclaim Deeds

Richard Davis reviewed Quitclaim Deeds to release interest the Town may have on account of undischarged tax liens that have been satisfied for: Dianne D. Allen at 654 New Vineyard Road, and Joanna L. Wing at 705 Titcomb Hill Road.

Matthew Smith moved to approve Municipal Quitclaim Deeds for the two above listed property owners; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	MOTION CARRIED
			(Joshua B	ell)	

The Selectmen signed the two Quitclaim Deeds.

ITEM 12: To Approve the Minutes of December 26, 2017 and January 2, 2018

Matthew Smith moved to approve the minutes of December 26, 2017 and January 2, 2018; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	MOTION CARRIED
			(Joshua Be	ell)	

ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business (Cont.)

- **B**) Richard Davis reported that earlier today there was a sewer backup at the Joseph Pinkham residence on Prescott Street due to a plugged sewer main that was the result of road work that was done last summer by the paving contractor. The lines were flushed at the time but evidently not cleared. The sewer came up through the toilet on the first level and caused extensive damage on that floor and in the basement. Mr. Davis stated that the insurance company has been notified and a cleaning company has been contacted.
- C) Scott Landry pointed out that Police Officer Ryan Rosie has been named Officer of the Year.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Matthew Smith moved to adjourn at 8:10 P.M.; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Joshua Bell)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

Michael J. Fogg – Secretary