FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, February 13, 2018

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Michael Fogg, Matthew Smith and Scott Landry. Stephan Bunker joined the meeting at 7:40 P.M. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, and members of the press and public 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 Consider a Request to Include Articles on the Town Meeting Warrant Urging the County Commissioners to fund certain Agencies <u>and</u> to Raise and Appropriate \$18,000 to fund said Agencies

Richard Davis briefly reviewed a letter and information from resident Fenwick Fowler regarding these requests, and explained that it will be up to the Selectmen to determine what their policy will be in regard to including one or both articles on the Town Meeting Warrant, and/or requesting a petition. Mr. Fowler was present and further explained these requests. William Crandall from WMCA spoke on the services that his organization provides and reviewed a flyer that he handed out. Jen Bell from SAPARS and resident John Rosenwald also spoke in favor of these requests. Discussion included: the Town's current policy regarding outside agencies; placing these articles on the Town Meeting Warrant versus the petition process and cost of having to hold a Special Town Meeting within 60 days thereafter; agencies that the Town has appropriated funds for in the past; fundraising; the Franklin County Commissioner's and County Budget Committee's reduction and elimination of funding outside agencies, and timing thereof; how to determine which agency solicitations to fund; the petition process, including the lack of resources, time and manpower to complete the process; and review of the proposed Warrant Article which would be an expression of sentiment;

Scott Landry moved to include the proposed statement from the voters as an Article on the March 26, 2018 annual Town Meeting Warrant; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 OPPOSED 2 MOTION CARRIED (Bell / Smith)

Stephan Bunker moved to include the proposed Article to raise and appropriate \$18,000 for nonprofit economic development and social services agencies impacted by Franklin County Commissioner cuts in 2017; Scott Landry seconded.

Matthew Smith generated a brief discussion regarding appropriation of funding if this Article passes, with Mr. Davis pointing out that the Town is being asked to do the County's work as some of the agencies that will be funded from the \$18,000 have never been funded by the Town before. Discussion also included the wording of the Article. Resident Dennis O'Neil contributed to this portion of the discussion.

ITEM 2: To Consider a Request to Include Articles on the Town Meeting Warrant Urging the County Commissioners to fund certain Agencies <u>and</u> to Raise and Appropriate \$18,000 to fund said Agencies (Cont.)

Stephan Bunker and Scott Landry amended their motion and second to include the wording in the Article to read "not to exceed \$18,000".

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	3	OPPOSED 2	MOTION CARRIED	
		(Bell / Smith)			

ITEM 3: To Proclaim March as Science Month and Encourage all our Citizens to Participate in the Maine Science Festival from March 15 to 18, 2018

Matthew Smith moved to proclaim March as Science Month and encourage all our citizens to participate in the Maine Science Festival from March 15 to 18, 2018; Michael Fogg seconded.

Richard Davis stated that this background was presented to the Selectmen for their consideration by Peter Hardy, who is an instructor at UMF.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 4: To Hear an Update on the Front Street Culvert Replacement Project

Richard Davis reported that he and the engineer from Dirigo Engineering met with the engineers from FairPoint and FairPoint has agreed to relocate their cables during the culvert replacement project. Mr. Davis stated that the Town's engineers are working with Maine DEP to make sure the \$75,000 grant that the Town was awarded is still available, which he has every reason to believe still is. The Town is also working with Dirigo Engineering to finish the design of the entire street to where the last section left off at Narrow Gauge Square. Mr. Davis further stated that the culvert project and design of the rest of the street will be part of this summer's projects, and he has requested that Dirigo Engineering provide a separate proposal for lighting and sidewalks, which could potentially funded from the Downtown TIF. Mr. Davis pointed out that the street will have to be closed for a period of time in order to install the culvert.

ITEM 5: To Write off as Uncollectible Personal Property Taxes with Interest and costs Totaling \$3,005.10

Richard Davis reviewed the information provided by Treasurer LucyAnn Cook.

Scott Landry moved to write off as uncollectible Personal Property taxes with interest and costs totaling \$3,005.10; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	5	MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 6: To Accept Donations to the Parks and Recreation Department in Memory of Evelyn Jeanette Ferrari, of \$290 plus any Received after this date

Michael Fogg moved to accept donations to the Parks and Recreation Department in memory of Evelyn Jeanette Ferrari, of \$290 plus any received after this date; Matthew Smith seconded.

Richard Davis stated that there is no specific use for these funds at this time.

VOTEAFFIRMATIVE5MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 7: To Consider a Request for a Donation to Support the 2018 Farmington Summer Fest

Richard Davis reviewed the letter of request dated January 20, 2018 that he received on behalf of the Town.

Michael Fogg moved to deny the request for a donation to support the 2018 Farmington Summer Fest; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSTAINED	1MOTION CARRIED
			(Scott Landry)	

ITEM 8: To Approve a Cemetery lot Conveyance

Matthew Smith moved to approve a Cemetery Lot Conveyance for two cemetery lots in Fairview Cemetery for Anthony Arruda and Margaret McHugh; Stephan Bunker seconded.

In answer to Joshua Bell's question as to the number of plots surveyed that became available when the grounds work was accomplished in Fairview Cemetery in 2017, Richard Davis stated that he does not know but his guess would be between 40 to 50.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the Conveyance.

ITEM 9: To Approve the Minutes of January 23 and 30, 2018

Matthew Smith moved to table the minutes of January 23 and 30, 2018, as they were not yet available; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTEAFFIRMATIVE5MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 10: To Discuss Other Business

A) Richard Davis reported that the Franklin County Commissioners have a Budget Committee vacancy in each of the districts. A room is being made available at the courthouse to caucus at 5:00 P.M. on Monday, March 5, 2018 for the purpose of submitting the name of a municipal officer to fill those vacancies.

ITEM 10: To Discuss Other Business (Cont.)

- B) Richard Davis reported that the Franklin County Municipal Officer's Association is having a National Incident Management System (NIMS) training from 6:00-8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, February 28, 2018 in the Wilton Academy Hill School cafeteria. Mr. Davis pointed out that it is important that each Selectman had this training because without it the Town is ineligible for Homeland Security Grants, Fire Act Grants, etc. Stephan Bunker, on behalf of Franklin County EMA Director Tim Hardy, encouraged his fellow Selectmen to attend the training regardless of whether they are already compliant because there is more information shared in this training than what is in the on-line course.
- C) In answer to Michael Fogg's inquiry as to the delivery status of the new Public Works Dept. truck, Richard Davis stated that it is due to be delivered this week.
- **D**) In response to Michael Fogg's inquiry as to the date of the last Walton Mill Pond dam public meeting, Richard Davis stated that it will be held at the Community Center starting at 6:30 P.M. on Wednesday, February 21st. At Stephan Bunker's inquiry as to what the next step will be in this process, Mr. Davis stated that the next step will be for the Atlantic Salmon Federation and its funding partners to present an agreement for the Town to enter into for funding of the project and timeline, which will then go to the voters for ratification, which he recommends even though the decision could be made by the Selectmen.
- **E**) In answer to Scott Landry's request for an update on the sewer backup that occurred on Prescott Street, Richard Davis stated that is a subject for further discussion in Executive Session.
- **F)** Scott Landry mentioned the roads are in good shape except for one pothole on Perham Street located near the Ferrari's in the right lane headed into town. Richard Davis stated that he will report it to the Public Works Director.

ITEM 11: To Hold an Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.A to Discuss a Personnel Matter pertaining to the Police Department

Matthew Smith moved to go into Executive Session at 7:56 P.M.; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTEAFFIRMATIVE5MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 8:37 P.M.

No action was taken.

ITEM 12: To Hold an Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.E to Discuss Pending or Contemplated Litigation

Matthew Smith moved to go into Executive Session at 8:40 P.M. pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.E to Discuss Pending or Contemplated Litigation; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 9:30 P.M.

No action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Scott Landry moved to adjourn at 9:30 P.M.; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTEAFFIRMATIVE 5MOTION CARRIED

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

Michael J. Fogg - Secretary