FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Chairman Ryan Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Joshua Bell and Michael Fogg. Andrew Buckland and Stephan Bunker were absent. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Public Works Director Denis Castonguay (6:30-6:35pm), Police Chief Jack Peck (6:40-6:55pm), Assessor Mark Caldwell (6:45-7:32pm) 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 Confirm the Employment of Jonathan Alexander as the Shop Manager/Chief Mechanic

Richard Davis reviewed the hiring Committee's process and recommendation, and stated that Jonathan Alexander has accepted the Town's employment offer. Mr. Davis explained that he would like Mr. Alexander to start his employment on October 6th in order to have time to train with Greg Soule before his retirement at the end of October. Public Works Director Denis Castonguay introduced Jonathan Alexander and further reviewed the Committee's decision and Mr. Alexander's attributes. Mr. Alexander thanked the Selectmen for this employment opportunity.

Joshua Bell moved to confirm the employment of Jonathan Alexander as the Shop Manager/ Chief Mechanic, with his employment to begin on October 6, 2014; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

ITEM 3: To hold a Hearing to Determine whether a Structure owned by Ted Gay, Located at 130 Wilton Road, is Dangerous or a Nuisance within the Meaning of 17 M.R.S. §2851 (Tentative)

Richard Davis reviewed Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser's memo dated September 9, 2014 and explained that the parties have requested a sixty (60) day postponement of this matter, which would be until November 25, 2014, to allow them time to formulate a plan for the disposition of the building.

Joshua Bell moved to table the Public Hearing for this matter until November 25, 2014; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

ITEM 4: To Consider a Request from Safe Voices to Install Purple Lights,
Decorations and a Banner at the Gazebo in Meetinghouse Park from
October 1, 2014 to October 15, 2014 in Recognition of Domestic Violence
Awareness Month

Richard Davis reviewed the request from Safe Voices.

Joshua Bell moved to approve a request from Safe Voices to install purple lights, decorations and a banner at the gazebo in Meetinghouse Park from October 1, 2014 to October 15, 2014; Michael Fogg seconded.

Chairman Morgan asked Mr. Davis, in light of the withdrawal of Iris Morgan's request for pink lights to be displayed at the gazebo in October in recognition of Breast Cancer Awareness month, to offer *Safe Voices* the opportunity to display their purple lights for the entire month of October.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

ITEM 5: To Consider a Request to Relocate Dumpsters to the Southeasterly Corner of the Municipal Parking lot

Richard Davis reviewed the request, an aerial photo and sketch, and the proposed Lease Agreement. William Marceau and Craig Jordan were present and further explained their request.

Joshua Bell moved to approve a request to relocate dumpsters to the southeasterly corner of the Municipal Parking lot, to enter into a Lease Agreement with William Marceau and Craig Jordan, and to authorize the Town Manager to sign the Lease Agreement on behalf of the Town; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

To Consider a Request for Funding estimated at \$3,000 from the Downtown TIF for Design and Installation of Banners on the Decorative Light Poles

Richard Davis explained that since the current UMF banners on the decorative light poles will be taken down at the end of the year, it has been suggested that a Town banner be designed and installed to replace them. Mr. Davis stated that the cost estimate of \$3,000 was obtained by Alison Hagerstrom from the graphic designer who designed the UMF banners. He further stated that this type of project would be considered promotional and therefore eligible to be funded from the Downtown TIF Reserve account. Joshua Bell pointed out that the Selectmen had agreed at a previous meeting to establish an advisory committee to research ways to spend the TIF Reserve funds, and suggested that they

To Consider a Request for Funding estimated at \$3,000 from the Downtown TIF for Design and Installation of Banners on the Decorative Light Poles (Cont.)

postpone making any decision until after that committee has been established and has met. The Selectmen and Town Manager discussed advertising for membership on this advisory committee.

Joshua Bell moved to deny the request for funding from the Downtown TIF for design and installation of banners on the decorative light poles until the Downtown TIF Advisory Committee has been established and has met; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

To Approve an Agreement for Services regarding the Security Patrol during the Farmington Fair

Richard Davis explained that this Agreement has been reviewed by and received the approval of the Town's attorney. Chief Jack Peck was present and stated that there have been no changes in the Agreement since he last presented it to the Selectmen. Chief Peck further stated that, if approved by the Selectmen, he will be presenting it to the Franklin County Agricultural Society Board later that evening.

Michael Fogg moved to approve an Agreement for Services regarding the security patrol during the Farmington Fair; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

The Selectmen signed the Agreement.

ITEM 8: To Discuss Amendments to the Contract for Animal Control Services

Richard Davis explained that this contract is being modified because Wayne Atwood, the current Animal Control Officer, is entering into retirement mode and so the Town is looking for an alternate officer to provide coverage when Mr. Atwood is not available, which is during the overnights and weekends. Mr. Davis reviewed the proposed officer, stating that there will be no increase in the cost of the contract, as it splits the duties out over additional officers. Chief Jack Peck explained that he added Section 12 on page 3 regarding the responsibility of the officers to attend mandatory training. Joshua Bell asked that Item 12 be modified so that it is understood that the cost of the mandatory training will be at the expense of the person attending it.

ITEM 8: To Discuss Amendments to the Contract for Animal Control Services (cont.)

Joshua Bell moved to approve the amendments to the contract for Animal Control Services with the modification to Item 12; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

ITEM 9: To Determine a Name for the new Park at 411 High Street

Richard Davis reviewed the public polling process and majority suggestions.

Joshua Bell moved to name the new park at 411 High Street Bjorn Park; Michael Fogg seconded.

Joshua Bell asked if something could be incorporated on the stone or elsewhere in the Park for the Historical Society's suggestion of Norton Flat School House Park. Mr. Davis agreed to check with Mr. Bjorn and the Historical Society.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

The Selectmen thanked all those who participated in the naming process.

ITEM 10: To Determine whether to Contract for Assessing Services or Employ an Assessor on Staff

Richard Davis explained and reviewed the sub-committee's philosophical issues, ie. level of service from a contractor versus assessor, particularly in regard to E911 addressing officer and in-house IT support, as well as Town staffing and management thereof. Sub-committee member Dennis O'Neil explained his concerns with not having enough information to determine if there will be a savings by hiring a contractor versus an assessor, especially with a three-year contract. Sub-committee member Joshua Bell stated that he perceived that they would be re-interviewing three of the four bid applicants in order to ask these questions. Mr. Davis clarified that the RFP does allow for an interview process so a new RFP is not necessary, and suggested trying to set up re-interviews during the day on Tuesday, September 16th. Michael Fogg asked to join the sub-committee in order to address his concerns.

ITEM 11: To Discuss the Potential Cost of Negotiating an Employment Contract for the Town Manager

Richard Davis reported that the cost estimate of negotiating an employment contract for the Town Manager will be \$2,000-\$4,000, unless there are a lot of meetings, which will increase the cost. The consensus was to table discussion of this matter until such time as the full Board is present.

ITEM 12: To Approve the Warrant for a Special Town Meeting on October 14, 2014

Richard Davis reviewed the proposed Warrant.

Joshua Bell moved to approve the Warrant for a Special Town Meeting on October 14, 2014; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

The Selectmen signed the Warrant.

ITEM 13: To Accept and Allocate the Initial Disbursement of Residual Assets of the Sandy River Recycling Association

Richard Davis explained the Sandy River Recycling Associates' process for disbursement of residual assets and reviewed the proposed disbursement sheet dated August 21, 2014. He recommended that any funds received be deposited in the Unassigned Fund Balance, as it is non-budgeted or unanticipated general revenue.

Joshua Bell moved to accept and allocate the initial disbursement of residual assets of the Sandy River Recycling Association, and for funds received to be deposited in the Unassigned Fund Balance; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

Resident Betty Jespersen generated a brief discussion regarding how Archie's recycles heavy bond paper. Richard Davis explained that it is still being recycled as mixed paper, adding that the Town is able to designate what gets recycled but not how.

ITEM 14: To Approve Voting Delegate Credentials for the Maine Municipal Association's Annual Business Meeting

Richard Davis explained that the Selectmen need to approve a delegate and alternate if anyone is interested in voting at the business meeting. He stated that he most likely will not be attending convention at all this year due to his full schedule. There being no one else available to attend the business meeting, Item 14 was passed over.

ITEM 15: To Approve the Minutes of August 12 and 26, 2014

Item 15 was tabled, as neither set of minutes was available.

ITEM 16: To Discuss Other Business

- A) Richard Davis reported that he has been working with Steve Brown and Laura Ellis at Maine Municipal Association to set up a candidate's night and one has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 22nd at 6:30 p.m. in the Community Center gymnasium. There will be publications as the public will be invited, and all candidates running for office in those districts from Rangeley to Belgrade will be present. He stated that he will provide more information as it becomes available. He further stated that this will also be in conjunction with the Franklin County Municipal Officers Association.
- **B**) Richard Davis reported that a follow up Regional Fire Service meeting is being scheduled to take place in the Bass Room at Franklin Memorial Hospital on Wednesday, October 29th from 6-8 p.m. Chief Bell will be looking for a moderator again, and notifications will be sent out.
- C) Joshua Bell questioned the status of the Certified Business Friendly Community Program application. Richard Davis stated that since there is no particular deadline it can be resubmitted at any time. The list of reasons why the application was denied was briefly discussed and the Selectmen asked the Town Manager to resume updating the application for resubmission.
- **D**) Joshua Bell noted that the Maine State Federation of Firefighters Convention that took place in Farmington last Friday through Sunday appears to have been well attended and received.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Joshua Bell moved to adjourn at 7:32 P.M.; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Buckland/Bunker)

Minutes respectfully	submitted	by Linda	H. Grant.

Stephan M. Bunker – Secretary