FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, June 9, 2015

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. with the following members present: Stephan Bunker, Michael Fogg and Matthew Smith. Andrew Buckland was unable to attend. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Channel 11, 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.

Chairman Bell asked that Items 3 and 4 be taken up before Item 2.

ITEM 3: To Consider a Request to hold a Community Yoga Class at Meetinghouse Park on Saturday Mornings in Conjunction with the Farmers Market

Richard Davis explained that this request was received via email from Erica Emery. David Allen was present to represent Ms. Emery. He explained that the class will be free, although donations will be accepted. The class will take place from 8:00-9:00 A.M. on the grass area of Meetinghouse Park each Saturday throughout the summer, weather permitting, with a different instructor each week. Mr. Allen also stated that there is liability insurance coverage through the Farmers Market. It was pointed out that SummerFest will be taking place on Saturday, July 25th so contact should be made with Susun Terese at Minikins, who is coordinating the SummerFest activities, to make sure there will be no conflict on that date. Information may also be obtained at the Downtown Association meeting which will be held tomorrow morning at the Homestead Restaurant. Mr. Davis stated that the Yoga sponsors should check the Meetinghouse Park schedule which is posted on the Town's website.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve a request to hold a community yoga class at Meetinghouse Park from 8:00-9:00 A.M. on Saturday mornings in conjunction with the Farmers Market; Matthew Smith seconded.

ITEM 4: To Consider a Request to Extend the Meetinghouse Park Reservation for SummerFest Activities on Saturday, July 25, 2015 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.

Richard Davis explained that a request has been received from Susun Terese, coordinator of the SummerFest activities, for an extension of the hours because another performer has become available to sing at the gazebo between 8:00-10:00 P.M.

Matthew Smith moved to approve a request to extend the Meetinghouse Park reservation for SummerFest activities on Saturday, July 25, 2015 from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. to 8 a.m. to 10 p.m.; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

ITEM 2: To Hold a Public Hearing on a Proposal to Purchase the Property at 112
Church Street for Redevelopment as a Parking lot and to Execute an Option to Purchase Said Property

Chairman Joshua Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:36 P.M.

Richard Davis explained the purpose of the Public Hearing, as well as the potential revenue shortfall, resulting financial deficiency, and financial possibilities for still making this project work. The Downtown TIF Committee meeting results, the parking project/plan, and the history and condition of the Church Street property were reviewed. Comments, concerns and questions were heard from Paul Mills, Allison Hagerstrom, Dennis O'Neil, and abutters Pam Poisson and Munroe Hawkins. Topics discussed were drainage, responsible party for evicting the tenants, and architectural salvage from the building. Pam Poisson pointed out that the footage on the sketch provided is incorrect.

Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 7:00 P.M.

The Selectmen discussed the potential cost of the redevelopment proposal, purchase of day time parking for employees of downtown businesses or all night parking for downtown tenants, and the Downtown TIF Committee's recommendation to purchase the property and move forward with the redevelopment proposal. Mr. Davis pointed out that the only change in the option to purchase document is the addition that the seller will be responsible for the eviction of all tenants.

ITEM 2: To Hold a Public Hearing on a Proposal to Purchase the Property at 112 Church Street for Redevelopment as a Parking lot and to Execute an Option to Purchase Said Property (Cont.)

Stephan Bunker moved to execute the Option to Purchase the property at 112 Church Street; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

Pam Poisson asked for and was given a copy of Steve Kaiser's report on the condition of the property dated June 4, 2015.

The Selectmen signed the Option to Purchase.

To Consider a Request from Franklin Savings Bank to place a three (3) hour limit on the Public use of Parking Spaces on the Easterly Side of Front Street adjacent to the Bank's stairs

Richard Davis stated that a signed petition by Farmington voters and business persons in support of a two hour limit on public use of said parking spaces was distributed at the beginning of the meeting. Mr. Davis reviewed the existing license between the Town and Franklin Savings Bank, and the purpose for placing a time limit on the parking spaces. He explained the procedure for amending the license, pointing out that the Selectmen have the discretion within the license to make a change such as this, and therefore there is no need for a Town vote. He also pointed out that if the Selectmen decide to proceed with this request, it will need to go before the Parking Ordinance Committee for the drafting of language to incorporate the change into the Town's Parking Ordinance. Tim Thompson was present and stated that Franklin Savings Bank is agreeable to either a two or three hour limit. Both John Moore and Paul Mills, when asked for their opinion of the hour limit request, were supportive of a two (2) hour limit. The added burden on parking enforcement was discussed. Mr. Thompson stated that Franklin Savings Bank will take care of the signage for the parking limit. Paul Mills reiterated that the Parking Ordinance will need to be amended and approved by the Board of Selectmen.

Michael Fogg moved to approve a request from Franklin Savings Bank to place a two (2) hour limit on the public use of parking spaces on the easterly side of Front Street adjacent to the Bank's stairs; Matthew Smith seconded.

To Consider a Request from the Mt. Blue Area Garden Club to Hold its Annual Plant Sale at Meetinghouse Park on Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to Noon

Matthew Smith moved to approve a request from the Mt. Blue Area Garden Club to hold its annual plant sale at Meetinghouse Park on Saturday, May 21, 2016 from 7:00 a.m. to noon; Michael Fogg seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

The Selectmen discussed whether a policy should be established for how far in advance a request would be allowed. No decision was made.

ITEM 7: To Award bids for the Following Public Works Department Projects:

• Porter Hill Engineering

Richard Davis reviewed the eight bids received for the Porter Hill Road engineering project, with the recommendation to award the bid to Dirigo Engineering of Fairfield as low bidder at a cost of \$7,000.00.

Stephan Bunker moved to award the bid for the Porter Hill Road Engineering to Dirigo Engineering at a cost of \$7,000.00; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

• Roadside Ditching

Richard Davis reviewed the one bid received from Bruce A. Manzer Inc. of Anson, Maine for roadside ditching at a cost of \$14,940.00.

Stephan Bunker moved to award the bid for roadside ditching to Bruce A. Manzer, Inc. of Anson, Maine at a cost of \$14,940.00; Matthew Smith seconded.

ITEM 7: To Award bids for the Following Public Works Department Projects: (Cont.)

• Road Reclamation and Paving

Richard Davis reviewed the two bids received for the Road Reclamation and Paving, with the recommendation to award the bid to Bruce A. Manzer, Inc. of Anson, Maine as low bidder.

Stephan Bunker moved to award the bid for Road Reclamation and Paving to Bruce A. Manzer, Inc. of Anson, Maine; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

ITEM 8: To Approve the Warrant for a Special Town Meeting on June 23, 2015

Richard Davis reviewed the one item Special Town Meeting Warrant asking for voter approval to purchase the 112 Church Street property. At the request of the Selectmen, Mr. Davis removed the last sentence in the Statement of Fact regarding the funding availability as it is not currently fully available. The Selectmen discussed the funding options that should be available to them after the tax commitment.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Warrant for a Special Town Meeting on June 23, 2015; Matthew Smith seconded.

Richard Davis noted that the meeting will be held in the downstairs meeting room of the Community Center, with the Board of Selectmen's meeting beginning at 6:30 P.M. and the Special Town Meeting beginning at 7:00 P.M.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

The Selectmen signed the Warrant.

ITEM 9: To Accept the Resignation of William Geller from the Transportation Advisory Committee

Richard Davis explained that Mr. Geller is out of town a lot and therefore unable to attend meetings very often so he has decided to resign his position on this Committee.

Stephan Bunker moved to accept the resignation of William Geller from the Transportation Advisory Committee, with regret, and asked the Town Manager to extend the Selectmen's appreciation for his service; Matthew Smith seconded.

To Discuss the Hiring of a Public Works Director to Replace Denis Castonguay, who will retire on December 4, 2015

Richard Davis stated he has received Public Works Director Denis Castonguay's letter of intent to retire. Mr. Davis further stated that he plans to put together a hiring Committee conposed of himself, the Fire and/or Police Chief, a Public Works Director from another municipality, and possibly a very knowledgeable and highly respected gentleman he knows who works with the Department of Transportation. He will determine over the summer what the timing for advertising will be.

ITEM 11: To Approve Municipal Quitclaim Deeds

Richard Davis reviewed a Quitclaim Deed for the Heirs of Phyllis Kenney for property located at 630 Fairbanks Road, and a Quitclaim Deed for Blaine L. Breton and Nikki L. Rackliff for property located at 173 Sandy River Terrace.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve a Quitclaim Deed for the Heirs of Phyllis Kenney for property located at 630 Fairbanks Road, and a Quitclaim Deed for Blaine L. Breton and Nikki L. Rackliff for property located at 173 Sandy River Terrace; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

The Selectmen signed both Quitclaim Deeds.

ITEM 12: To Approve the Minutes of May 12 and 19, 2015

Matthew Smith moved to approve the minutes of May 12 and 19, 2015; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business

A) Richard Davis reported there will be a compost sale from 10:00 A.M. to 2:00 P.M. this Saturday, June 13th at the Transfer Station compost pad for \$12.00 per tractor bucket, or \$20.00 for two tractor buckets. Tom Eastler has volunteered his time and tractor to load the compost for buyers. Mr. Davis stated that the compost is a very good finished product, with the largest component coming from food from the UMF dining facilities. Mr. Davis further stated that the sale has been advertised on The Daily Bulldog and posters, which were created by Sustainable Campus Coalition intern and Bowdoin student Colton Hall, have been distributed. Mr. Davis pointed out that Mr. Hall has also helped Public Works Director Denis Castonguay with the weeding and maintenance of flower beds around Town.

ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business (Cont.)

- **B)** Stephan Bunker reported that the Public Hearing for the County Budget will be held on Wednesday, June 17th, and encouraged all interested parties to attend.
- C) Stephan Bunker pointed out the monthly Farmington Fire Rescue report on fire/rescue runs and department activities.
- Doshua Bell asked for the status of the Front Street drainage project. Richard Davis reported that all approvals have been received except for the easements. UMF's easement has been sent, but he cannot present an easement to John Moore as he has not as yet received a design for the project tie-in location on his end of the project. According to Randy Butler of Dirigo Engineering last week he hopes to send this project out to bid by June 15th with bids being returned in July and breaking ground by August 15th.
- E) Richard Davis gave an update on the Farmington Falls Road sidewalk project that the Town has been working on with the State. Engineering proposals have been opened and are very expensive due to assurances that have to be met for the federal money involved, so this project may not be accomplished. Mr. Davis stated he is waiting to hear back from the State to see if the project can be done in stages. He explained the procedure for monies spent on engineering and the possibility of using funds from the Sidewalk Reserve account.
- **F)** Stephan Bunker pointed out that the street striping in various parts of the community has begun.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Stephan Bunker moved to adjourn at 7:43 P.M.**; **Michael Fogg seconded.**

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.