

FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, September 10, 2013

Chairman Ryan Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Andrew Hufnagel, Dennis Pike, Joshua Bell and Jessica Berry. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser (6:30-7:00), Police Chief Jack Peck (6:30-7:10), Channel 11, 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 Hear a Presentation on the History of the Farmington Village Corporation and its Zoning Ordinance (Jane Woodman, Business Manager)

Richard Davis introduced Farmington Water Department/Farmington Village Corporation business manager Jane Woodman and Corporation board member Clyde Ross. Jane Woodman gave an historic overview of the Corporation, as well as handing out a map depicting the five settlers' lots that originally made up the boundaries of the Corporation. Ms. Woodman also explained how the zoning map was derived, a copy of which Mr. Ross displayed, and handed out photocopies of the October 4, 1955 Zoning Plan booklet. Mr. Davis pointed out that the Town's Zoning Ordinance and how it relates to the Village Corporation has come into question of late in regard to which Ordinance takes precedence, and shared the legal opinion that the Town obtained in that regard. Code Enforcement Officer Steve Kaiser joined in the discussion, including the possible waiver of permitting fees. The Selectmen thanked Ms. Woodman for her overview.

ITEM 3: To Consider the Replacement of the Police Department Detectives Vehicle

Chief Jack Peck explained his department's vehicle replacement proposal, funding of which could come from the Vehicle Reserve account which has an approximate balance of \$21,000, and the Drug Forfeiture/Drug Education account which presently has a balance of \$32,550. He asked for the Selectmen's authorization to go out to bid to purchase a new 4WD pickup truck, using half of the funds in each of the two previously mentioned accounts. The reason behind adding another 4WD vehicle to the fleet was discussed, as well as the research of the trade-in value or selling of the 2003 Buick. Chief Peck stated that the Department will replace the 2005 Impala in two years using it as secondary vehicle for now if they are allowed to purchase a new vehicle this year. Chief Peck also explained that the motherboard went on the talking sign, and since it is now obsolete it is beyond repair. He added that a new pickup truck will be kept for 10 years.

ITEM 3: To Consider the Replacement of the Police Department Detectives Vehicle (Cont.)

Jessica Berry moved to authorize the Police Chief to go out to bid for a new cruiser or 4WD pickup truck, including a request for a trade-in value on the 2003 Buick before making the determination to sell; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 4: To Discuss Municipal Services that may have Potential for Regionalization under County Government

Richard Davis reviewed his memo dated September 5, 2013, a letter from the Franklin County Commissioners dated August 30, 2013, a supporting list of services that could potentially be performed at the County level, and the meeting to review said list with three other town managers that he recently attended. The Selectmen discussed the list of services, with resident Nancy Porter contributing to the discussion.

Dennis Pike moved to table Item 4 for further review; Jessica Berry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 5: To Adopt a Post Issuance Compliance Policy pursuant to IRS Rules for Tax-Exempt Bond Obligations

Richard Davis explained the policy which pertains to public finance, referencing a letter and sample policy from the law firm of Bernstein Shur dated May 14, 2013. Mr. Davis recommended that the policy be approved and kept on file as proof of compliance.

Jessica Berry moved to adopt a Post Issuance Compliance Policy pursuant to IRS Rules for tax exempt bond obligations; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Board signed the Policy.

ITEM 6: To Discuss the Contract with Waste Management Disposal Services of Maine, Inc. for Disposal of Bulky Waste

Richard Davis reviewed information from the August 27th Selectmen's meeting, as well as a meeting that he had the previous day with Pete Lachapelle, account manager with Waste Management out of Rochester, New Hampshire. In order to keep the Town of Farmington as a customer, Waste Management is willing to reduce their tipping fees

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considerably. Mr. Davis pointed out that there may be an opportunity to reduce the amount the Town charges users for disposal fees as well. He stated that he should have further information by the next meeting. The Selectmen discussed the cost of tipping fees versus the actual disposal costs.

ITEM 7: To Consider an Appropriation from the Special Projects Account for Overnight Accommodations for Official Visitors from the Sister City of Lac-Mégantic on the Evening of October 12, 2013

Richard Davis reported that the balance of the Relief Fund that the Town established is now over \$32,000. Mr. Davis reviewed the discussion of this Item at the last meeting, the research of room prices, and the recommendation that rooms be reserved at the Wilson Lake Inn because it will be quiet and a similar setting to their lake view in Lac-Megantic. He recommended that the cost of \$356.00 for the four rooms be taken from the Special Projects account.

Dennis Pike moved to authorize an amount not to exceed \$400 from the Special Projects account to house the Lac Megantic officials on October 12, 2013; Jessica Berry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Ryan Morgan pointed out that the wrist bracelets that will serve as one's entry into the October 12th benefit event at UMF's South Dining Hall arrived today and will be available for purchase soon. Mr. Morgan reviewed the scheduled activities.

ITEM 8: To Approve Voting Delegate Credentials for the Maine Municipal Association's Annual Business Meeting

Richard Davis reviewed the August 30, 2013 memorandum and supporting documents from the Maine Municipal Association. He stated that he will be attending some portions of the convention. Ryan Morgan, Andrew Hufnagel and Joshua Bell stated that they will not be able to attend.

Dennis Pike moved to designate Richard Davis as the voting delegate and Jessica Berry as the voting alternate; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the Credential Form.

ITEM 9: To Approve a Cemetery Conveyance

Richard Davis reviewed a Cemetery Lot Conveyance to Eric W. Drew.

Andrew Hufnagel moved to approve said Cemetery Lot Conveyance; Jessica Berry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the conveyance.

ITEM 10: To Approve the Minutes of August 27, 2013

Jessica Berry moved to approve the minutes of August 27, 2013; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 11: To Discuss Other Business

- A) Richard Davis reported that the Voter Hill Road project is coming along very well and barring any bad weather he anticipates paving will occur on Thursday, September 12th. Mr. Davis asked the Selectmen if they would be interested in holding a ribbon cutting ceremony. He suggested 5:00 P.M. on Friday, September 13th, to which the Selectmen enthusiastically agreed. Mr. Davis stated that he will contact those press members not presently available.
- B) Richard Davis reported that the Whittier Road erosion project has begun and the road is closed. Mr. Davis reviewed the project's progress to date, stating that E.L. Vining is confident that, barring any major complications, they will have the project completed before the September 30th deadline. Ryan Morgan implored the press to help them get the word out that the road is closed.
- C) Andrew Hufnagel reviewed the meeting that he had last week with the inspector from DEP and Alan Archibald of Archie's Inc. regarding Mr. Archibald's proposal to take over the Town's recycling and waste management services. He stated that he should have more information on this process at the next meeting and would like to invite Mr. Archibald to attend to further discuss his proposal and potential cost savings to the Town. He also wishes to see if the Selectmen are interested in moving forward in researching the possibility of having an outside contractor run both recycling and waste management.

ITEM 11: To Discuss Other Business (Cont.)

- D)** Jessica Berry stated that she is finding it increasingly difficult, due to her own schedule constraints, to attend the Mt. Blue CATV Board meetings, and asked if one of the other Selectmen would be interested in taking her place on that Board. She also reported that they are looking for more Board members. Richard Davis stated that he believes that according to the Bylaws a Board member does not have to be a municipal officer; it may be someone from the community.
- E)** Nancy Porter pointed out that the Town now owns the Meetinghouse Park. A vote recording which was overlooked many years ago has now been corrected.
- F)** Dennis Pike inquired about the repair of the depression in the road at the entrance to the new housing development on the Fairbanks Road. Richard Davis stated that the contractor is responsible for one year and he will make sure that it gets repaired.
- G)** Dennis O’Neil stated that he won a room reservation at the Wilson Lake Inn at the United Way auction last year and offered to donate it to a Lac Megantic official to save the Town the cost of one of the four rooms. The Selectmen and Town Manager thanked Mr. O’Neil for his generosity.

ITEM 12: To Hold an Executive Session Pursuant to 36 M.R.S. §841.2.E to Consider an Application for Abatement of Property taxes based on Infirmary or Poverty

Andrew Hufnagel moved to go into Executive Session at 7:56 P.M.; Jessica Berry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Board came out of Executive Session at 8:18 P.M.
No action was taken.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Dennis Pike moved to adjourn; Andrew Hufnagel seconded.**

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

Dennis C. Pike - Secretary