

FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, September 12, 2017

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Stephan Bunker, Matthew Smith, Scott Landry and Michael Fogg. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell and Deputy Chief Clyde Ross, Police Chief Jack Peck and Officer Michael Lyman, 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

Chairman Joshua Bell led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ITEM 2: To Consider a Request to Purchase a Portion of the Town-owned land at the North end of the Church Street Parking lot

Richard Davis reviewed Pamela Poisson’s request from the July 25th Selectmen’s meeting, and the appraisal that she had done which came back with a value of \$500.00. In questioning Attorney Underkuffler as to what expenses may be incurred during the purchase process, it was his recommendation to ask for a property purchase price of \$750 to cover the additional anticipated expenses. Pam Poisson was present and requested that the Town also pay half of the appraisal cost of \$225, reducing the property purchase price to \$637.50. Mr. Davis pointed out that this purchase will require a Town Meeting vote and there will most likely be a Special Town Meeting sometime this fall.

Stephan Bunker moved to add the aforementioned purchase request to the Warrant for the fall Special Town Meeting at the cost to the buyer of \$637.50; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 3: To Authorize the Purchase of a Vehicle and a Swap between the Fire Rescue and Police Departments to be funded by the Police Department Vehicle Reserve Account

Richard Davis reviewed a memo of explanation from Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell dated September 11, 2017 asking for authorization to sell the department’s 2004 Suburban that was purchased with Homeland Security funds to the Farmington Police Department. The department would also like authorization to purchase a 2013 trade-in Franklin County Sheriff’s Department patrol vehicle from Quirk Ford for use as an operations vehicle in place of the 2004 Suburban, or purchase a 2018 vehicle through a bid process at a much higher cost. Chief Bell further explained the purpose of his requests, the purpose of the 2004 Suburban purchase and what it has been used for, and answered questions relating to the purchase and installation of equipment in the vehicle to be purchased. Police Chief

ITEM 3: To Authorize the Purchase of a Vehicle and a Swap between the Fire Rescue and Police Departments to be funded by the Police Department Vehicle Reserve Account (Cont.)

Jack Peck explained why the 2004 Suburban would be a better fit for the Police Department, his department's need for a secondary vehicle, and the potential to trade the 2004 Chevrolet Impala that the 2004 Suburban will replace and two forfeiture vehicles to purchase a newer vehicle sometime in the near future to use for travelling.

Matthew Smith moved to authorize the Fire Rescue Department to sell its 2004 Suburban to the Police Department at a cost of \$7,200, and authorize the Fire Rescue Department to purchase a 2013 Ford Explorer SUV from Quirk Ford at a cost of \$6,200; Michael Fogg seconded.

Chief Bell stated that pursuant to federal requirements regarding the sale of the 2004 Suburban, the \$7,200 must go towards the purchase of another vehicle, so the \$1,000 difference between the two vehicles will go towards equipment for the 2013 Ford Explorer. Chief Peck reiterated that the Suburban will only be used locally once they sell the 2004 Impala and two forfeiture vehicles to buy a smaller, more economical vehicle for long distance travel. Neither Chief Bell nor Chief Peck knew whether both departments were clear of federal government requirements once ownership of the 2004 Suburban is transferred to the Police Department, but they will look into it.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSTAINED 1 MOTION CARRIED
(Stephan Bunker)

ITEM 4: To announce the Graduation of Officer Lyman and his dog Axel from the Canine School

Chief Peck stated that the Canine Academy started sooner than expected so Officer Lyman and Axel graduated September 1st instead of in October as originally anticipated. He further stated that once the business part of the Selectmen's meeting is over they would like to give a demonstration of what Axel has learned. Officer Lyman stated that Axel was trained in the detection of only four drugs, heroin, meth, cocaine and crack. The Selectmen congratulated Officer Lyman on the completion of his and Axel's training.

ITEM 5: To Accept a Donation of \$1,568 from a Fundraiser to Benefit the Major League Baseball Field at Hippach Field

Parks and Recreation Director Matthew Foster and University of Maine at Farmington (UMF) head baseball coach Chris Bessey were present and explained the fundraiser that was held recently to benefit improvements to the major league baseball field at Hippach Field. Mr. Foster reported that there are eleven teams that utilize just that field each year, and it's been a continuous struggle to maintain the field at the level that it should be for these collegiate teams. Mr. Foster stated that this fundraiser was very successful and they are in hopes that it will be an annual event. The Selectmen thanked Coach Bessey for hosting the fundraiser, which was reportedly made up of thirteen golf tournament teams. Mr. Foster pointed out that it was revealed last year at the time of the centennial celebration that when it was built, the baseball field was one of the best in New England.

ITEM 5: To Accept a Donation of \$1,568 from a Fundraiser to Benefit the Major League Baseball Field at Hippach Field (Cont.)

It is his and Coach Bessey's desire to use the money this year, and in future years, to construct more durable, maintenance free areas. Chairman Bell generated a brief discussion regarding the two iron gates on each side of the grandstand that are open and in need of repair.

Michael Fogg moved to accept a donation of \$1,568 from a fundraiser to benefit the major league baseball field at Hippach Field; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 6: To Approve a new Road Name (Yonder Way)

Richard Davis referenced a memo from Addressing Officer Terry Bell dated September, 2017.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve a new road name of Yonder Way; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 7: To Award the bid for the West Farmington Parking and Sidewalks Project

Richard Davis reviewed the summary of the two bids received. After checking with the engineer the recommendation is to award the bid to E.L. Vining & Son, Inc. at a cost of \$95,730, which is within the project budget. Mr. Davis pointed out that additional money will need to be spent for the decorative lights, as they were not included in the bid. Mr. Davis stated that, at Dirigo engineer Aaron Dyer's recommendation, he has a call in to E.L. Vining & Son, Inc. to see if there would be any financial benefit to waiting until spring to accomplish the project as prices are typically lower in the spring. Joshua Bell generated a brief discussion regarding fall versus spring paving costs. Mr. Davis stated that the contract calls for project completion within sixty calendar days so they could be cutting it close as far as accomplishing the paving.

Stephan Bunker moved to award the bid for the West Farmington Parking and Sidewalks Project to E.L. Vining & Son, Inc. at a cost of \$95,730; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 8: To Appoint the Citizens Advisory Committee for the *Origin Brazilian Jiu-jitsu, LLC* Community Development Block Grant Project

Richard Davis stated that it is a requirement of the CDBG program that there be an advisory Committee. Mr. Davis reviewed the list of proposed members, all of whom Cindy Gelinas has contacted and have agreed to serve on this Committee.

ITEM 8: To Appoint the Citizens Advisory Committee for the *Origin Brazilian Jiu-jitsu, LLC* Community Development Block Grant Project (Cont.)

Matthew Smith moved to appoint those members on the presented list to the Citizens Advisory Committee for the *Origin Brazilian Jiu-jitsu, LLC* Community Development Block Grant Project; Stephan Bunker seconded.

Joshua Bell read the list of eight proposed members, and in answer to Chairman Bell's question as to what the Committee's role will be, Richard Davis stated that they will oversee the project and check the progress reports.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the list.

ITEM 9: To Approve Voting Delegate Credentials for the Maine Municipal Association's Annual Business Meeting

Richard Davis stated he will be attending the convention on October 4th and 5th and would be willing to be the official voting delegate.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve Richard Davis as the official voting delegate and offered his name as the alternate; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the credentials. Scott Landry stated that he has several different Board meetings on both dates of the convention but is in hopes to be able to attend the Photo Contest presentation. Mr. Davis advised all who are interested in attending to be sure and register.

ITEM 10: To Approve Municipal Quitclaim Deeds

Richard Davis stated that there is only one Quitclaim Deed and it is for Marc A. Hand, Lawrence G. Hand, and Barbara E. Hand for taxes satisfied on property located at 466 Industry Road.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve Municipal Quitclaim Deed for Marc A. Hand, Lawrence G. Hand, and Barbara E. Hand; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the Quitclaim Deed.

ITEM 11: To Approve a Cemetery lot Conveyance

Richard Davis stated that this Cemetery Lot Conveyance is for Michael R. Ellis and Vivian F. Ellis for two lots in Fairview Cemetery.

ITEM 11: To Approve a Cemetery lot Conveyance (Cont.)

Stephan Bunker moved to approve a Cemetery Lot Conveyance for Michael R. Ellis and Vivian F. Ellis for two lots in Fairview Cemetery; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the Conveyance.

ITEM 12: To Approve the Minutes of August 8 and 22, 2017

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the minutes of August 8, 2017 and table the minutes of August 22, 2017, as they were not yet available; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business

- A) Richard Davis reported that two 60 KW diesel generators were acquired through the LESO Program, both of which are in near perfect condition with one having only four hours on it and the other having only five hours. The contractor who works on the Town's generators has had both of them running, but one needs the computer, possibly the mother board, replaced in it. Mr. Davis stated that both generators are designed for outside setup and he will be budgeting for a roof over the Municipal Building generator in the 2018 budget. Mr. Davis further stated that the newly acquired 60 KW generator will replace the existing 30 KW generator, for which a use will be found elsewhere, or sold, and the space used for storage. The second generator will go to Community Center to replace the one that used to be there and will be an easy install. Matthew Smith suggested that the roof over the Municipal Building generator may be a project for the carpentry and/or welding classes at the Vocational Tech Center. Michael Fogg volunteered to be the liaison between the Vocational Tech Center and the Town. Mr. Davis asked that Mr. Fogg coordinate with the Public Works Department Shop Manager, Jonathan Alexander, who has already taken measurements for the proposed structure.
- B) Richard Davis gave an update on the sidewalk project, reporting that the base layer of pavement has been laid. He'll have more details on that after tomorrow's progress meeting, but anticipates that they will be finishing up within the next one to two weeks.
- C) Richard Davis pointed out that the grand opening for the Woodlands facility will be on Tuesday, September 26th at 11:00 A.M. Michael Fogg stated that he plans to attend, but Stephan Bunker stated that he will be unable to attend as he will be out of town teaching that day.
- D) Richard Davis commented on the Origin USA grand opening that was held recently. Scott Landry stated that he took many pictures and will make them available to Cindy Gelinis for possible use of some in the Town Report.

ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business (Cont.)

- E)** Stephan Bunker encouraged attendance at the Maine Municipal Association Convention on October 4th and 5th, and reminded them that they need to register if they are interested in attending. Richard Davis pointed out that information on each of the sessions is in the Maine Townsman.
- F)** Joshua Bell reminded the Selectmen that they need to get their evaluations of, and goals for, the Town Manager to him by September 18th in order to give him time to consolidate them for discussion at their September 26th meeting.
- G)** Joshua Bell read a letter that he received from the Maine Town, City and County Management Association (MTCMA) acknowledging Richard Davis' application and acceptance as having met the professional development criteria for the MTCMA Certification Program and is one of only a selected few MTCMA re-certified managers in the State of Maine. All those present gave Mr. Davis a round of applause.

ITEM 14: To View a Canine Demonstration (Municipal Building Lobby)

All those in attendance moved to the lobby (7:20-7:35 P.M.) where they enjoyed a very informative canine demonstration.

ITEM 15: 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 7:36 P.M.; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 7:54 P.M.

Michael Fogg moved to authorize the Town Attorney to proceed to notify Consolidated/FairPoint that the Town will file a Complaint in the matter of the company's fiber optic cable intrusions in the Front Street culvert; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Matthew Smith moved to adjourn at 7:54 P.M.; Michael Fogg seconded.**

VOTE: AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

Michael J. Fogg – Secretary