

Received: February 16, 2010  
Office of the Town Clerk

*Board of Selectmen Meeting*  
9:00 a.m., Saturday, January 30, 2010  
2nd Floor Meeting Room, Town Hall

### Minutes

Members present: Laura Francis, John Szewczyk, James McLaughlin.

Others present: Maryjane Malavasi, Harry Hall, Scott Wright, Sue Wimler

Meeting called to order at 9:04 AM by Laura Francis.

### 4020 Volunteer Fire Department

Harry Hall reviewed specific line items. Durham 4 needs work so vehicle maintenance was increased for this purpose. Fire prevention was increased for educational material for all grade levels as well as senior citizens. Insurance was increased to provide additional accidental death & dismemberment policies of \$10,000; Harry will provide Selectmen with actual quotes. The equipment line is used to replace 5 - 7 sets of gear each year. Laura suggested seeking grants for this gear. SCBA testing is done every 2 years, and will need to be included for next year.

Harry reviewed the vehicle replacement schedule submitted as CIP. Laura discussed the possibility of sharing a utility truck between the fire department, public works, and emergency management.

### 4045 Fire Ponds

Harry noted work that needs to be done on 3 fire ponds. He will work on a bid for new pond installation in the area near the Parmelee Barn. Funding for this project is in reserve.

### 4030 Volunteer Ambulance Company

Laura reported that we have been working on a way to present the stipend and ambulance budget to the people for transparency. The fiscal year ended 6/30/09 figures were reviewed. Scott Wright explained how the stipend program worked. Laura noted that there is a misperception that only a few people in the ambulance receive all of the hours and other cannot get them. Everyone in the ambulance that she spoke with confirmed that hours are available but they are not available to do them. She would like to incorporate the general expenses currently being paid by this program into the town budget and have the ambulance association reimburse the town for those expenses when money is available at year end.

Jim noted that there is a communication issue and we need to explain how the stipend program works to the public. He also recommended putting the cost of the ambulance budget against the cost of what contracting out the service would be.

Scott noted that line 221 Training in the ambulance budget request includes the stipend that is currently being paid by the ambulance. He also recommends moving the building maintenance line to a facilities management budget since he has no control over that line item anyway.

There was discussion regarding the purchase of a second ambulance. Scott reported that they have to rely on mutual aid when the ambulance is out for repair. He is recommending the purchase of a Type II ambulance with is about half the cost of an ambulance like the one we currently have. This recommendation is also based on size since we do not have the space to house it at the moment; other commercial services are using them so why shouldn't we; better fuel economy; and great reliability.

Jim asked if the plan for the new facility includes room for a second ambulance. Scott replied that it did as well as room for other equipment.

Laura stated we have enough money in the reserve account for a Type II vehicle; how does Scott recommend we plan for the replacement of our current ambulance when the time comes. Scott suggested continuing to fund the reserve to build up the reserve. By buying the second ambulance now, we can extend the life of the one we current have. The real question is where to put the second ambulance.

#### **4031 Public Safety Data System**

Scott Wright requested funding for 2 people to attend training in Seattle, Washington, on the Firehouse Software that is shared between the Fire Department, Ambulance, and Fire Marshals.

#### **4032 Town Wide Radio Communications**

The history of each line in this budge was reviewed.

#### **4020 Volunteer Fire Department**

The Selectmen chose to hold off on the approval of this budget until Harry Hall can provide updated pricing regarding a couple of the line items. Tabled.

#### **4045 Fire Ponds**

**Motion made by Laura, seconded by Jim, to approve budget 4045 in the amount of \$5,000. Unanimous aye.**

#### **4030 Volunteer Ambulance Company**

There was additional discussion regarding how to be transparent in recording expenses of the ambulance corps. Tabled.

#### **4031 Public Safety Data System**

The Selectmen agreed that it will be difficult to support out of state conferences during this budget season. There were additional questions on the other lines in this department. Tabled.

#### **1565 Information Technology**

**Motion made by Laure, seconded by Jim, to reopen budget #1565 Information Technology to add a supply line for the purchase of 12 data backup tapes in the amount of \$600 and to approve this budget in the amount of #45,830. Unanimous aye.**

#### **2010 Planning & Zoning**

**Motion made by Laura, seconded by Jim, to approve budget #2010 Planning & Zoning as presented in the amount of \$78,175. Unanimous aye.**

#### **2050 Ethics Commission**

It was noted that without history it is difficult to foresee the needs for this commission.

**Motion made by Laura, seconded by Jim, to approve budget #2050 Ethics Commission in the amount of \$100; \$40 - post office box fee and \$60 Legal Ads. Unanimous aye.**

### 2035 Historic District Commission

Motion made by Laura, seconded by Jim, to approve budget #2035 Historic District Commission in the amount of \$1,250.

Jim recommended the HDC become part of the Historic Trust at a cost of \$40 per year.

Motion made by Laura, seconded by John, to amend budget #2035 Historic District Commission to remove the office supply line, to add a dues line in the amount of \$40, and to approve the budget in the amount of \$1,240. Laura and John - aye; Jim - abstain. Motion carried.

### Salaries

A general discussion regarding salaries was held.

### Minutes

Motion made by Laura, seconded by Jim, to approve the minutes of January 16, 2010. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Laura, seconded by John, to approve the minutes of January 20, 2010. Unanimous aye.

Motion made by Jim, seconded by John, to adjourn the meeting at 12:55 PM. Unanimous aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Maryjane Malavasi