

Town of Newington, NH
Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 24, 2014 Town Hall 6:30pm

Chair Jan Stuart called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm

Present: Chair Jan Stuart, Selectman Rick Stern, Selectman Cosmas Iocovozzi, Road Agent Leonard Thomas and Town Administrator Martha Roy.

Highway Budget Review: The Board reviewed the 2015 proposed Highway budget. L. Thomas requested a \$.25 increase in wages for the Highway Department employees. It was noted that the cost of treated salt has increased.

The Board discussed the need to be compliant with State regulations regarding billing the Library for plowing. M. Roy was directed to send a letter to Melissa Prefontaine, Trustee Chair outlining the option of private plowing or being billed for continued town plowing.

C. Iocovozzi moved to approve the Highway Department budget of \$412,502. R. Stern seconded the motion with all in favor.

Police Department Budget Review: The Police Chief presented the 2015 proposed Police Department budget. He stated that there have been a few overages in uniforms due to new personnel and part time salaries due to employees being out on disability. Lengthy discussion ensued about a health insurance buy-out for an Officer. The consensus of the group was to not pursue the buy-out payment at this time.

C. Iocovozzi moved to approve the Police Department 2015 budget of \$1,470,553. R. Stern seconded the motion with all in favor.

Cruisers were discussed with J. Stuart supporting the proposal of 2 cruisers in 2015. It was noted by the Chief that with this purchase, another new cruiser would not be needed until the 2017 budget.

The Police Chief discussed his memo to the Board about over expenditures needed in the part time salaries, detail salaries, overtime salaries, and uniform lines. **C. Iocovozzi moved to approve the over expenditures, which will be offset with funds from the Full time salaries line. R. Stern seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Health Insurance Discussion: R. Stern reviewed the bids received by the Anthem and Harvard Pilgrim health insurance plans. It was determined that it

was in the best interest of the town to remain with Anthem HealthTrust plans at this time. R. Stern recommended three plans for non-union Town employees including the BC3T5RDR (01)-RX 10/20/45, C2500MC (01)M\$1 (without an HRA plan) and MTB10 a lesser expensive HMO choice. The Union will remain on the HealthTrust C2500MC (01) M\$1 under Status Quo. It was explained that the new SmartShopper program was available as a new health insurance benefit for all employees. **R. Stern moved to approve the following plans for non-union town employees: BC3T5RDR (01)-RX 10/20/45, C2500MC (01) M\$1 (without an HRA plan) and MTB10. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion with all in favor.**

Cemetery Budget Review: The Board reviewed the costs of maintaining the Cemetery. J. Stuart questioned the need to spend over \$5,000 on grubbing, crabgrass and fertilization services. M. Roy was directed to research whether the Town could complete this work without a license. **R. Stern moved to approve the Cemetery 2015 budget of \$22,972. C. Iocovozzi seconded this motion with all in favor.**

Wilcox Redonation of Land Discussion: The Board discussed the need for a small section of land previously donated to the Town by Wilcox Industries to be returned to Wilcox for road development. The Board directed M. Roy to develop a warrant article for this purpose.

Non-Public Session: C. Iocovozzi moved to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a)- personnel. R. Stern seconded the motion with all in favor on a roll call vote at 8:35pm.

The Board returned to public session at 8:43pm. No votes were taken.

**R. Stern moved to seal the minutes of non-public session indefinitely.
C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion with all in favor on a roll call vote.**

R. Stern moved to proceed with bonuses for town employees. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion with all in favor.

R. Stern moved to adjourn at 8:48pm. C. Iocovozzi seconded the motion with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha S. Roy
Town Administrator