

Board of Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, January 20, 2009
Town Hall
6:30pm

General Government Work Shop

Chr. Iocovozzi called the meeting to order at 6:41pm.

Present: Chairman Cosmas Iocovozzi, Selectmen Jack O'Reilly and Jan Stuart, and Administrative Assistant Beatrice Marconi. *Rick Stern arrived at 6:50pm*

Regarding engineering for the roads, it was suggested the Board consider asking for another \$15,000 from the floor to cover these costs.

Selectman O'Reilly informed the Board that at the Budget Committee level, more than likely the Fire Department will have \$39,000 added back into their budget and regarding the Warrant Article for bunker gear, it will be budgeted for rather than an article. The WA request for 5" hose was suggested to be placed in the Capital ~~Over~~ Lay portion of the budget.
~~over~~

The Selectmen discussed the Altus estimate for engineering in the amount of \$75,000. Cos was going to talk to Eric. It could be possible that if time allows that maybe our Building Inspector could oversee some aspects of the construction, which would decrease costs from Mr. Weintraub.

The way the General Gov Budget stands right now indicated a 6.3% decrease from last year. Jack felt that the total bottom line, after all is said and done will be close to last year.

Selectman O'Reilly moved to approve the General Government Budget of \$ 2,112,240. Selectman Stuart seconded and on a roll call vote, the motion passed. This represents approximately a \$143,000 decrease from last year. *(not including bonds & warrant articles)*

The Warrant Articles were once again reviewed.

Bond Article (#3) for Town Garage. The amount to present to the warrant was discussed at length.

Selectman O'Reilly moved to use \$925,000 for the bond amount. Selectman Stuart seconded. On a roll call vote, the motion passes 3-0.

Warrant Article #4 – to add \$65,000 to existing Cap Res for Highway Garage will be null and void if article #3 passes. **Selectmen voted 3-0 to recommend if Article #3 fails**

Warrant Article #5 – will be the recommended budgets. Not including WA and bond requests, the Selectmen's town wide recommended budget will be \$ 5,844,527.

Article 6 for Additional Fire Fighters/EMTs – Selectman Stuart cannot justify this increase and hoped they could get more use out of call personnel to fill in when needed. She also stated that to split the Chief & Assist up would seem more beneficial. Two more Fire Fighters will be requested if this warrant article passes perhaps next year. When the Chair called for the vote, ***on a roll call for the Selectmen to recommendation FAILED 0-3.***

ARTICLE 7: To see if the Town will vote to amend the purpose of the Expendable Trust Fund established in March 2004 under the provisions of RSA 31:19-A, known as the Town Employee's Accumulated Leave Fund whose original purpose was 'for payments of Severance to Town

Employees in accordance with the Town's Personnel Policy' - to be amended to read 'for the purpose of payments of Severance to Town Employees in accordance with the Town's Personnel Policy *and* for other end-of- employment costs;' and to raise and appropriate the sum of *One Hundred Thousand Dollars* (\$100,000) to be placed in this existing Expendable Trust Fund. (2/3 vote required). With NH Retirement mandates we will soon be facing and with other end-of-employment costs that come up from time to time, the Board felt expanding the purpose of this existing account and adding to it is the most direct route to take to accomplish the Town's needs.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 8: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Seven Thousand Dollars* (\$7,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 which was established to fund capital improvements for the Cemetery. The Selectmen briefly discussed this and asked Mr. Stern if the Board was to only recommend \$7,000 would it cause hardship vs. the \$10,000 they had asked for. Mr. Stern felt \$7,000 is fine at this time.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 9: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Fifty Thousand Dollars* (\$50,000) to be placed in the existing Conservation Fund established in accordance with RSA 36-A:5 to be used for expenses associated with the purchase of Conservation Land and open space, easements, wetlands, and other land management acquisitions.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 10: To see if the Town of Newington will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Twenty Five Thousand Dollars* (\$25,000) to be added to our existing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of Replacement and/or Major Repairs of Vehicles and equipment operated by the Highway Department.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 11: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Twenty Five Thousand Dollars* (\$25,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the Replacement and/or Repair of Vehicles Operated by the Fire Department.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 12: To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Twenty Five Thousand Dollars* (\$25,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 known as the Major Road Work Fund which was established for the purpose of funding major improvements to roadways.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 13: To see if the Town of Newington will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Seven Thousand Dollars* (\$7,000) to be added to the existing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the purpose of maintenance, repair and improvements of Town Recreational Facilities and Equipment. Although Rec had asked for \$10,000, the Board felt \$7,000 is all they could recommend at this time.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 14: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Ten Thousand Dollars* (\$10,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund under provisions of RSA 35:1 for the Replacement of the Town Ambulance and any Major Medical Equipment.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 15: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Ten Thousand Dollars* (\$10,000) to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund under the provisions of RSA 35:1 for the Fox Point Pavilion.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 16: To see if the Town shall vote to raise and appropriate the sum of *Ten Thousand Dollars* (\$10,000) under the provisions of RSA 35:1 to be placed in the existing Capital Reserve Fund known as the Mott Pond Drainage Improvement Fund.

THIS ARTICLE IS RECOMMENDED BY THE SELECTMEN (3-0)

ARTICLE 17: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue the Fire Department SCBA Capital Reserve Fund created in 2006. Said funds, with accumulated interest to date of withdrawal, are to be transferred to the Town's general fund. (Majority vote required)
Fund currently has a balance of \$1,489.62

Facility Use Applications:

Border Patrol Testing – TH Audi – May 13, June 17, July 17 and Aug 14 - 8:30-1:00

Selectman O'Reilly moved to approve – Selectman Stuart seconded. Motion passed 3-0.

Correspondence

Chr. Iocovozzi read the letter of resignation from Erin Baird from the Conservation Commission – moved to accept with regret by Selectman Stuart, Seconded by Selectman O'Reilly. Motion passed 3-0.

New Business:

Selectman Stuart felt two Emergency Management Directors were not necessary for Newington and that one would be sufficient. Chief Tretter seems most active and Selectman Stuart suggests that one director position be eliminated due to lack of activity based on participation history as a director. Chief Greenleaf could possibly be field or scene commander. In the interest of consolidation, *Selectman Stuart moved to appoint Police Chief Tretter as Emergency Management Director and to send Chief Greenleaf notification. Selectman O'Reilly seconded. Motion passed 3-0 on a roll call vote.*

Selectman O'Reilly moved to adjourn at 8:22pm. Selectman Stuart seconded. On a roll call vote, motion passed 3-0.

Respectively submitted,



Beatrice Marconi
Administrative Assistant