

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 13, 2017 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MEMBER'S PRESENT: Board Members Joe Lovejoy and Dave Canada and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

At 7:30 Chairman Canada opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

MINUTES:

Mr. Lovejoy moved to approve the minutes of 2/6/17 as amended. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously

PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Canada opened the public hearing on the town warrant. He continued that Articles 8-17 would be voted on during the Town Meeting scheduled for March 17th at 7 PM.

The Board then discussed and explained the following warrant articles

Article 8 – relative to Veteran's Credits; Article 9 to raise and appropriate \$6,431,638.00 to defray the town charges for the ensuing year; Article 10 to raise and appropriate \$1,483,800.00 for the CIP budget; Article 11 to contribute \$400,000.00 to the conservation of the Barker Farm; Article 12 to establish a 350th Anniversary Expendable Trust Fund and appropriate \$3,503.50 to that fund; Article 13 to raise and appropriate \$25,000.00 to be deposited into the "Town Buildings and Grounds Maintenance Expendable Trust Fund"; Article 14 to raise and appropriate \$89,000.00 for 2017 EMS/EMT First Responder Training costs and to buy certain ambulance equipment, to be funded from the EMS Special Revenue Fund; Article 15 to raise and appropriate \$10,000.00 to be deposited into the "Accrued Benefits and Liability Expendable Trust Fund"; Article 16 to authorize the Board of Selectman to lease to Revision Energy portions of the Stratham Police Station to install solar panels with a term not to exceed 20 years; Article 17 to see if the Town will vote to fly the POW/MIA flag continuously with and directly below the Flag of the United States at the Veteran's Garden at Stratham Hill Park.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 8. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 9. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 10. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 11. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 12. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 13. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 14. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 15. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to support Article 16. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada suggested that the Board take no position on Article 17 since it was a citizen's petition and felt the Board should not try to influence voters. Mr. Lovejoy agreed.

Mr. Lovejoy moved to approve the letter of understanding with the Southeast Land Trust relative to the Barker Farm. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Police Chief Scippa stated that they have received 170 responses to the police survey.

Chief Scippa indicated that the new recruit was doing very well.

Chief Scippa noted that Car #113 was back online and the repairs were covered by warranty.

MEETINGS: The Chair then reviewed the meetings scheduled for the coming week and reviewed the meetings held this past week.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine indicated that he and Town Assessor Andrea Lewy had participated in Superior Court sponsored mediation relative to tax assessment litigation initiated by Lindt & Sprungli. They were joined by Town Council and by a commercial appraisal consultant. All involved for the Town recommended accepting the settlement.

Mr. Canada moved to accept the settlement. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine stated relative to House Bill 144, that the purpose of it was to change the fiscal year, not assess taxes semi-annually, as previously believed and discussed.

Mr. Canada indicated that they had a request from the Cooperstown team to set up a booth at the upcoming Town Meeting.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:55 PM Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:06 PM Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public and seal the minutes. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

At 9:07 PM Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Rodier
Recording Secretary