

Minutes of the Select Board Meeting, March 27, 2018

Howard Bronstein and Winton Pitcoff were present; Hilary Weeks was absent. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. The minutes of March 21, 2018 were accepted as submitted.

FY'19 Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles/Budget

Finance Committee Chair Lew Robbins brought up the subject of back-up support for Finance Committee budgetary recommendations at the Annual Town Meeting. Paula referenced MGL Chapter 39, Sec. 10 which states that action on items not contained in the warrant shall not be valid.

Lew would like to see line items in the budget numbered. Paula will work with Lew on an appropriate format.

Howard brought up the possibility of a Code Enforcement line item budget for FY'19 to provide for costs related to enforcement and other charges/fees that may arise for any department faced with violations, etc.

Four warrant articles were received from the MTRSD School Committee. To update the Regional Agreement for the following: Vocational Education, Rowe Tuition, Sixth Grade to Mohawk Middle School, and Repairs to Buckland-Shelburne Elementary (place on warrant and pass over as does not affect Plainfield). A non-binding referendum question was submitted by voter petition concerning the future of nuclear weapons.

Winton moved to close the Town Meeting to the submission of articles as of March 27, 2018. The motion was seconded by Howard and was unanimously approved.

Special Article requests were discussed. They are: Compactor Roof \$5,500, Compactor Retaining Wall \$6,450, Brush Chipper \$15,000, Grader \$320,000 or Dump Truck \$220,000, SCBA (breathing apparatus) \$60,080, Highway Garage Roof \$50,000, Town Hall Fire Escape \$10,000.

MLP Update

MLP Manager Kimberly Longey provided an update on MLP progress (attached). Highlights include: Plainfield is eligible for Extra Mile Contingency funds. Kimberly is maintaining close contact with Bill Ennen about contingency funds and allowable uses.

Costs of building a broadband network are “creeping up”.

The MLP is working to negotiate a solution for Windsor properties that will be accessed through Plainfield. Kimberly spoke about Windsor reimbursing Plainfield for connecting those properties. Paula expressed questions concerning reimbursement. Kimberly stated negotiating direct payment of those costs by Windsor and the possibility of statutory authority allowing MLP’s to operate a small enterprise fund.

The Board was asked to consider future action on a proposal to pay the MLP manager and assistant manager a modest \$2,000 each from the FY’18 appropriation for the approximated 25 hours per month spent on MLP work. Kimberly also noted plans to budget compensation for MLP manager, assistant manager, and a small amount to compensate other MLP “employees” in FY’19.

Other Business

Howard signed the 2018 Buy Recycled Policy as required by HRMC.

The FY’18 Winter Roads Account is overdrawn by \$26,545.81.

Correspondence

The Board received a letter of appreciation from Don Jacobs following his interview for the Wage and Salary Classification Plan/Policy and Procedures Manual on march 21, 2018.

KP Law issued an e-Update entitled “Emergency Powers of Municipalities”.

Other mail was reviewed.

Warrants were signed.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula J. King
Administrative Secretary