



Town of Plaistow ♦ Board of Selectmen
145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865

PLAISTOW BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES:

DATE: December 29, 2014

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER: 6:37 PM

SELECTMEN:

Chairman, Daniel Poliquin
Selectman, Michelle Curran- Excused
Selectman, Steve Ranlett

Vice Chairman, John Sherman
Selectman, Joyce Ingerson
Town Manager, Sean Fitzgerald

AGENDA:

MINUTES:

Motion by Steve Ranlett to approve the minutes of December 22, 2014

2nd by Joyce Ingerson.

Vote: 3-0-1 (S. Ranlett)

Motion passes.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

J. Sherman asks to note for the record that D. Poliquin is in attendance as Chairman of the Board, though has asked J. Sherman, Vice Chair to run the meeting tonight.

OPERATING BUDGET UPDATE

S. Fitzgerald notes that the budget workbook has been updated with all the 2015 BOS approved departments and the accepted budget by the Budget Committee. Additional changes can be made to the budget until the Public Hearing on the budget.

J. Sherman asks if this budget incorporates the changes made by the Board last week.

S. Fitzgerald states that all the changes made to the gas and utility lines have been updated in the budget workbook. The updates will be presented to the Budget Committee tomorrow.

J. Sherman notes that the updated receipts and expenditures for the current year are in your packets.

S. Fitzgerald states it can take up to 45 days to get all expenses recorded.

J. Sherman states if there are no additional requested changes to the budget to move on to encumbrances.

2014 ENCUMBRANCES

S. Fitzgerald refers to his Town Manager's report. There have been additional items added to the requested list. The new encumbrance request totals \$249,289. These are signed contracts signed in 2014 that may end up paying for services in 2015.

J Sherman notes that they approve a list every year and that this list will replace the list voted on by the board last week. J Sherman calls for a motion.

Discussion ensues regarding some of the line items.

S Ranlett motions to approve the 2014 encumbrances in the amount of \$249,289. J. Ingerson seconds. J. Sherman clarifies that this approval replaces the approval from last week.

D. Poliquin abstains from the vote

Vote 3-0-1 (D. Poliquin)

WARRANT ARTICLE REVIEW

J. Sherman moves on to any new warrant articles. As warrant articles have been considered and approved there has not been a five member board. When there is a five member board all warrant articles will be re-voted. Asks for any new warrant articles.

S Fitzgerald states the new warrant article is the updated Public Safety Expansion warrant article on page 2 and page 3. Revised intent to outline the deficiencies and provide support for the warrant article.

The general consensus is to reconsider the warrant articles when there is a full 5 member board.

S Fitzgerald notes that based on actions from the last Board meeting the following changes were made:

Pump and Pump House Warrant Article increased the amount from \$70,000 to \$125,000.

Cable Department Cable Playback Server, increased the amount from \$16,000 to \$40,000.

Trustees of the Trust Fund Warrant article has been included as per the vote last week.

J Sherman reiterates that all warrant articles will be re-voted when there is a full 5 member board.

S Fitzgerald states the Budget Committee will review and help with the intents to make them easily understandable.

SUGGESTED RAIL STUDY WARRANT ARTICLE

J Sherman hands out a suggested warrant article: Shall the Town vote to raise and appropriate up to the sum of \$3,000. for the purpose of calling a Special Town Meeting in 2015 to allow the citizens of Plaistow to vote in favor of or against the potential extension of MBTA commuter rail service from Haverhill, MA to Plaistow, NH?

He asks for recommendations on this warrant article- this is only to get voters input if they would like to have a special meeting.

Discussion ensues

S. Ranlett motions to recommend that the Suggested Rail Study Warrant Article be added to the warrant articles. J. Ingerson seconds.

Discussion:

D Poliquin raises concerns that all information/studies may not be complete.

J Sherman states he put 2015 in with the assumption that all studies be completed by the end of 2015.

S. Ranlett won't support a special Town Meeting unless all studies are complete.

S. Fitzgerald states all studies should be complete in March 2015.

J Sherman asks where they are financially.

S Fitzgerald will request a copy of the budget and additional information as he has not received one on the past though he has asked for it.

J Sherman asks to have key questions agreed upon by the Board on Monday night to be presented to the PAC meeting scheduled on Tuesday afternoon.

Vote 4-0-0

Motion passes

J Sherman asks to make sure this warrant article be added for the Budget Committee presentation tomorrow night.

Town Managers Report

J Sherman asks if there are any question on the Town Manager's report.

J Ingerson asks for details on the Fire Department's equipment line in the encumbrances.

S Fitzgerald states that number included several items including hoses, valves, rescue airbags, helmets and a battery powered fan.

S Ranlett question the Police Department Uniform Line

S. Fitzgerald states there are two vacancies in the Police Department and we anticipate filling those vacancies and to help avoid impact on the budget.

No further questions we will move on.

ACTION ITEM REVIEW

The list of action items are handed out reviewed.

J Sherman notes that in reviewing the list, if the requestor states it is ok to close it then it will be closed and removed from the list.

S Ranlett asks for list of unmarked vehicles to be presented again.

OTHER BUSINESS

J Sherman asks for an update on a loud explosion heard Sunday afternoon at 2 or 3 pm.

S. Fitzgerald state there was a loud explosion about a month ago also and at this point is believed to be a firework device prohibited by the Town's firework ordinance. The Police Department is investigating. There are no fireworks without express permission from the Fire Chief and the State.

J. Sherman asks do we have a good way of letting people know everything in Town is ok.

S. Fitzgerald states the Police Department has twitter, not a Facebook page. It is stated that not everyone has twitter.

S. Fitzgerald notes that a Facebook page would be useful and valuable to the community and perhaps readdress this in January with the Board.

SIGNATURE FOLDER

J Sherman states the manifest is going around. No signature folder required tonight

SELECTMENS REPORTS

J. Ingerson:
Nothing to report

S. Ranlett:
Nothing to report

J. Sherman:

- Budget Meeting- Budget Committee hasn't met for 2 weeks. They will be meeting tomorrow Dec 30th.

D. Poliquin:
Nothing to report

S. Fitzgerald notes there is no pressing matters for a Non Public session.

Express the Board's condolences to M. Curran and her family for her loss.
Thank you to Dan for coming in tonight.
Happy, Healthy and safe New Year to all.

Public Session adjourned at 7:22pm

Respectfully submitted,

Gayle Hamel
Recording Secretary