

BRENTWOOD BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MINUTES OF JANUARY 5, 2010 MEETING

Convened: 6:30 p.m.
Present: Jeffrey Bryan
Andrew Artimovich
Jane Byrne
David Menter
George Waldron

The Board met and reviewed payroll, accounts payable, and signed the register.

Jonathan Ellis was in to present the weekly Treasurer's report. Ellis reported that the check scanner was installed today. Bryan made a motion to take \$1,784 from the Debt Service TAN line of the '09 budget to pay for the necessary software to allow direct deposit of paychecks. Byrne seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Stevens noted that she and Ellis met with the Citizens representatives today and there is some concern about the Wednesday pay day as the payroll batch must get transmitted on Monday which means the Board will not have had the opportunity to review the payroll before it's processed and if Monday is a holiday, that could be a problem as well. Waldron made a motion, seconded by Bryan, to move payday to Friday starting at the time that direct deposit is up and running. All voted in favor.

The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of the 12/22/09 meeting. Waldron made a motion, seconded by Menter, to approve the minutes as written. Bryan, Waldron, Byrne and Menter voted in favor of approving the minutes as written; Artimovich recused himself.

Fire Chief Kevin Lemoine was in to review his requested warrant articles.

1. John Ricci of Ricci Construction was in to participate in the discussion of the proposed fire station. Lemoine said they are presenting the same exact fire station as last year at the same price. Ricci explained that he looked at the savings of reducing from a 9-bay to a 7-bay station but the costs were minimal (about \$100,000). Ricci has been trying to get a feel for bond rates. He is hoping that the bond rate is less than the 5% that they used last year to determine costs. Bryan asked how they plan to present it this year. Lemoine said that the Selectmen will need to hold a bond hearing but he doesn't see why there would be a lot of questions since it's the exact same building. Byrne commented that we have all of our permits, we have all of our plans but recommended to Lemoine that he hold another informational meeting, a good article in the newsletter, a good presentation including bond information and go at it like it's brand new and keep it fresh. Artimovich made a motion that the Selectmen support the warrant article for a new station that is the same as the one presented last year at the same price. Byrne seconded the motion. Bryan, Artimovich, Byrne and Menter voted in favor; Waldron was opposed. Waldron explained that he will vote in favor of the fire station at town meeting, but he is concerned that we will breed a psychology of failure because the economy is not any better than last year and he fears people are going to vote it down again.
2. Artimovich inquired about the \$40,000 warrant article to pay stand by pay to cover nights and weekends. He asked the chief how much he plans to pay. Lemoine distributed a worksheet indicating that we will pay \$50/night/person for 2 individuals to stand-by on Sunday-Thursday nights; \$60/night/person for 2 individuals to cover Friday & Saturday nights and \$60/day for Saturdays & Sundays. Lemoine said he's checked with other

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departments and it seems to be pretty successful. He continued that he doesn't think this will solve the problem of getting coverage during these times but it will help the problem. Menter asked if it is mainly for the ambulance or if it is for everything. Lemoine responded that the priority is ambulance but that they would respond to both ambulance and fire. Lemoine said Kingston and Epping are looking into doing the same thing. Bryan inquired about the possibility of utilizing Rockingham Ambulance Service which is located just down the street. Lemoine replied that they are supposed to cover Rockingham's calls and they are supposed to be doing the County home but there have been many times over the last 6 months that they have not been available. Lemoine continued that Rockingham Ambulance is supposed to have 24 hour coverage but they don't; they cover a large area. Bryan expressed concern that we may have a similar situation as last year where people will vote in favor of the other Fire Department warrant articles in lieu of voting for the new fire station. Artimovich questioned how many calls were not covered by Brentwood due to lack of personnel in 2009. Lemoine responded that it was around 20 or 21. Byrne said she hates to see this put on as a warrant article and asked Lemoine if there was any way he could work it into his budget. The other Board members commented that the Fire Department budget for 2010 is already tight and they can't include stand by pay in his current figures. Bryan asked Lemoine if he has communicated with chiefs from the other area departments to see if they could develop a regional call system. Lemoine responded that he has and that's probably not going to happen. Bryan added that the chiefs in all the surrounding areas are in the same position with budgets going up and the inability to get qualified help and it's time for them to consider some type of cooperative organization to work together to solve the problem. Lemoine replied that he thinks that there are just too many calls between all the departments for that to work.

3. \$45,000 warrant article for repairs and upgrades to the existing fire station including new shingled roof, extensions over roof and double carport. Byrne made a motion that the Selectmen not recommend this warrant article for repairs and upgrades to the existing fire station. Waldron seconded the motion; all voted in favor.
4. \$10,000 for equipment in the station on Crawley Falls Road to include gear racks, air compressor, tone capability on base radio and door opener. Byrne made a motion that the Selectmen not recommend this warrant article. Waldron explained that his concern, as was Bryan's, is that if these warrant articles are included the townspeople will choose to vote in favor of this warrant article and the previous one totaling \$55,000 vs. \$1,695,000 for a new station. Byrne agreed. Artimovich seconded Byrne's earlier motion; all voted in favor.
5. Lemoine explained that the warrant article regarding authorization for the Fire Chief to send apparatus out of town and receive apparatus from other towns is a housekeeping item.
6. The final warrant article is the usual addition of \$50,000 to add to the existing capital reserve fund for replacement of fire and rescue vehicles. Lemoine said that even though we are buying a new fire truck now, we still have some others that are 23-24 years old. Byrne commented that one year of not adding to the capital reserve fund will not be a huge loss and perhaps we should look at a lease/purchase next time. Lemoine replied that would be good but the Selectmen seem to change their minds as the Board changes.

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The Selectmen closed discussion on these warrant articles by reiterating to Lemoine that the real goal is to get a new fire station and they believe they'd have a stronger chance if Lemoine only included the warrant article for the station and the "housekeeping" item.

Lemoine asked for permission to buy 2 sets of gear before the price goes up in the middle of January. The expense for these is included in the 2010 budget. The cost will be \$2,500-\$2,800. The Selectmen approved the purchase.

Lemoine asked to go into nonpublic session to discuss a personnel issue. A motion was made by Bryan and seconded by Menter to go into nonpublic session to discuss a personnel issue per RSA 91-A:3, II(a). Bryan, Artimovich, Waldron, Byrne and Menter voted in favor.

Waldron made a motion to come out of nonpublic session and seal the minutes; Byrne seconded the motion. Bryan, Artimovich, Waldron, Byrne and Menter voted in favor.

Lemoine distributed copies of the rules and regulations for permanent fire fighters and daily work schedules as requested by the Board. Waldron asked if the rules and regulations noted regarding exercise in lieu of the yearly agility test apply to the full-timers as well. Lemoine said it does but he hasn't been letting them do that. Byrne suggested that this exception apply to the call force only and the permanent personnel be required to take the agility test. Waldron and Bryan agreed.

Gil Tuck, building inspector, was in with the following permits which the Selectmen signed:

- John Garbarino of 83 Lyford Lane to install a generator.
- Catherine Caron of 44 Rowell Road to install a generator.
- Sharon & Keith Copeland of 305 South Road to replace some windows and remove a door.
- Richard Lord of 44 Homestead Lane to erect a storage shed.

The Board reviewed the notes:

- Ted Boddy called to once again complain about Alan Knowles having lots of activity at his garage. Bryan presented pictures he has taken at that site over the last 6 months and indicated that when he was there on December 30th there was a car on the lift inside, the wood stove in the garage was going and there were 5 other cars in the lot excluding Knowles'. Artimovich suggested we refer it to Town Counsel. The Board agreed.
- Bryan made a motion, seconded by Artimovich, to pay Hoyle, Tanner \$23,796 from encumbered funds. Bryan, Artimovich, Byrne and Menter voted in favor; Waldron was opposed.
- Bryan made a motion, with a second by Waldron, to approve \$32,000 for Capital Outlay for a PD Cruiser in the 2010 budget. Bryan, Waldron, Byrne and Menter voted in favor; Artimovich abstained.
- The Board reviewed a copy of a letter of opinion from the Dept of Labor dated January of 2009 regarding the same issue of paying for homework that they've recently brought to our attention during their recent audit. Waldron stated that he agrees with what Byrne has previously said that we did not require this Officer to take the course so we shouldn't have to pay for homework. Stevens noted that the DOL's biggest concern is for future

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compliance; are we going to change our policy to read that we pay for homework for required training/classes. Stevens added that the DOL does allow you to set limits as to the amount of time that will be paid to do homework. The Board agreed to change the policy to read that we will pay for reasonable homework time for required training/classes; the time allotted for homework will be determined prior to an employee attending a class/training.

- Byrne made a motion to hold Town Meeting on Saturday, March 13, 2010 at 9:00a.m. Menter seconded the motion; all voted in favor. Artimovich made a motion, seconded by Bryan, to hold the March 9, 2010 voting at the Community Center from 8am-7pm. All voted in favor.
- The Selectmen had a brief discussion regarding dedication of the Town Report. They will take a week to consider some options and discuss it again at the next meeting.
- Stevens spoke with Town Counsel regarding the drafting of agreements to present to Middle of the Road Realty Trust and Brentwood Country Store for their easement areas. Stevens relayed Town Counsel's concerns. The Board would still like Town Counsel to go forward with the agreements.
- CodeRed Emergency Notification Systems has contacted the Selectmen's Office to see if this is a service they are interested in. The Board agreed that it is too late to consider it for 2010 but would welcome an informational meeting with them in the fall of 2010 when they begin discussing the 2011 budget.
- Stevens noted that on 12/29, Artimovich, Byrne and Menter signed Timber Tax Warrants for Mildred Ladd, William Dunham and Peter Pratt totaling \$1,699.88.

The Board reviewed a list of the warrant articles received to date.

The following documents were signed:

- Waldron made a motion, seconded by Byrne, to authorize Bryan to sign a service agreement with Mainstay Technologies to do our IT work.
- An impoundment agreement with NHSPCA.

At 8:10 p.m. a motion was made by Artimovich to adjourn. Menter seconded the motion; all voted in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Stevens