Weathersfield Select Board Minutes January 7, 2013

Present:

Michael Todd

Norman John Arrison Richard Clattenburg

Dan Boyer
Dave Fuller

Others Present:

Jim Mullen, Town Manager

Lisa Slade, Recording Secretary

Edith Stillson
Jenness Burns
Janet Gould
Suzanne Joyal
Jim Curry
Charles Horton
Wes Hazeltine
Jeff Slade
Alan Hudson

- 1. Call to Order: Mr. Boyer called the Weathersfield Select Board meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at Martin Memorial Hall.
- 2. Comments from Citizens and Select Board Members: Mr. Todd said he asked for comparable compensation information at the last meeting and still has not received it yet. He also said there are some situations where the vote requires for 2/3 majority and in his opinion that does not mean two out of three Board members. He said the Board should know this before a vote is before them that requires a majority.

Mrs. Slade asked for an update on the redemption policy that was put in place back in June. Mr. Mullen said he didn't know the balance in the account but he would let us know at a future meeting. He said no one had requested funds yet.

3. Review Minutes from Previous Meeting(s): Mr. Todd made the motion to approve the minutes dated December 17, 2012. Mr. Fuller seconded the motion which passed without dissent.

Weathersfield Food Shelf: Ms. Joyal said when the Weathersfield Food Shelf closed in Perkinsville West Windsor agreed to help out until another one could get up and running in Town. She said she just wants to discuss this with the Select Board because they can't continue to help Weathersfield much longer due to high demand.

Mr. Clattenburg asked what it would entail to get one in Weathersfield. Ms. Joyal said a facility and someone to work with the food bank, someone to stock shelves, someone to do fundraising etc.

Mr. Curry said the West Windsor/Reading food shelf serves about ninety people now (twenty from Weathersfield). Ms. Gould said she helped at the food shelf in Perkinsville for over three years and there was always a question on the funding. She said the Church provided the facility but it got to the point where the Church really wanted their space back so that is why it can no longer be there.

Mr. Arrison asked how much room is needed. Ms. Joyal said not a lot of room at all but you need a refrigerator and freezer in addition to shelf space.

Mr. Fuller asked if Weathersfield had any funds available for this. Mr. Mullen said there is some money available to help those in need.

It was left that the Board members would help think of someone to run the food shelf and also a place where it could be held. Ms. Joyal said she and Mr. Curry are more than willing to help Weathersfield any time they can, they are willing to help the person learn about the food bank and fundraising.

4. Regular Business

B. Police Chief Candidate Review Committee: Mr. Arrison made the motion to add Anthony French to the Police Chief Candidate Review Committee, Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion. Mr. Fuller amended the motion to appoint Diana Day and Anthony French to the Committee. Mr. Clattenburg seconded the amended motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Mullen said the ad was back in the Valley News and the position is open until filled. Mr. Fuller said he feels we need to advertise more, we need a bigger pool of candidates. It was decided the first meeting of the Committee would be on January 28th at 6:00 p.m.

A. Review draft FY2014 Budgets: Mr. Hudson said as of right now the Solid Waste budget is up \$19,000 but \$16,000 of that is due to moving part of Mr. Mullen, Ms. Burns and Mrs. Cole's salaries to the Solid Waste Fund for the time they spend working for the Solid Waste Facility. It is also proposed that the punch price go back up to \$2.50 and the assessment fee to taxpayers go down to \$25 (from \$35).

Mr. Mullen said since they have been counting punches, he estimates we have about 52,000 punches per year. Mr. Fuller said he thinks we should leave salaries where they are and he also thinks we should leave punch prices where they are. Mr. Arrison said if we weren't providing services to other towns he would agree with Mr. Fuller. Mr. Clattenburg said if we move salaries we should move benefits too.

Mr. Slade said he thinks we should have the Solid Waste Fund pay the General Fund a flat amount to compensate for the wages as a revenue line.

Mr. Todd asked why we are keeping a 15% fund balance. Mr. Mullen said because this is a Utility fund, it is not supported by the Town. Mr. Todd said he thinks it should be at 10%.

It was said that tippage is down because people are recycling more. And, because people are recycling more it costs the Town more money to operate the recycling facility.

Mr. Hudson said the Highway budget is up \$26,000 at this time mainly due to the grader payment being left out of last years budget, he noted this is using \$50,000 from the fund balance. Mr. Boyer asked if we still have funds for guardrail replacement, Mr. Mullen said yes. It was noted a 2% wage increase has been put in the budgets at this time.

Mr. Fuller suggested we look at individuals wages, not necessarily across the board raises. Mr. Fuller asked if we are assuming the Grand List will stay the same, Mr. Mullen said yes.

Mr. Hudson said the General Fund budget is up \$43,000 at this time and this is assuming we use \$50,000 from the fund balance.

Mr. Mullen said he would like to use money from the Martin Memorial Hall reserve fund to purchase a generator for Martin Hall. Mr. Fuller said he doesn't support this because both fire departments have generators so their stations can be used for emergency shelters.

There was discussion on the proposed cost of living increase and the increase in health care costs. There was also discussion about using more money from the fund balance. It was left that the Budget Committee would look at the budgets again including the compensation package for town employees.

Mr. Fuller said he would like the figures in the police budget to include two full time Officers.

5. Appointments: None

6. Sign Treasurer's Warrant: Mr. Arrison made the motion to approve the Treasurer Warrants as follows:

General Fund Payroll	\$27,182.38
General Fund Operating Expense	\$47,528.31
Highway Fund Payroll	\$24,142.94
Highway Fund Operating Expense	\$28,717.59
Solid Waste Management Fund Payroll	\$ 1,897.59
Solid Waste Management Fund Operating	\$ 6,088.52
Library	\$ 1,041.93
Agency Monies	\$ 59.82
Reserves	\$ 198.95

Mr. Fuller seconded the motion. Mr. Fuller said he would like to see less third party paying, he would like us to pay the vendor direct. Motion carried unanimously.

- 7. Future Meeting Agenda Items: Next meeting Monday, January 14th.
- 8. Executive Session: None needed

9. Adjourn: **Mr. Arrison made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Clattenburg seconded the motion which passed without dissent.** The Weathersfield Select Board meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Submitted by, Lisa Slade

Approved by the Weathersfield Select Board on January 21, 2013

Dan Boyer

Dave Fuller

Michael Todd

Richard Clattenburg

Norman John Arrison

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