



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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Lawrence H. Davis, III, Chair
Nathaniel H. Yohalem
Tara B. White
Board of Selectmen

April 15, 2013

The Meeting was opened at 5:00pm

Board Members Present: Lawrence H. Davis, III Chairman
Nathaniel Yohalem
Tara White

Others Present: Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant
Nicole Reid, Administrative Secretary

Review, discuss, and sign warrants, correspondence and minutes.

The minutes of April 15, 2013 were approved as amended.

First item of correspondence was a letter from a resident regarding water run off alongside his driveway. It was suggested by the Board to invite the resident to a Selectmen's meeting to discuss the issue.

A motion was made and seconded, to approve the following FY14 Salary Budgets – Mr. Davis recused from voting on the salary of Town Clerk. Ms. White recused from voting on the salary of the Accounting Officer.

Salary	FY13	FY14
Administrative Assistant	\$36,000.00	\$36,810.00
Administrative Secretary (Increase hours)	\$15,000.00	\$21,000.00
Accounting Officer	\$16,323.00	\$16,690.00
Assessors Clerk	\$16,632.00	\$17,006.00
Treasurer	\$16,342.00	\$16,710.00
Tax Collector	\$22,646.00	\$23,155.00
Town Clerk (Increase hours)	\$19,064.00	\$28,000.00
Clerical (Decrease hours)	\$15,636.00	\$7,977.00
Highway	\$245,833.00	\$252,393.00
Cemetery	\$33,207.00	\$33,954.00
Library	\$50,066.00	\$51,305.00
Police Department (Increased hours)	\$74,576.00	\$82,376.00
Building Inspector	\$18,412.00	\$18,826.00
Transfer Station	\$17,076.00	17,460.21

The Board reviewed a draft of the Town Warrant and made minor corrections where necessary.

Chairman, Lawrence H. Davis, III asked if there was any other business to be brought before the Board.

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief stated that he was there to answer questions in regard to the fire truck.

Chairman Davis: "There were repairs done to the old engine. Is there any future repairs that need to be done to that? I believe it was \$18,000.00."

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: "That was just to get it by for a couple more years. It has been almost one year, and then by the time a fire truck is approved, it could be up to another year. This fire truck is designed for man power efficiency, first of all. [Tape is inaudible] Instead of having to get a generator out and start it, safety wise, it has air bags, mandatory seatbelt restraints, the truck won't move without the seatbelts on. If there is a burning building and need to use the hose line, we need to have a reliable piece of equipment out there to pump the water."

Selectmen Yohalem: "Do you think it is going to need any repairs in the next year other than normal maintenance?"

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: "I really don't know. A week ago, we got in it and it would not start. We cranked it a few times, it turned over and it has started every time since. That is a problem that is going to be hard to diagnose. Is it going to not start again someday? Probably."

Selectmen Yohalem: "I do not want to put words in your mouth, but do you feel it is unreliable?"

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: "I think it is reliable at this moment."

Selectmen Yohalem: "Bids came in on Friday. There were two bids. One was \$550,000.00 and one was \$590,000.00?"

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: "Yes. The one that was recommended was the K.M.E. which is the same company that built the previous truck that we had up there \$556,944.00. The other was close to \$600,000.00."

Selectmen Yohalem: "Were there any differences in the specs between last years and this years? Or was it the same?"

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: "Pretty much the same."

[inaudible tape]

Selectmen Yohalem: "Around \$40,000.00."

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: “Which we had said last year at Town meeting that there was going to be an increase. We were looking at other trucks, they lowballed the price. We knew that was going to be a \$50,000.00 savings.”

Selectmen Yohalem: “In West Stockbridge, they bought a truck for \$390,000.00. What would be the difference?”

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: “Every truck has a different purpose. This is our frontline piece.”

Selectmen Yohalem: “This was a front line piece.”

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: “This has a big motor in it, for the hills, Collins Hill, Norfolk, we have to have something to pull those hills at a reasonable rate.”

Chairman Davis: “That’s true.”

[inaudible tape]

Peter Scala: “They are out rebidding it [West Stockbridge]. They got sold a bill of goods last time.”

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: “That was a truck that was in stock or something?”

Peter Scala: “They didn’t take it, they’re rebidding it.”

Selectmen Yohalem: “It was not a new truck, you don’t think?”

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: “I don’t think it met the NFPA.”

Peter Scala: “It didn’t meet anything.”

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: The front end was too light for that truck. There were some problems with that truck; Mike probably knows more about it.

Peter Scala: “One of the truck guys that came over was bidding this; they got stuck with a number and now they are trying to get a truck to fit that number which is almost impossible. If you go to all the surrounding towns who got a new piece of apparatus, they’re in-between \$500,000.00 and \$600,000.00. Stockbridge, Great Barrington, their last one was \$658,000.00.”

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: “Basically it is the same truck we have up there. We like the way it handles. We have liked everything about it and basically wanted to get the same truck except for the NFPA standards that had the change and some stuff to make it more manpower efficient, and safety wise we have stuff to put in the cab, so it won’t be loose in the cab anymore. We changed some stuff on it, but it is basically going to be the same truck that we have.”

[inaudible tape]

Peter Scala: “You take \$220,000.00 and go 22 years; it is about the same price in today’s dollar.”

Charles Loring, Deputy Fire Chief: “The Company’s recommendation is to do a longer term loan on this. I know Dave has talked to Salisbury Bank and other of the banks, they offer some pretty low interest rates for 15 years. I think that would be spreading it out so people that move into this Town would be paying for this truck. If you move in, you are still paying for a truck that is in service. Financially, it seems to make sense to me. It is not such a big burden on the tax payers if it is spread out over a longer period of time. I obviously would not recommend it in a truck that wears out, but these are good for 20 years.”

Selectmen Yohalem: “For the Warrant, there is \$680,000.00 in there for bridges. There are a couple of other capitol issues which will be well over \$1,000,000.00. It would probably make sense to put together a long term financing package rather than just do it item by item. So theoretically, I agree with you. Whether it is a bank loan, or a bond, we will let the finance committee come up with something.”

Selectmen Yohalem: “On a totally unrelated matter, our next meeting is Monday. Could you let us know by Monday what your intentions are with respect to assuming the duties of Chief? We discussed that at the emergency meeting. You said you need a week or two. It will be about a week and a half. So we can move on and decide what we are going to do, rather than just leave it hanging. Thank you.”

Peter Scala, retired Fire Chief [inquired from the audience] about a certified letter which was sent to him. The Board reviewed the letters that were in the mail folder.

A motion was made, seconded and so voted to approve letters accepting retirements from the Fire Department.

Peter Scala inquired about a letter. [difficult to hear tape as the recorder was a distance away].

Selectmen White: “Is that on the 304’s?”

Selectmen Yohalem: “I thought it was mute. I thought they have all been signed now.”

Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant: “They have all been signed; evidently it crossed in the mail.”

Peter Scala: “There were other questions, it wasn’t just about signing.”

Chairman Davis: “I think it may have been what where the issues that were holding them up.”

Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant: “That’s what it was. The Board wanted to know what the issues were that was holding up the signatures.”

Peter Scala: “And that is why the Board signed the liquor licenses before? Before the inspection is complete?”

Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant: “It was a temporary given by the Building Inspector. I told you that before Peter.”

Peter Scala: “That person is not the Fire Chief. Just answer the question Michael.”

Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant: “The 304 as far as I am concerned is under control of the Building Inspector.”

Peter Scala: “And I did give the Board a copy of the Law and my concern with Michael for about the tenth time since January.”

Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant: “The General books are right there.”

Peter Scala: “No Michael, I gave you a copy of the Law, correct Michael?”

Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant: “Yes. I have a library here too.”

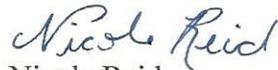
Peter Scala: “Just answer the question Michael, did I give you a copy of the Law?”

Michael Skorput, Administrative Assistant: “Yes, and I read it too and it also says that the building inspector may issue a temporary, which he did, which he reported to the Board which we have been doing since day one and there has never been a problem.”

Peter Scala: “Thank you.”

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 6:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Reid
Administrative Secretary