



TOWN OF GRAFTON
GRAFTON MEMORIAL MUNICIPAL CENTER
30 PROVIDENCE ROAD

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN

AGENDA/MEETING NOTICE

March 17, 2015
Municipal Center, Conference Room A
7:00 p.m.

RECEIVED TOWN CLERK
GRAFTON, MA
2015 MAY 12 PM 1 34

CALL TO ORDER

A Regular meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Present: Brook Padgett, Craig Dauphinais, Dennis Flynn, Jennifer Thomas, Bruce Spinney, Tim McInerney, Doug Willardson and Laura St. John-Dupuis.

FY16 Budget Deficit

Members of the Finance Committee attended the meeting.

Mr. Willardson handed out a memo addressed to the Board and the Finance Committee and provides details of the Budget Deficit for FY16 in the amount of \$93,917.00. Mr. Willardson presents the FY16 Budget Deficit which indicates why there is a budget deficit.

Veterans Benefits: The number of applicants for benefits has steadily increased. It looks like we will need an additional \$10,000 in this line item.

Health Insurance: The GIC released their rate increases the first week of March. Their increases are in line with our budget projections and no budget adjustment is necessary.

State Aid: Our budget was predicated on a 2% increase in overall State Aid as well as a 2% increase in our State Assessments. Statewide, Unrestricted Local Government Aid increased 3.6% and Chapter 70 increased 2.4%. However, our local share of Chapter 70 only increased .6%. Overall our net loss on State Aid is \$157,468.

Police Salaries: When the budget was being prepared we were still in negotiations with Grafton Police Alliance. Since then, the contract has been settled. The School Department carried a larger portion of the School Resource Office that was budgeted for an additional savings. In total, we over budgeted this line by \$101,996 which is available to be reallocated.

Police Vehicle: In order to balance the budget, we eliminated one of the two requested police cruisers in the budget. The Finance Committee recommends funding this cruiser to maintain our current vehicle replacement plan. This would be an additional \$35,000.

Debt Exclusion: With Town Meeting's vote to reappropriate the \$860,925.33 from the High School building project, the debt service on this borrowing can no longer be excluded from the levy limit. Consequently, we need to appropriate \$68,025 within the tax levy to pay for the debt service.

Blackstone Valley Tech Assessment: Due to fewer students and the refinancing of existing debt, our total Assessment has decreased \$50,580 from our projected budget.

Sun Edison Tax Agreement: The Board of Selectmen recently entered into a Tax Agreement with Sun Edison for \$24,000 annually. This was not anticipated as revenue in our budget projections.

In total this leaves the FY16 budget in \$93,917 deficit.

Mr. Willardson provides several potential revenue increases and budget reductions that could be used to eliminate the deficit. They are the following:

Use additional Levy Capacity – Reduces available capacity for future years.

Increase PAYT Bag Fee- 33 Gallon Bags from \$7.50 to \$8.25 per roll of 15
15 Gallon Bags from \$3.75 to \$4.25 per roll of 15

Demand Fee - \$10 to \$30; only affects those who are late paying their excise bills

Building Permit Fee Change - Alter from per sq ft to per dollar value fee schedule.

Eliminate 2nd Police Vehicle – Disturbs current placement schedule

Eliminate School Resource Officer- Slows implementation of community policing program

Eliminate Planning Intern- Less work on ED Issues

Eliminate 2 FTE School Dept TBD- Needs to be discussed with School Committee

1% of maintenance costs all departments – Let DH determine best place to cut.

David Libbey asks why the recommendation isn't to raise the levy limit and fund the budget request for the School dept.

Mr. McInerney states, the reason is because all the documentation we put out to the Town indicates that we were going to keep \$1M on the side and make it last 5 years.

David Libbey states that if we look at the source of the problem, Chapter 70 is in shortfall. This needs to be considered beyond FY16 budget. Growth in the shortfall will get larger each year. We are likely to see increasing deficits by many thousands of

dollars in 5 years and we are going to go through override funding faster than we thought we would, unless Chapter 70 funds increase.

Mr. Padgett states that a discussions need to happen to determine what combination is most palatable. To ask for an override for the school and break it up over 5 years. Then to take more than we thought, I don't think we should do that.

Mr. McInerney feels we are in a good position and we have time until town meeting to make a decision. We can take any combination of approaches over the next 45 days. We need to think about it and figure it out. Within the next 45 days the House Budget will be solidified and the numbers could be better or worse. Mr. McInerney also states that we are looking at all things, we will find a way but wanted both bodies to come together and discuss.

Resignation of Lisa Cahill Green: Administrative Assistant Town Clerk's Office- Effective March 25, 2015.

Mr. Dauphinais made a motion to accept the resignation of Lisa Cahill Green, Administrative Assistant Town Clerk's Office- Effective March 25, 2015. Mr. JT (check video) 2nd, all in favor, none opposed.

Administrative Assistant-Planning Board

This item was passed over as the applicant who was offered the position declined.

Award & Sign Contract for One Grafton Common- M. O'Connor Contracting, Inc.

Mr. Spinney made a motion to Award and Sign the contract for One Grafton Common with M. O'Connor Contracting, Inc. for \$2,985,800. Ms. Thomas seconded, all were in favor, none opposed.

Mr. Spinney made a motion to authorize Tim McInerney to approve change orders up to \$10,000. Ms. Thomas seconded, all were in favor, none opposed.

Conservation Restriction – 25 Pullard Road

Mr. Flynn made a motion to sign conservation restriction for 25 Pullard Road as presented. Mr. Dauphinais seconded, all were in favor, none opposed.

Adopt Paperless Agenda Policy

Mr. Spinney stated he is not quite ready to present a policy, but wants to leave this on the Agenda.

Mr. Flynn asked if there was a bylaw that indicates the process for a policy to be made and since there isn't one, Mr. Flynn would like to create a procedure on how to go about developing a policy.

Correspondence, Grafton Little League-Invitation to March in the April 26, 2015 Parade

Ms. Thomas reads the invitation to the Board.

American Legion Post #92 – 2015 Memorial Day Ceremonies

Mr. Dauphinais reads a letter from the American Legion Commander, Andrew Tillotson regarding 2015 Memorial Day Ceremonies. The letter states that most of the participants have reached 60+ years it has become necessary to eliminate smaller parades in both North and South Grafton. Cmdr Tillotson provided the following schedule for the 2015 Memorial Day Ceremonies:

- 8:00 a.m. – Old Farnamsville Cemetery
- 8:15 a.m. – Fairview Cemetery
- 8:30 a.m. – Soldiers Memorial, South Grafton
- 9:00 a.m. – Riverside Cemetery
- 9:15 a.m. – St. Phillips Cemetery
- 9:30 a.m. – Old Indian Cemetery
- 10:00 a.m. – Grafton State Hospital Cemetery
- 10:15 a.m. – Pine Grove Cemetery
- 10:30 a.m. – Washington Mills Bridge (water ceremony) then March to Quinsigamond Corner
- 11:15 a.m.- Parade- Starts at Norcross Park, stop at Center Common, then to High School via Worcester St. to Providence Road for flag raising.

Calming Table Presentation

Mr. Spinney will be meeting with Graves Engineering 3/18/15 and will have further information for the Board.

Board of Health Alliance

Mr. McInerney addresses the Board, stating that Derek Brindisi left the Health Alliance. We are sustainable for a minimal of 5 or 6 years. There has been no lapse in services.

Mr. McInerney introduces Dr. Hirsch and Mike Borowiec, Board of Health inspector. To address the Board.

Dr. Michael Hirsh, Medical Director for the Division of Public Health addressed the Board with an update stating that Derek Brindisi had commitments with the Air

National Guard and handed in his resignation as well as Kerry Clark and Chris Monteverde.

Dr. Hirsh stated that the Alliance has applied for state accreditation. The preparation took one year to prepare. The Alliance is waiting for an inspection that needs to be performed within the next 6 months. If the Alliance becomes accredited, the Alliance will be able to apply for grants.

Dr. Hirsh states that the Alliance will launch a new Collaborative Community Health Assessment that will include Grafton. The alliance with Grafton makes the Health Alliance look positive to other outlets; this will help craft part II of the community health improvement plan.

Mike Borowiec stated from an the operational point of view, service model has not changed.

Dr. Hirsh stated that when a search is done for Derek's replacement they will be looking for input from the Town.

TM we want the same level of expertise as Derek has

Mr. McInerney states that the Town had an 18 month contract with the Alliance. In the next two months we will have to vote on a renewal.

Mr. Gardiner, Board of Health addresses the Board, stating that we have a strong alliance and the future is bright. All 6 communities that are a part of the Alliance are in lock step to move forward.

Old Police Station – Building Lease

Mr. McInerney states, the Police Association is leaving the building and going to South Grafton. Their lease expires in June. They have asked for flexibility in case they need to stay longer. Mr. McInerney sent a letter to Cable and School Department to see if there is interest, and further states there will be a loss of revenue of \$15k when the chief's association leaves. Mr. McInerney asks if we want to put out for RFP for the space.

Mr. Flynn feels because of its location near the School. A program for autistic issues may be a use for this building. There is a dire need for services for an older population of youngsters this could be revenue generating for Grafton. Mr. Flynn stated he would like to speak to Dr. Cummings about this possibility.

Mr. McInerney states that South Coast collaborative did the same thing. He will put this suggestion out to Dr. Cummings.

Mr. Dauphinais states that the space should be used by a Town Department or School Department, but to put an autistic program or something like that, he does not feel it's

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the right environment. Kids need to be in an environment with other children and does feel this building is the right set up. We want to keep the building and there are plenty of uses.

Town Administrator Report by my Mr. McInerney

Senior Center Bathrooms are expected to be completed by next Friday.

We have set up a dedicated phone line for people to leave messages about potholes they find. These calls got to voicemail and are triaged by the Highway Department. There is also See Click Fix that is available to report potholes.

Board of Selectmen April 7th meeting signing of bonds \$3.8M will be on the agenda.

April 1, 2015 there will be a joint meeting with EDC.

April 21st Representative David Muradian would like to come to meeting with budgetary information. He also requests to come to the Board on a monthly basis.

Meeting Minutes

3/3/2015, Mr. Spinney made a motion to approve minutes. Ms. Thomas seconded, Brook Padgett and Craig Dauphinais were in favor, and Dennis Flynn abstained.

Adjourn

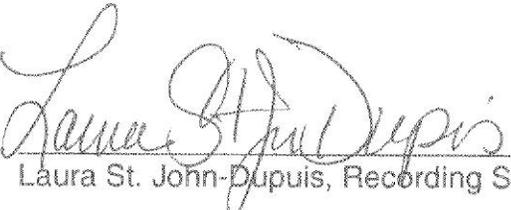
9:18 PM Mr. Spinney Made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Thomas seconded. All were in favor.

For more information, this and other meetings can be viewed on Grafton Community Television. www.graftontv.org



Brook Padgett- Chairman

5.5.2015
Date



Laura St. John-Dupuis, Recording Secretary