

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Clerk
Steven P. Rose, Associate

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
Michael W. McCue

Town of Avon Massachusetts

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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2013 7:30 P.M.

Members present: Francis A. Hegarty, Chairman
Steven P. Rose
Robert F. Brady, Jr.

Others present: Michael McCue, Town Administrator
Joseph Lalli, Town Counsel

Chairman Hegarty called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with all members present.

Chairman Hegarty called for a moment of silence in memory of Council on Aging Board member Anna Friedmann, who served the Town for many years.

Mr. Rose led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Rose made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, February 21, 2013 (Regular Session) as written. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the minutes of Thursday, February 21, 2013 (Executive Session) as written. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Mr. Rose made a motion to accept the minutes of Thursday, January 10, 2013 (Budget Workshop) as submitted. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the minutes of Wednesday, January 30, 2013 (Budget Workshop) as written. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A request for a one-day special alcohol permit was received from Avon Fish & Game Association for March 30, 2013 and May 5, 2013.

Celebrating 125 Years 1888-2013

Mr. Rose made a motion to grant the one-day special alcohol permits to Avon Fish & Game Association for March 30, 2013 and May 5, 2013. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Two requests for gift acceptance were received from the Council on Aging in memory of Anna Friedmann. The first request totaled \$105.00. Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the donations to the Council on Aging to be used for a memorial lunch and entertainment. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The motion carried.

The second request for gift acceptance from the Council on Aging totaled \$125.00 in memory of Anna Friedmann. The funds will be used for a memorial luncheon and entertainment. Mr. Brady made a motion to accept the donations totaling \$125.00. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

A request was received from the Tax Collector asking for funds to transfer from the Reserve Fund, in the amount of \$2000.00, to cover costs relating to 14 properties which were turned over to the lawyers to begin Tax Title takings; \$1064.00 was the fee for recording in land court and \$1208.40 for advertising. This is an unanticipated expense.

Mr. Rose made a motion to recommend approval for transfer from the Reserve Fund, in the amount of \$2000.00, to cover the cost relating to the recording fees for tax takings. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A request was received from the Highway Department asking for funds to transfer from the Reserve Fund, in the amount of \$17,114.23, to cover costs for several unforeseen major repairs to Highway Department equipment.

Mr. Rose made a motion to approve the recommendation to the Finance Committee to have \$17,114.23 transferred from the Reserve Fund and put into the Highway Department expense line item. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. All were in favor.

A request for a temporary sign permit was received from Affordable Furniture at 75 Stockwell Drive to display one banner advertising a Tax Refund sale from March 24 to April 14, 2013.

Mr. Brady made a motion to approve the request for a temporary sign permit for Affordable Furniture to display one banner advertising a Tax Refund sale from March 24 to April 14, 2013. Mr. Rose seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

On a motion made by Mr. Rose, seconded by Mr. Brady, it was unanimously voted to approve all vouchers for the payment of bills as submitted.

7:50 p.m. —Water Department Updates

Water Commissioners Charles Linfield, Charles Comeau, Jr., and Peter Marinelli appeared before the Board. Also present was Richard S. Johnson of Amory Engineering.

Mr. Linfield reported that the Water Commissioners reviewed the budget and reduced some budget figures; some of them are a one-time reduction. Mr. Linfield reported that the Water Commissioners contracted with Mr. Jason Trepanier, who will begin working as Water Superintendent beginning Monday, March 18, 2013. Mr. Johnson discussed a water main break on Doherty Avenue that occurred and was being fixed today.

Mr. Johnson discussed the articles on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant relating to the Water Department.

1. \$27,065.00 requested to begin implementation of an updated Cross Connection program, surveying of all commercial, industrial, municipal and institutional properties. Additional funding is being requested and would be added to Article 21 (\$10,225.00) of the May 1, 2012 Annual Town Meeting. Mr. Linfield will check into any funds that may be remaining from prior Annual Town Meeting articles relating to a Cross Connection program. Mr. McCue reported that he believes a few thousand dollars remain in the account.
2. \$7,500 for upgrades to the current security system for Water Department properties.
3. Funds for the redevelopment and repair of the pump and motor for Well #3.
4. \$30,000 for replacement of the 1996 Ford E150 Econoline Van

Chairman Hegarty asked Mr. Linfield to research an article from a prior ATM for a new truck.

After discussing the ATM of May 7, 2013 articles, Mr. Johnson reviewed the budget changes with the Board. Some of the items adjusted were salaries, office staff, tuition (continuing education), chemical costs, backhoe repairs and gasoline.

Mr. Johnson and the Water Commissioners would present their revised budget to the Board of Selectmen next week

The Board thanked Mr. Johnson and the Water Commissioners for their updates.

8:25 p.m. —Avon School Committee

Dr. Frieswyk, Kathy McDonald, Jeanne Martineau-Fernald, John Nolan and Sonya Mahoney were in attendance for the meeting.

Dr. Frieswyk presented the Board with a requested budget for the Avon Public Schools with a level of service comparable to FY '13. Dr. Frieswyk reported that the recommended budget will (1) support a goal of the highest quality educational programs and services possible; (2) the recommended budget will include funding for essential programs and offerings and will respond to administrative recommendations for staffing and services. Recommended staffing levels will assure that reasonable class sizes can be maintained at all levels.

Dr. Frieswyk discussed funding for professional development for all staff, supervision and training for new staff and most critical for FY '14 is the training of staff for the successful implementation of the new educator evaluation system and the new ELL regulations. Dr.

Frieswyk discussed funding to meet state and federal mandates related to special education. The budget includes proposals for maintenance of our school buildings and properties and funding for technology is a critical expenditure in a 21st century school.

Dr. Frieswyk explained the only additional position that is reflected in the budget request is to increase the .5 assistant principal at the Butler School to a 1.0 FTE.

Dr. Frieswyk discussed with the Board fixed costs, contractual obligations, the Choice program, and the increase in per pupil costs. Dr. Frieswyk also mentioned that State and Federal grants are unknown at this time. Dr. Frieswyk commented that the cost of special education programming and placement as well as reporting requirements will continue to stretch financial and personnel resources.

Chairman Hegarty informed Dr. Frieswyk and the School Committee that the Board would be meeting with the Finance Committee next week.

The Board thanked Dr. Frieswyk and the Avon School Committee for attending the meeting this evening.

Town Administrator's Report

Mr. McCue discussed a survey being done at the Crowley School by Yee Co. of Stoughton to determine the extent of hazardous materials at the Crowley School.

Mr. McCue discussed an unaccepted roads survey contract between the Town of Avon and Scott F. Arnold, P.E. for performing engineering services relative to the Town's requirement to initiate a roadway management program.

The Town has signed a contract with the Abrahams Group to conduct a comprehensive review of the Avon water system. The objective of this project is to assess the efficiency, effectiveness and integrity of the Town's water policies, procedures, billing system, management systems and overall operations.

Mr. McCue reported that he has received word from National Grid regarding the planting of trees. National Grid donated trees last year that were planted on the side of the Avon Public Library.

Mr. McCue informed the Board that a staff meeting was held and submittal of the Commonwealth Capital Program was discussed.

The repair of the covered bridge has been pushed back due to all the storms. Lumber is to be delivered on Monday and with the help of the carpentry class at Blue Hills Technical School, repairs will be made at a very small cost to the Town. Mr. McCue is looking into repairs at the Town's gazebo.

Mr. Brady announced that he attended the COA's senior luncheon in honor of St. Patrick's Day today. There was a great turnout but he would like to see new seniors attending events at the COA.

Mr. McCue reported that Senator Joyce will be available to meet with the Board the first week of April. Representative Galvin would be available on March 21st to meet with the Board. Chairman Hegarty stated that this delay until the April 4th meeting for Senator Joyce to be in attendance impacts our community, relative to concerns on the proposed Holbrook transfer station.

Mr. Rose suggested preparing a letter to the Senator's office and State agencies. Mr. Rose suggested a press release should be published in the newspaper informing residents of the April 4th hearing.

Chairman Hegarty stated a scheduled meeting would be held on April 4th regarding the proposed Holbrook transfer station. The Board asked Mr. McCue to notify legislators of the surrounding communities of the hearing.

At 9:10 p.m., with all business completed, Mr. Rose made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Miriam Rothstein
Secretary