

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

Francis T. Crimmins, Jr.
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts



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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
SATURDAY, JANUARY 30, 2016
BUDGET WORKSHOP
8:00 A.M.

2016 FEB -9 AM 9:17
TOWN CLERK
TOWN OF AVON

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

Others present: Francis T. Crimmins, Jr., Town Administrator
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator
Shannon MacKenzie, Town Accountant
William A. Fitzgerald, Jr., Department of Public Works Director
Paul Zinni, School Superintendent
Kathy McDonald, Coordinator of School Business
Jeanne Martineau, School Committee Chair
Karen Johnson, Library Director
Barbara Littlefield, Park & Recreation Chair
Michael Lawler, Park & Recreation Member
Carl Fischer, Park & Recreation Member
Paul J. Sullivan, Assistant Assessor
Warren Bruce Lane, Board of Assessors Chair
Cynthia Bernasconi, Board of Assessors Clerk

Chairman Hegarty called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m. with all members present.

BUDGET WORKSHOP FOR FISCAL YEAR 2017

Meeting with the School Committee

Jeanne Martineau, Paul Zinni and Kathy McDonald appeared before the Board to present the Avon Public Schools' budget for Fiscal Year 2017. Mr. Zinni stated that they had included in the budget salaries for additional staffing which include an athletic trainer, a special education teacher and a computer science teacher. Mr. Zinni explained that the biggest increase in the budget is mostly due to technology such as revamping the computer labs and the purchase and use of IPADs in the classroom. In addition, Mr. Zinni stated that the schools also need to purchase new curriculum materials. Mr. Zinni noted that the Avon Public Schools have many newer teachers with additional step increases allowed in their contract.

Chairman Hegarty advised the members representing the school of the expected increase of about 10% in health insurance costs. Ms. Martineau stated that insurance continues to be a major concern of the

the Theater was lacking and that the Park & Recreation Board was concerned for being accountable for that group in the future.

Mr. Rose asked the members about the biggest line item increase in their budget, which is for grounds keeping. Mr. Fischer stated that the fields are generally in poor shape after the winter. Mr. Fischer informed the Board that he has contacted the business Sports Turf Specialties, Inc. which specializes in the construction, renovation, maintenance and consultation of athletic fields. Mr. Fischer stated it was the intent of the Park & Recreation Board to get the fields in top notch shape and to coordinate and work together with DPW Director William Fitzgerald and his department on the continued maintenance and grounds keeping of the fields throughout the spring, summer and fall seasons. Mr. Fischer stated that this company specializes in training municipalities how to keep up the maintenance of the fields. Mr. Rose inquired as to whether Sports Turf Specialties, Inc. is on the state bidding list. In addition, Mr. Rose cautioned the Park & Recreation Board to check with the Town's procurement officer as well before hiring a consultant on the fields.

Finally, Ms. Littlefield informed the Board that Park & Recreation's summer program is so popular, that an individual from the Town of Holbrook approached the Park & Recreation Board inquiring as to whether the Town of Avon would allow children from Holbrook to attend Avon's summer program. While the parents of the Holbrook children would still be required to pay the non-resident rate for the program, the Town of Holbrook would subsidize the additional cost to the Holbrook parents for up to 25 children.

Meeting with the Board of Assessors

Chairman Bruce Lane and Clerk Cynthia Bernasconi and Assistant Assessor Paul Sullivan appeared before the Board to present their budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

Bruce Lane advised the Board that the Assessors had not changed much in their budget from last year. The budget is mostly level funded with the exception of an adjustment to the Assistant Assessor's salary, as well as an adjustment for a step increase for the union worker in that department.

With the Board satisfied with the Assessors' budget, all members departed.

Meeting with the Department of Public Works

DPW Director William Fitzgerald approached the Board to continue his discussions regarding the DPW's budget for Fiscal Year 2017. Mr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that upon further consideration, he feels he may need additional staff members for his department. Mr. Fitzgerald suggested an additional non-union position in his department such as a mid-level manager. The Board will take Mr. Fitzgerald's staffing suggestions into consideration.

Meeting with Town Accountant regarding the Council on Aging Budget

Shannon MacKenzie appeared before the Board to discuss the budget for Fiscal Year 2017 for the Council on Aging that she had prepared due to the vacant COA Director position. Ms. MacKenzie added a line item for "Repairs and Maintenance", which she explained was due to an increase in expenses due to the breakdown of several pieces of equipment over at the COA such as the grease traps in the kitchen. Ms. MacKenzie noted that she had not changed much in terms of the salaries for the workers at the COA. Mr. Rose suggested that Ms. MacKenzie should put the anticipated salary of a new COA Director into the budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

Adjournment

At 1:15 p.m., Chairman Hegarty requested the Board make a motion to adjourn the workshop session and to reconvene on Monday, February 1, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Rose made a motion to adjourn the Workshop Session and reconvene on February 1, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

A roll call vote was taken.

Mr. Rose voted aye.

Mr. Brady voted aye.

Mr. Hegarty voted aye.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Shanna M. Faro".

Shanna M. Faro

Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator