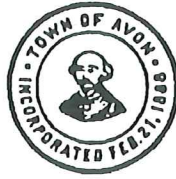


BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Steven P. Rose, Chairman
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Associate

Gregory S. Enos
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Town of Avon Massachusetts



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BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING THURSDAY, MARCH 14, 2019 6:00 P.M. BUDGET WORKSHOP MEETING

Members present: Steven P. Rose, Chairman
Eric S. Beckerman, Clerk
Robert F. Brady, Jr., Associate

Others present: Gregory S. Enos, Town Administrator
Shanna M. Faro, Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator
Joseph S. Lalli, Town Counsel
Patricia C. Bessette, Town Clerk
Kimberly Park, Town Accountant
Gerald Picardi, Board of Health Chairman
Kathleen Waldron, Health Agent
Fire Chief Robert Spurr
William Fitzgerald, DPW Director
Brian Martin, Assistant DPW Director
Carl Fischer, Park & Recreation Commission Chairman
Paul Chute, Library Trustee, Historical Commission
Warren B. Lane, Historical Commission
Ann Fogg, Library Director
Julie Murray, Library Trustee
Chuck Comeau, Library Trustee, Planning Board
Dan Norian, Finance Committee

Chairman Rose called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. with all members present.

Chief Spurr led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review of Articles on the Annual Town Meeting Warrant

As the Board reviewed the articles on the draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant, their sponsors were asked to come forward and advise the Board of each article they proposed and to provide supporting details as to the need for such article.

Board of Health Article

Mr. Picardi and Ms. Waldron discussed the need for Article Five on the Warrant. Mr. Picardi stated that this article is requesting a transfer in the amount of \$10,400 from the Septic Loans Receipt Account for

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the payment of the Title V Water Pollution Abatement Trust Loan. Mr. Picardi stated that the Board of Health is not looking to raise and appropriate additional funding to pay off this loan at this time.

Department of Public Works

Mr. Fitzgerald informed the Board that Article 12 is to see if the Town will vote to repurpose the money from Article 14 of the 2018 Annual Town Meeting in the sum of \$1,120,000 which was placed in a Stabilization Account for the rehabilitation or reconstruction of the Page Street water tank. Mr. Fitzgerald stated that by rewording the article, it will allow for a long-term contract for an asset management program for the rehabilitation, repair, reconstruction and maintenance of both the Page Street and Central Street water tanks. Mr. Fitzgerald reminded the Board that he has been in contact with a company call SUEZ Water Technologies & Solutions which provides a long-term rehabilitation plan for water tanks. Chairman Rose asked Mr. Fitzgerald for a detailed plan on the benefits of an asset management program. Mr. Enos informed the Board that they will hold public information sessions to explain this article and other articles in detail prior to the Town Meeting. Ms. Bessette suggested that Mr. Fitzgerald separate this article into two separate articles in the event the asset management system plan does not resonate with the voters.

The Board requested that Mr. Fitzgerald delete Article 13 regarding the maintenance, protection and treatment of the Town's water supply as there is sufficient funds for this matter in previous years' articles.

Mr. Fitzgerald requested \$100,000 in Article 14 for the purchase and outfitting of a sidewalk plow/sweeper/brush cutter. This article was deleted in last year's warrant and the current sidewalk plow is an older model, making it harder to find replacement parts.

The Board requested that Mr. Fitzgerald delete Article 15 regarding the development and maintenance of the Town's GIS system as there is sufficient funds for this matter in previous years' articles.

Mr. Fitzgerald requested \$20,000 in Article 16 for an engineering investigation of improvements to the Harrison Boulevard/West Spring Street/East Spring Street intersections. Mr. Fitzgerald stated by hiring an engineer, it will assist the Old Colony Planning Council with their Route 28 Traffic Improvement Plan and highlight the importance of improving that dangerous intersection.

Mr. Fitzgerald stated that Article 17 is regarding the Board of Selectmen's authority to purchase, or take by eminent domain, land for the purpose of obtaining temporary construction easements related to the Harrison Boulevard/Pond Street/Bodwell Street Project. This article would also include the cost of legal fees related to this project. Mr. Lalli informed the Board that this article is the first step in a procedural process as required by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation for this project. Mr. Beckerman was concerned that no definitive sum of money was listed in the article and wanted more transparency. The Board requested Mr. Fitzgerald review the article and revise appropriately.

Fire Department Article

Chief Spurr stated that Article Six is for the purchase and installation of a replacement breathing air compressor for use by the Fire Department. Chief Spurr stated that this is the machine that fills the firefighter's tanks with oxygen. Chief Spurr stated that this machine has not been replaced since approximately 1986 or 1987. Mr. Beckerman asked Chief Spurr if the purchase of this machine could be held off until the Fire Station Renovation Project is complete so that it does not have to be installed and then potentially relocated. Chief Spurr did not think the life span of the old breathing air compressor machine would last until the completion of the project. Chief Spurr stated that the new breathing air compressor will need to be purchased as soon as possible.

Park & Recreation Commission Article

Mr. Fischer approached the Board to discuss the possibility of raising \$36,000 and transferring \$14,000 from Article 20 of the 2014 Annual Town Meeting to reconstruct and rehabilitate the Butler School baseball field for a total of \$50,000. Mr. Fischer informed the Board that the Commission was having a difficult time finding a company that would provide netting for the high school field for the cost of \$14,000. Mr. Fischer suggested moving the high school baseball players' games to the Butler field and keeping the high school field as a practice field only. Chairman Rose suggested that the Park & Recreation Commission leave the funding in the 2014 old article as there is still a need for netting at the high school ball field. Chairman Rose suggested that the Commission increase the amount to raise and appropriate in Article 7 of the 2019 Annual Town Meeting from \$36,000 to \$50,000 for the rehabilitation of the Butler School baseball field. Mr. Martin informed the Board that he has renovated several baseball fields when he worked for the Town of Somerset. Chairman Rose requested that Mr. Fischer meet with Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. Martin and the Athletic Director for the schools to discuss this renovation so that all parties agree on this project.

Planning Board Articles

Mr. Comeau stated that Article 9 proposed by the Planning Board is a non-monetary article regarding the renumbering and revision of the Zoning Bylaws from its original numbering, as amended through July 2018, to the codification, arrangement, sequence, captions and the comprehensive revisions to the text of the Zoning Bylaws as set forth in the Final Draft of the Zoning Bylaws dated March 2019.

Mr. Comeau stated that Article 20 is requesting that the Town vote to accept Anisa Lane as a public way. Mr. Comeau informed the Board that the developer of Anisa Lane went bankrupt many years ago and the road was never completely finished. Mr. Comeau stated that by accepting Anisa Lane as a public way, the Department of Public Works will be able to get this road up to code for the residents of the street.

The Board requested that Article 22 regarding Fagan Drive be withdrawn and placed on a Special Town Meeting Warrant.

Library Trustees Articles

Mr. Comeau stated to the Board that Article 10 in the amount of \$200,000 is to fund the construction of an ADA compliant family bathroom on the main floor of the library and to replace the ramp with a chairlift, construction of a new lobby, circulation desk area and windows. Mr. Comeau informed the Board that, currently, the library has one public bathroom which is located downstairs from the main lobby area. Mr. Comeau stated that the stairs to the bottom level are very steep which makes it very difficult for any patron who has a physical disability and/or parents with young children to use the facilities. Mr. Comeau stated that if a person needs to use the restroom and cannot access the stairs, the patron is asked to exit through the main door and walk around to the back of the building and use the rear entrance which will provide access to the bathroom on the lower level. Mr. Comeau stated that the library has lost patrons due to the inaccessibility of the restroom.

Mr. Enos informed the Board and the Library Trustees that he has added Article 23 in the amount of \$5,000 for additional funding for the library roof repairs and carpet installation if necessary.

Historical Commission Articles

Mr. Lane and Mr. Chute approached the Board to discuss two articles the Historical Commission proposed. Article 18 requests \$18,000 to replace the roof and make any necessary repairs to the Moses Curtis Park Gazebo. Chairman Rose asked Mr. Lane and Mr. Chute if they had contacted the Designer

Selection Committee yet to see if the Fire Station Renovation Project will mandate the relocation of the gazebo. Mr. Lane stated that the Historical Commission had not yet contacted the Designer Selection Committee. Chairman Rose requested they do so, as he was concerned about spending a significant amount of money on the gazebo if it will have to be uprooted.

Article 19 requests \$20,000 to conduct a Historical Survey of the Town. Mr. Lane informed the Board that last year, several houses of historical significance were torn down before there was an opportunity to view the houses and claim them as historical landmark. Mr. Lane stated that there is a grant that the Historical Commission will apply for as well to fund the Historical Survey, however, the money must be fronted first by the Town.

Finance Committee Article

Mr. Beckerman stated that Article 26 regarding placing money into the Stabilization Account is a standard article that is generally placed at the end of the Annual Town Meeting Warrant.

Gift Acceptance Forms for the Council on Aging

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the gift donation from various donors in the amount of \$500 in memory of Ellen Chute for the St. Patrick's Day luncheon and any other related event at the Council on Aging. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Beckerman made a motion to accept the gift donation from CareOne at Randolph in the amount of \$150 for entertainment for the St. Patrick's Day luncheon at the Council on Aging. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Budget Update

Mr. Enos informed the Board that there has been an increase in enrollment at Norfolk County Agricultural High School. Mr. Enos stated that four students will be returning to the school next year, and the school has three new applications. Mr. Enos informed the Board that he has increased the budget to account for approximately eight students attending Norfolk County Agricultural High School for the 2019-2020 school year for a total budget of \$15,568. The Board requested the total budget for Norfolk Agricultural be increased further to account for any additional enrollment applications. Mr. Beckerman made a motion to increase the budget for Norfolk County Agricultural High School to \$20,000 for the 20189-2020 school year. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Request from Senator Timilty for Local Budget Priorities

Mr. Enos informed the Board that the Chairman received a request from Senator Timilty for local budget priorities for the Town of Avon for Fiscal Year 2020. Senator Timilty has requested this information by March 15, 2019 in preparation for his annual Senate budget priority meeting with the Chair of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, Senator Michael Rodrigues. The Board requested that Mr. Enos respond to Senator Timilty with a list of projects and items needing repair throughout Town buildings such as the antiquated HVAC systems and the Town Hall parking lot project.

Agreement with Community Opportunities Group, Inc. & Project Approval

Mr. Enos informed the Board that he was recently contacted by Christine Sullivan of Community Opportunities Group, Inc. regarding the dire need of emergency housing rehabilitation assistance to the owner of the property located at 70 Gill Street. Mr. Enos presented the Board with a contract letter for the Town to enlist the administrative assistance and services of Community Opportunities Group, Inc. in the

amount of \$5,000 to oversee the rehabilitation of 70 Gill Street and work with the owner of the property. Mr. Enos informed the Board that the cost of the services and the financial assistance provided to the property owner will be paid for from the Community Development Block Grant Program Income. The second contract prepared was the Assistance Agreement between the Avon-West Bridgewater Housing Rehabilitation Program and the property owner of 70 Gill Street. Mr. Enos stated that since both contracts have listed the Town Administrator's name on the agreements, he was seeking authorization from the Board to sign and execute these contracts. Mr. Brady made a motion to authorize Mr. Enos to sign and execute the agreement with the Community Opportunities Group and approved the housing rehabilitation project for 70 Gill Street. Mr. Beckerman seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Adjournment

At 8:37 p.m., Mr. Beckerman made a motion for the Board to adjourn the Workshop Session. Mr. Brady seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

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

Shanna M. Faro
Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator