

Board of Selectmen
Minutes
Special Meeting
Selectmen's Conference Room
Wednesday, February 17, 2016
3:30 P.M.

Members Present: Allan D. Walker, Jr., Chandler L. Paquette, D. Mitchell Eaffy

Others Present: Karen Fitzpatrick, Asst. Treasurer, Richard Kryzak, Suzanne Woodward, Mary Place, Mike Dougherty, Roy Chandler, Jeff Kimball, Seth Spaulding, Richard Baron, Tony Bates, Steve Child, and Richard Wisneski

1. Call To Order:

Walker called the meeting to order at 3:30 P.M.

2. 3:30 p.m. Meet with Assessor to discuss budget submission:

Kryzak would like an increase in salary based on comparisons of other Assessors in the area. He feels his salary is at a lower end of a pay scale of department head salaries and stated that he does a lot of work for other departments and works as a team with the Tax Collector and Treasurer. **Kryzak** asked if his increase will be considered by the Board of Selectmen. **Walker** stated that the request for an increase in salary will be considered along with all of the other submissions from other departments and no decisions have been made at this time. **Kryzak** asked that he be notified of their decision. **Eaffy** stated that the Board of Selectmen appreciate the job he does and thanked him for his time.

3. 3:45 p.m. Meet with Registrars to discuss budget submission:

Woodward stated that the State of Connecticut has mandated that all registrars are certified. There are 8 classes that must be completed in order to become certified. All classes must be completed within 2 years from July of 2015. The cost per class is \$200.00. She has completed 3 and will attend one more class this year. **Woodward** also mentioned that she had not budgeted for this program since it was new this current fiscal year. **Woodward** added that she only budgeted for herself for the upcoming FY 16-17. **Eaffy** asked if Mary Place would be completing the certification program. **Place** stated that she will not complete the certification program because she will be moving out of town however, the person who will replace her will need to complete the certification program. **Woodward** stated that there may need to be some equipment replaced in the future however, she doesn't know if the State will be funding that or if the Town will need to. **Eaffy** asked if they thought the current amount requested for the upcoming FY 16-17 will be adequate and both stated that they felt comfortable with their submission. The Selectmen thanked them for their time.

4. 4:00 p.m. Meet with Woodstock Fire Association and Woodstock EMS to discuss budget submissions:

The Woodstock Fire Protection Association asked for an increase of \$12,600.00 to help cover the cost of a new Recruitment and Retention Program. **Dougherty** explained that this program is expected to cost \$25,200.00 and that the Fire Chief's discretionary budgets have been adjusted to cover the other \$12,600.00. **Dougherty** further explained that this program is an incentive program to recruit new volunteers and retain current volunteers. He also stated that this may give current volunteers more incentive to respond to more calls. **Chandler** stated that the fire chiefs will be responsible for making sure the firefighters meet all the requirements to qualify for the stipend program. **Eaffy** asked if other fire departments have this type of program and **Dougherty** replied that there are several others that do. **Chandler** stated that this program will help retain the current firefighters and it will be beneficial. **Chandler and Dougherty** commented that this program has been in the works for the past 3 years. **Baron** stated that he feels the town has approximately 5-8 years left before the town faces substantial costs for fire protection services. **Eaffy** stated that the fire departments have the support of the Selectmen and he would like them to be proactive in keeping the Selectmen informed of the forthcoming costs to the town. The Selectmen thanked all the members for their time and dedication to the town.

Woodstock EMS requested an increase of \$2675.00. **Dougherty** stated the increase request is due to increase in expenses and decrease in expected revenues. **Dougherty** stated that last year had the highest volume of calls. The EMS payroll is \$190,000.00 and if they did not have volunteers the cost for payroll would increase over \$90,000.00. He also stated that they can only bill if they actually transport. He said they buy an ambulance every 5 to 6 years and that the ambulances belong to the Town of Woodstock. Woodstock EMS has 2 ambulances so there is always one available if one should break down and need service. **Eaffy** asked if the Woodstock EMS gets audited. **Dougherty** said they do get audited annually and he delivers the reports to the town treasurer. **Walker** asked how many hours per week are paid hours. **Dougherty** said 102 hours are paid and 66 hours are volunteered. The Selectmen thanked Mr. Dougherty and the Woodstock EMS for their time and dedication to the town.

5. Citizen's Comments:

None

6. Adjournment:

Eaffy made a motion to adjourn. Paquette seconded. **Motion carried.** The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Fitzpatrick, Asst. Treasurer/Bookkeeper