

A regular meeting of the Board of Selectman was held on Tuesday, July 2, 2013 beginning at 7:00 pm in the Main Meeting Room at the Town Hall. Ms. Mackenzie was absent, the following members were present.

Mark Gallivan, Chairman
Chris Timson
Michael Berry
Clifton Snuffer

Also present:
Michael Boynton, Town Administrator

Mr. Gallivan called the meeting to order, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND PROCLAMATIONS

Mr. Boynton announces the passing of Eric Kraus's father who died suddenly and also the 19 firefighters that died in the line of duty fighting the Arizona Wild Fires. A Moment of Silence was declared.

SPONSERED AGENDA ITEMS

7-1 Chief Timothy Bailey, Quality Assurance/Quality Improvement Agreement for an Education-Based Emergency Medical Service

105 CMR 170.00 requires annually that a QA/QI program is done to ensure excellence in care within the operations of the EMS system.

Chief Bailey, is asking the Board to consider approval of Girard & Associates, LLC as the provider of our QA/QI. Girard and Assoc., currently works with our Medical Control Doctor and oversees ambulance service and is familiar with our operation and our personnel. The Quality Assurance/Quality Improvements (QA/QI) is a State requirement for your ambulance service.

Currently, there are approximately 2000 ambulance runs a year. Per the Chief, it is Quality Control of our personnel and allows for 100 percent oversight over all EMS runs. Reports are sent on a regular basis. Currently, Westwood, Norwood and Foxboro are using Girard. Canton and Sharon hired an employee that does there on in-house system. The ones that have Girard are very satisfied and noticed a huge turnaround on there

Mr. Boynton, it costs approx. \$25,000, however take into account that the dept is bringing in approx. \$725K annually and this is a small portion of that, extremely highly skilled and life savings measures, they get everyone trained and the critical training that goes along with it.

Mr. Timson, untimely the responsibility of the paramedics is us sitting here, and I am not qualified to see what is going on as far as medical quality. I feel we are dependent upon this and see this as a good way to do it. Mr. Timson did ask about the bidding rule, per Mr. Boynton it does require a competitive bid; however, Girard is a sole source. At the moment there is no one that is sourcing this. Mr. Timson has no issue and would support this.

Mr. Berry, asked the Chief to please give him an examples of an assistance that would kick in as a QA/QI assessment. Chief Bailey, there was one this past week. Girard uses a rating system which is rated 1-4, 4 being altering to patient. The particular incident was rated a 3 because of documentation. Mr. Berry, real life instance, A senior falls down stairs, respond to call, then does run report and that report is critical, first responders someone is it a common occurrence or misfiled on a report. We have excellent people that do this day in and day out, the service is to and they are out in the field and oversight that they are doing, what they should be doing. Mr. Berry asked if there is training, per the Chief there is a lot of in-house training and some training comes from Girard, they do specific to different areas that we need as a dept. Mr. Berry asked if there is an annual report/audit that we can see. Per Chief he will add that to his quarterly updates.

Mr. Snuffer took a look at the report and is troubled by it, relatively to a survey and did not see in evident. The best documentation is always from the person who is doing it and taking place. The 17 page legal document that talks about things like intellectual property and a wide variety of things that make me concerned of who we are getting and respect to it and what are the penalties that are imposed by the Commonwealth. There are a lot of things that I don't like the size of contract, diversity, aspects, etc... I will respectfully oppose this.

Mr. Timson, I understand the concern and in house capabilities and take on a new employee, maybe outsourcing is better than paying on the other end for yrs.

Mr. Snuffer, who is doing it now and taking and if what we are saying at one year at X then we can train and then goes away and ongoing looking at fiscal responsibility of the town.

Mr. Gallivan, likes this and likes that it is outside the dept. He feels that maybe looking in-house down the road.

Mr. Timson stated that it is terminable without cause with a 60 day notice.

Mr. Snuffer asked if we have done this and feels we should ask the towns that are self sufficient and have someone look at what they are doing.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to approve and sign the Agreement with Girard & Associates LLC to perform the Quality Assurance and Quality Improvement Program, Seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 3-1 (Mr. Snuffer voted against)

7-6 Chief Timothy Bailey, Provisional Hire of Call Firefighter Andrew Abate
Firefighter Cerqua has been out due to injury for more than 60 days.

The firefighter Contract states the town may hire a provisional hire until such time the Firefighter returns to work.

Chief Bailey is asking that the Board support the hiring of an on-call firefighter Andrew Abate as a Provisional Firefighter to fill the vacancy that has been created while Firefighter John Cerqua has been out with an injury and having surgery tomorrow.

This provisional appointment is per Article 1X, section Q, of the Collective Bargaining Agreement which states, "If a vacancy occurs as a result of an absence of a full time permanent firefighter for a period of sixty (60) days, the Town may hire a provisional appointment." The provisional appointment would begin immediately and would expire upon the return of Firefighter Cerqua.

Mr. Snuffer asked if there is an anticipated date of return, at this time the return is "lengthy". Per Chief since it didn't happen on the job he has to undergo his own time and any accrued time. Per Mr. Boynton, after surgery a conversation regarding future ability and additional options are considered.

Mr. Berry asked; is the provisional appoint, is it benefited? It is a non-union provisional hire. If firefighter can't return, is this provisional next in line and would be vacant. Per the Chief, no they have to go through the hiring process of a paramedic; Mr. Abate is not a paramedic.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to appoint Call Firefighter Andrew Abate as a Provisional Firefighter to fill the vacancy until such time Firefighter Cerqua returns to work.
Seconded by Mr. Snuffer VOTED 4-0

OPEN FORUM

Mr. Moraski has two issues he would like addressed:

One issue is the status of the library override money (overage).

Per Mr. Boynton, none of the money has been used, there is about \$950K and there is still final close-outs that have to be done and warranty work that needs to be done as well.

Mr. Moraski asked if it is possible that the money will be returned to tax payers. Per Mr. Boynton, it is not possible for the monies to be returned; however in essence it is when the next project that is authorized by the town. Mr. Boynton hopes to get a specific number on the surplus. It would only to be used for similar building projects.

Mr. Berry, asked how much of the close out is and goes to the general contractor. Mr. Boynton does not anticipate having to pay anything extra.

Mr. Snuffer, asked about the grant that was given to us by the Library, will those funds need to be returned to the Library. Per Mr. Boynton, yes, it does need to be returned to them. Not sure on the amount yet.

Mr. Moraski asked about the sale of the old library and the funds. Per Mr. Boynton, it is restricted funds and is to be used for capital purposes only; and anything that is capital in nature and major purpose of that nature.

Issue two is the OPEB Liability (Other Post Employment Benefits) The 84.6 million was our new OPEB liability and I am alarmed by that figure because it was not that high a couple of yrs ago. Mr. Moraski feels that there needs to be a game plan sooner rather than later. Where are we going with the OPEB liability and these needs to be tackled and noted that it is a real problem. He asked that the selectman have a public workshop to discuss this.

Mr. Gallivan, stated that all cities and towns are starting to deal with the issues and it is going to be quite some time, also the Board is taking it as a serious issue and it is on our list to discuss.

Mr. Boynton stated the number 30 million is a funded figure; the new funded number is 44 million. There is a 7% annual increase on health insurance. Walpole is one community that has a set tax. The issue is because you don't have the ability to change the health care system and needs to find a way to fund it. Walpole is starting to address this.

Mr. Timson suggested it would benefit us if there was a committee and to find out how other communities are dealing with this.

Mr. Gallivan, suggested we talk to MMA and that it is on our list. He thanked Mr. Moraski for bringing these two issues forward.

7-2 Maggie Walker, Town Engineer, Vote order of Taking for North Street Circle, Old Town Road, Starlight Drive, Gristmill Lane, Red Gate Road, Daylily Lane

This is the final step in making the streets public ways as voted at the Spring Town Meeting. Per Maggie this is the last step, the documents get signed and then they become full fledged public roads.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to adopt and sign the order of taking and roadway easement for North St. Circle and to sign and have them notarize, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to adopt and sign the order of taking for Old Town Road and Starlight Drive and to have them notarize, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to accept the easements and the operation and maintenance plan for Old Town Road and Starlight Drive and have them notarized, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 4-0

MOTION to approve, endorse and notarize the order of taking of land for Gristmill Lane, Red Gate Road, Daylily Lane, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0

MOTION to accept, endorse and notarize the easements, pedestrian trail easement and the operation and maintenance plan and covenant for Gristmill Lane, Red Gate Road, Daylily Lane, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 4-0

7-3 Gift Acceptances

The acceptance of Gift, from Diane Doherty, \$10.00 for Carolyn Woodward Playground Residents are donating funds to maintain and upgrade the Carolyn Woodward Playground. Approximately, \$300.00 has been raised to date.

MOTION moved by Mr. Snuffer to accept the gift from Diane Doherty with gratitude, seconded by Mr. Berry, VOTED 4-0

7-4 One Day Liquor License, Knights of Columbus

This is a request for a one day all alcoholic license in the name of Gerard Comeau for the Knights of Columbus. The Police Dept. have no issues.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to approve the one day all alcoholic licenses for Gerard Comeau for July 21, 2013, seconded by Mr. Snuffer, VOTED 4-0

7-5 Labor Day Road Race

This event has been held for 39 years. The Police Dept. have reviewed and approved the route as proposed. I have given them permission to hang the banner from August 18 to September 2.

MOTION moved by Mr. Berry to approve the annual WHS Labor Day road race as submitted, seconded by Mr. Timson, VOTED 4-0

TOWN ADMINISTRATORS REPORT

Working on response of the "Moose Hill" 40B project and should have a draft for the Board tomorrow the deadline is July 11th and we should get in before that date.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Snuffer is asking for an annotated calendar with dates for July as issues arise and is requesting a calendar for July. Mr. Boynton will let Cindy know to work on that.

The Schedule for Town Hall over the 4th of July is on the town's website.

Mr. Gallivan, let everyone know about that the fire truck parade begins at 6:00pm and fireworks at 9:30 and there will be music at stone field. Wishes everyone a Happy and safe 4th of July!

MOTION moved by Mr. Gallivan to adjourn at 8:00 p.m., seconded by Mr. Snuffer VOTED 4-0