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Town of Danville
Board of Selectmen
October 31, 2016
7:00pm

Members Present: Shawn O'Neil X
Chris Giordano X
Kimberly Farah X
Sheila Johannesen X
Judi Cogswell Excused absence

Motion to enter Nonpublic Session made by Giordano seconded by Johannesen

Specific Statutory Reason cited as foundation for the nonpublic session:

X RSA 91-A:3, II (a) *The dismissal, promotion, or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him or her, **unless** the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.*

Roll Call vote to enter nonpublic session:

Shawn O'Neil	Y
Chris Giordano	Y
Kimberly Farah	Y
Sheila Johannesen	Y
Judi Cogswell	

Entered nonpublic session at 6:40 PM

Motion to return to Public Session made by Giordano seconded by Sheila

Roll Call Vote to return to public session:

Shawn O'Neil	Y
Chris Giordano	Y
Kimberly Farah	Y
Sheila Johannesen	Y
Judi Cogswell	

Motion: PASSED

The motion was made by Giordano seconded by Johannesen to seal these and the 10/24/16 NP minutes because both addressed employee concerns

Roll Call Vote to seal minutes:

Shawn O'Neil	Y
Chris Giordano	Y
Kimberly Farah	Y
Sheila Johannesen	Y
Judi Cogswell	

Selectmen moved to meeting room at 6:55pm

Video-Recorded

Selectmen Present: Chairman Shawn O'Neil, Vice-Chair Chris Giordano, Kimberly Farah, Sheila Johannesen
Absent: Judi Cogswell

Others present: Paul DiStephano, Linda Goodell, Elaine Litcofsky, Maureen Francis

Chairman O'Neil opened the meeting with a moment of silence for the troops who put themselves in harms way. All stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

I. Budgets

a. 4220.1 Fire Department

Chief Steve Woitkun presented the proposed 2017 Fire Department budget. There was a COLA increase of 1.1% on the part time and secretary's salary. On line FD124, the FD had informed the Board months ago that they would like to put two people on for coverage from 10pm-6am on call at minimum wage and that rate would be increased to their normal pay rate if they receive a call; this added an increase of \$30,160 to FD124. Selectman Farah would like to see this go to a warrant. This additional coverage is currently being covered by a surplus in part-time salaries and on-call response budgets. Chairman O'Neil explained that a passed warrant would better serve the department than depending on the passing of the operating budget.

Vice-Chair Giordano made the motion, seconded by Selectman Johannesen, to approve the 2017 proposed 4220.1 Fire Department operating budget for \$295,155 and put the on-call night time budget for \$30,160 to warrant; **motion passed unanimously.**

b. 4323.1 Waste Disposal/4323.3 Bulk Pick-up Services

Still pending, Chairman O'Neil will be meeting with Casella to go over the contract in person.

II. PAYT

Chairman O'Neil explained that the Board has the authority to implement the PAYT program. The Town will not be charged to implement this program but the Town's people would need to purchase the trash bags. Maureen Francis is concerned about the cash need for the new bags. The Board explained that the Town's people will be saving on the back end because of the revenue from the bags. Selectman Farah suggested maybe a warrant for mandatory recycling. She will do more research about this and enforcement of mandatory recycling.

III. Signature File

Selectmen signed an administrative abatement.

IV. Minutes

Selectman Farah made the motion, seconded by Selectman Johannesen, to approve the October 24, 2016 public minutes as amended; **motion passed.**

Selectman Farah made the motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Giordano, to approve the October 24, 2016 non-public minutes as amended; **motion passed.**

V. Old/New Business

- a. The Board sets the new tax rate, the auditors and DRA tell the Town how much is in the unreserved fund balance. The Town can use the unreserved fund to help offset future tax rates. This is done annually and the process has not changed. The Board, through the Department of Revenue, has to meet the school requirements. This can only be done once all of the Towns have determined if impact fees will be applied. Once the Superintendent of Schools, Dr. Metzler said that the Towns could be involved in this Chairman O'Neil did some calculations, how they previously used to do it.

Historically, they used to have a representative from the Department of Revenue come down during the day where some Selectmen could attend and some could not. Chairman O'Neil asked the Board through email for approval after he gave his recommendation to the Board. He proceeded when he had quorum. There was a time crunch to get this done because of the School District. He was also trying to get the bills out as soon as possible.

Selectman Johannesen did not agree that it was ethical to be voting through email. The Board assured her that there was not an RSA against what was done and that it had been done this way previously, including last year when she was on the Board. The email was more for informational purposes than to be signed off on. The signatures did not have to be in a public setting. (emails are attached)

The resolution was for next year to give the Chairman the authority to set the tax rate.

The Town tax rate over the past 4 years has gone up \$0.01 per thousand and in the same 4 years the school tax rate has gone up 17.7%. The Board would like to invite the 2 School Board reps and the 2 School Budget Committee reps to the Selectmen's meeting.

b. Old Meetinghouse roof estimates

The Cy Pres has been approved by the Courts. The Board has the legal authority to spend funds for maintenance. The Old Meetinghouse Association has indicated that the roof needs to be replaced. They have provided 3 estimates and provided their recommendation.

Vice-Chair Giordano made the motion, seconded by Selectman Farah, to task CJ Meyers with the roofing of the Old Meetinghouse in the amount of up to \$10,000 and task the Old Meetinghouse Association with the management of the construction; **motion passed.**

c. Warrant article-Elderly Exemption

Chairman O'Neil recommended to the Board that they look at the current elderly exemptions and adjust the values accordingly due to the 15% increase in property valuations. The current dollar amount break down will be multiplied by a ratio of 1.1355, put in a warrant article and presented to the voters. It is the consensus of the Board that they will move forward with presenting this warrant article with correct numerical values for elderly exemptions.

d. Warrant article-Veteran tax credit update

The eligibility update, the State enacted a new RSA that allows the veteran's tax credit eligibility to be expanded. The Town now has the authority to recognize this expansion or keep it status quo. It is a consensus of the Board to move forward with the expansion of the veteran's tax credit eligibility. Selectman Farah abstained.

e. In regards to the PAYT program, Vice-Chair Giordano suggested making the executive decision to move forward with the PAYT program to save the Town money. Selectman Farah suggested first trying to implement mandatory recycling. Chairman O'Neil pushed to have the decision go to a warrant article. Selectman Farah would like more research done on mandatory recycling and mode of enforcement before deciding to bring this to a warrant article.

f. Selectman Farah brought up extending/added to the water ban. Janet had done some research, and no surrounding towns have expanded the water ban from just lawn watering. Places that own their organizations such as private developments and cities with public water can implement further bans. Chairman O'Neil brought before the Board two letters received from the Attorney General office that were sent to the Board in regards to Selectman Johannesen. Chairman O'Neil asked her to read the letters and she refused.

Vice-Chair Giordano made the motion, seconded by Selectman Johannesen to adjourn at 8:15pm; **motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Meghan O'Neil
Recorder-Board of Selectmen