

**MINUTES – SELECTMEN’S MEETING  
MONDAY, AUGUST 27, 2018 at 7:00 P.M.  
MARSHFIELD TOWN HALL – SELECTMEN’S HEARING ROOM**

Present: James J. Fitzgerald, Chairman, Joseph E. Kelleher, Vice-Chair; Michael G. Bradley, Clerk and Michael A. Maresco, Chairman.

Present from the Board of Public Works, John Vallier, Chairman; John Cusick, Stephen Hocking and Tom Reynolds, Superintendent

Joint Meeting with Board of Public Works regarding Fathom - Mr. Vallier opened the Board of Public Works meeting at 7:00 p.m. with the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Vallier indicated that the purpose of the meeting was to discuss new water software and water meters.

Mr. Maresco mentioned that he got on Board on October 30, 2017 and one of the things that was brought to his attention was that there was a drop in the amount of water that was being consumed for the last 2 years and he then notified the Board. Mr. Fitzgerald mentioned that this was hard to understand as the Town is growing. Mr. Fitzgerald also mentioned that in February Patrick Dello Russo was notified that Soft Rite is getting out of the billing business and we are going to need to have a software company for utility billing as well as replacing meters that are not working properly. Mr. Fitzgerald indicated that there needs to be a revenue stream based on water consumption. Mr. Dello Russo commented that they looked at a company that not only handles billing but has a help desk for customers as well as a website where customers can look on-line at their water consumption. Mr. Maresco mentioned that he, Patrick, Tom and Paul DuRoss visited the city of Rutland Vermont where the mayor had similar situation. Mr. Maresco said they were interested in the implementation of this new software and wanted to see how it worked there, and the feedback from the residents was good. Mr. Maresco also mentioned that they went to the company headquarters and saw where the help desk was located and calls were monitored. The town they visited was Maricopa. Mr. Maresco explained that the main concern is the drop in consumption of water which is inaccurate and they want to make it easier for people to pay their bills and there will be some people who will be paying more but it will be based on actual consumption.

Mr. Reynolds mentioned that they had 18 months left with the current software program and that the Board of Selectmen and Board of Public Works have decided to take a proactive approach to look at other software out there. Mr. Reynolds also mentioned that they would like to replace all the water meters with Smart water meters at the same time as some are 15 years old and not working properly. Mr. Reynolds also mentioned that the call centers allow customers to talk to someone and there is also the ability to go to a monthly billing system and residents will be able to monitor their water 24/7 with live time tracking. Mr. Reynolds also mentioned that people will be able to pay their bills on-line with credit cards.

Mr. Dello Russo explained that they looked at actual data and that there would an increased revenue growth with all new meters and that sewer revenue would also increase. Mr. Dello Russo also mentioned that the technology is also very user friendly. Mr. Maresco also commented that everything will be done electronically. Mr. Maresco mentioned that he thought

this was a great collaboration between the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Public Works in trying to find a solution they all can agree with. Mr. Reynolds also explained the fact that they used to have issues with collections and this will eliminate a lot of that and people will still be able to come to the window at Town Hall. Mr. Fitzgerald mentioned that the Town had just been looking at one particular vendor but they would have to go out to bid with an R.F.P. as there may be other vendors with better service and costs. Mr. Fitzgerald noted that all meters would have to be replaced but customers will actually be charged based on usage. Mr. Cusick asked Dan Bowen about the collection rate and Mr. Bowen indicated that it was about 90%. Mr. Cusick said the Town will never be able to collect 100%. Mr. Cusick mentioned that he was notified in May about Soft Rite and Norwell has Soft Rite and loves them and they are not going away, they are merging with another company. Mr. Dello Russo said that he spoke to an employee of Soft Rite back in February and was told about the merger then. Mr. Dello Russo also mentioned that they had asked Soft Rite to come and do training here many times and they never do and that he has lived through 4 Soft Rite conversions and that the Town of Norwell is very different from Marshfield. Mr. Reynolds also stated that they have had Soft Rite for 4

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years with no training and that he has very little confidence that they are going to improve. Mr. Maresco indicated that he wants the best possible company for the residents and one that will be reactive. Dave Carriere of Outlook Road indicated that he didn’t think they needed to switch to a new company that it wouldn’t make much difference and that all the meters don’t need to be replaced. Joe Pecevich of Wilson Road said he thought that the Board of Selectmen is trying to take over the Board of Public Works and said any system would have system leaks and that he didn’t see a need for new meters.

Mr. Vallier moved, seconded by Stephen Hocking to allow the Town Administrator to put together an RFP for new utility software. The vote was 2-1.

Mr. Cusick said that this is not an emergency according to the Town Charter. Mr. Fitzgerald explained that the Executive Board is not trying to take over, that they are working together with the DPW. Mr. Maresco mentioned that this has been a good collaboration with everyone.

Ms. Pam Keith of Smoke Hill Ridge said that the Board of Public Works has not had a meeting and they have an article on the Special Town Meeting warrant to replace the meters and get new software. Mr. Vallier mentioned that they were updated by Mr. Reynolds. Ms. Keith said she didn’t agree with the number and that it is not cost neutral and should not be on the warrant. Mr. Reynolds said that the warrant articles were discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Hocking said the Board of Selectmen is not trying to take over and that this is a step in the right direction.

Mr. Hocking moved, seconded by Mr. Vallier to award the bulldozer contract to Wayne Lopes. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Vallier moved, seconded by Mr. Hocking to adjourn the Board of Public Works meeting at 8:00 p.m. The vote was unanimous. The Board of Public Works then left the hearing room.

Mr. Fitzgerald then opened the Selectmen's meeting at 8:00 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance and announced that the meeting was being recorded by MCTV and other local outlets.

Town Administrator's Report - Mr. Maresco gave an oral report on the following:

August 14, 2018 - met with DPW staff and Patrick regarding indirect policy.

August 14, 2018- attended the ribbon cutting for the Maritime Center with the Lt. Governor and found out we are going to receive another \$95,000 grant thanks to Mike DiMeo.

August 15, 2018 –met with Summit Company. Met with Fiscal team regarding closing out FY18, met with Patrick to discuss the need to close out Capital projects. Met with David Hamm regarding net metering and also met with Fred Russell for his weekly update. We are meeting our goal for HVAC units and new keyless entry as well as work on nursing room. Fred also got the green contract signed, work to begin on roof at Library as well as Town Hall roof next spring due to leaking.

August 20, 2018 – met with Dave Russell regarding Bay Ave. as he is concerned about damage from March storms, also had meeting with Human Resources Manager regarding CRS manager position for Nancy Porreca who currently works for the Appeals Board and the Building Dept. Nancy will be doing CRS work with FEMA, MEMA and Joe Rossi. Nancy has been taking classes. Also met with Jim Folkard and Bill Grafton on zoning and conservation issues.

August 21, 2019 – held Department Head meeting, discussed FY20 Budget being level funded service budget, open to ideas. Also had meeting with Labor Counsel and Human Resources Manager.

August 22, 2018- held meeting with Carol Hamilton regarding a new phone system for the Council on Aging and other issues, also had meeting with Patrick Dello Russo and Peter Falabella regarding sewer 2000 and the fact that 35 people have still not hooked up.

August 23, 2018 – met with Jerry from Chamber of Commerce, the chamber has an article on the warrant to hire a grant writer for \$25,000, also had an update with Fred Russell on projects.

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Mr. Maresco then mentioned the opioid overdose vigil that will be held here at the Town Hall on August 31, 2018 at 6:00 p.m. with Jeff Garantino as speaker. Mr. Maresco also mentioned that the Town Hall will be illuminated from 7:00 p.m. – midnight.

August 23, 2018 – met with Patrick and Bev to go over warrant articles, the warrant has been sent to Town Counsel and the Town Moderator for review.

August 27, 2018 – had a meeting with Town Counsel on developmental issues.

Mr. Maresco then thanked the Cemeteries, trees and greens employees for the great work they have done to the grounds of Town Hall.

COA Request to Join AARP Network of Age-Friendly Communities - Mr. Fitzgerald read the letter from Carol Hamilton requesting that the Town join AARP Age Friendly Communities. Mr. Fitzgerald also read the letter that will be sent to Mr. Festa who is the AARP state director. Mr. Bradley moved, seconded by Mr. Kelleher to join the AARP Network of Age Friendly Communities. The vote was unanimous.

DWS Great Pumpkin Run – October 14, 2018 – Mr. Fitzgerald read the letter from Sarah Johnson of the Daniel Webster PTO requesting permission to hold the DWS Great Pumpkin Run on October 14, 2018. Mr. Bradley moved, seconded by Mr. Kelleher to approve the DWS Great Pumpkin Run on October 14, 2018 contingent upon Safety Officer approval.

Discussion and Possible Vote on the Hiring of 15 Permanent Intermittent Police Officers – Police Chief Phil Tavares appeared before the Board. Chief Tavares explained that they hire part-time officers for the possibility of their becoming full-time officers in Marshfield. Chief Tavares then went on to explain the process from his letter. Chief Tavares also noted that in tonight's recommendations there were no bypasses. Chief Tavares then read from his memo regarding the screening process from Captain McDonough as well as his letter with the following recommendations for employment: Patrick Hayden, Alexander Hunt, Joshua Gray, Brendan Heath, Benjamin Joyal, Abigail Clapp, Joseph Connor, Nichole Donovan, Camden Bruno, Daniel Shea, Kristine Murphy, Zach Perry, Michael Shaughnessy and Bryan Mey. Chief Tavares mentioned that one candidate Adam Schmidt is on active military duty and will be interviewed when he returns. The Board agreed that they were all great candidates. Mr. Bradley moved, seconded by Mr. Kelleher to approve the following candidates as Permanent Intermittent Police officers: Patrick Hayden, Alexander Hunt, Joshua Gray, Brendan Heath, Benjamin Joyal, Abigail Clapp, Joseph Connor, Nichole Donovan, Camden Bruno, Daniel Shea, Kristine Murphy, Zach Perry, Michael Shaughnessy, Bryan Mey and Alexander Schmidt. The vote was unanimous.

Acceptance of Minutes - Mr. Bradley moved, seconded by Mr. Kelleher to approve the minutes of August 13, 2018. The vote was unanimous.

Mr. Kelleher announced that there is an upcoming pickle ball tournament at the Peter Igo Park on Saturday, September 8, 2018 from 8:00 a.m. – 2:0 p.m. for anyone interested.

Mr. Fitzgerald moved, seconded by Mr. Kelleher to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m. The vote was unanimous.

There was no Executive Session held.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly Wiedemann

Documents and exhibits presented at this meeting were the following: letter from Carol Hamilton with copy of application to AARP and copy of letter to be sent from the Board to AARP, copy of letter from Sarah Johnson of the DWS PTO regarding Great Pumpkin Run, letters from Chief Tavares and Captain McDonough and other corresponding information regarding the hiring of 15 permanent intermittent police officers.