

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MINUTES – March 8, 2011

SUNDERLAND TOWN OFFICES

Present: Mr. Fydenkevez, Mr. Pierce

Absent: Mr. Bergeron-at Frontier Regional School Committee budget hearing

Others: Margaret Nartowicz, Town Administrator

Behind the camera: Tom Zimnowski

- Called to order at 7:03 p.m.
- Highway Department Budget Hearing – George Emery - Discussion regarding snow & ice removal, equipment maintenance & repairs. Highway Fuel line is running low. Highway Maintenance Expense line is dwindling. Discussion regarding equipment age & use, road repaving, material costs. George - Proposed Inter-municipal agreement with Leverett & Shutesbury for bucket truck. Having a bucket truck available for use would save money in Tree Warden Expense and allow the Highway Department to do tree trimming and other work; some of which is currently contracted out. Discussion regarding sharing equipment & staff for large projects. Brush Pile discussion – fee for service, or close entirely. Capital discussion – equipment & facilities.
- Library (SPL) Budget Hearing – Sheila McCormick and Library Trustees present. Lorin Starr- SPL submitted level funded budget per Board's request. Library is not meeting its Materials Acquisition Requirement (MAR). Board of Library Commissioners (MBLC) has granted a waiver for the current year and last year. Discussion regarding state MAR and state-wide waiver requests. Unlimited waivers are currently being granted due to state-wide fiscal situation. Discussion regarding value of volunteer services and donations. Lorin - Library services/hours are required to maintain certification. Discussion regarding Library Building Operating and equipment replacement. Discussion regarding adding computer replacement to the budget. Lorin – increasing non-materials budget lines will increase MAR shortfall. Discussion regarding MBLC's definition of "materials"; using a server, rather than individual PCs; charges or donations for use of computers and library resources; regional library service.
- Updates & Reminders – Franklin Tech, Frontier and Sunderland Elementary budget meetings Thursday beginning at 7:00 p.m. Will be discussion on future 4-town joint meetings with schools.
- Discussion regarding override scenarios; capital stabilization, & the need to fund the capital plan.
- Motion to adjourn by Mr. Pierce, 2nd by Mr. Fydenkevez. Vote 2-0. Adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret Z. Nartowicz
Town Administrator