

SUNDERLAND SELECTBOARD with FINANCE COMMITTEE MINUTES

Place: Sunderland Town Offices, 12 School Street

January 8, 2024

Attending: N. Waring, C. Drake-Tremblay, D. Murphy, G. Kravitz

Others: L. Forget-Finance Committee, Ms. Umstot, J. Rosewarne, C. Bennett, J. Unkles, C. Larabee-reporter

Meeting Hybrid and In-person with portions recorded by FCAT

Meeting called to order at 6:32PM

MINUTES

Ms. Drake-Tremblay motion to accept MINUTES of 12.18.2023, Mr. Murphy second, vote 3-0.

BUSINESS

- COMMON VITUALLER LICENSE 2024 for TEDDY C. SMIAROWSKI FARM STAND. Ms. Drake-Tremblay motion to approve, Mr. Murphy second, vote 3-0.
- LIBRARY FY25 BUDGET PRESENTATION: Ms. Umstot gave an overview of the two budgets presented, 1-level funded and 2- expenses services as well as library programs and future offerings. She also noted in the expanded budget submission which included expansion of Thursday hours as requested by patrons at a cost of \$6,500 and salary COLAs. It was also noted the Library would be closed from Jan 10-Jan 23 for carpet replacement.

OLD BUSINESS

- 23 PLUMTREE – Board has previously requested an Open House be arranged for public to view facility. Discussed best way to get information to the public and potential dates, weekend evening, etc. Mr. Kravitz is also researching low interest loan opportunities.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

- MR. Murphy noted MASS TRAILS GRANT OPPORTUNITY due in February. Towns can use labor for matching funds. Request Town Administrator draft letter of support. Grant could benefit Sunderland, Deerfield and Whately. UMASS section is on the priority list so expansion may be for Rt. 116. MS. Drake-Tremblay announced NEW SOUTH COUNTY EMS DIRECTOR – JOSPHUA SPARKS accepted position and will start 02.12.2024. SCEMS BUDGET Presentation is 02.05.2024. Mr. Waring offered condolences to the family of Sunderland Resident Melvin Wilson who passed away this weekend from injuries sustained in an accident in Hadley.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR UPDATES

- PICKLEBALL FENCE HEIGHT follow-up. Proposed fence for Sunderland was 6' and we felt 8' was more appropriate. Research of surrounding courts were as tall as 10'. 8' will be requested for Sunderland at an additional cost of several thousand dollars.
- VILLAGE CENTER COMMITTEE will hold a VISIONING EXERCISE for residents. Architects and committee will be available to answer questions and hear from the community. The meeting will take place on January 30th at 3:30PM and the same presentation at 6:30PM. Snow date is February 2nd for the same times.
- TOWN OFFICES CLOSED – Mon. January 15th for Martin Luther King Day Observance.
- NEXT SELECTBOARD MEETING: Tuesday, January 16, 2024.

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EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Pursuant to MGL Chapter 30A, Section 21 (a) paragraph 3: *To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares Police Union---Sunderland Police Association v Town of Sunderland MUP-22-9503.* Ms. Drake-Tremblay motion to enter Executive Session and return to open session to adjourn only, Mr. Murphy second, vote 3-0. Roll Call Vote: Ms. Drake-Tremblay-aye, Mr. Murphy-aye, Mr. Waring-aye at 6:56PM.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murphy motion to adjourn at 7:31PM, Ms. Drake-Tremblay second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,



Geoff Kravitz,
Town Administrator