

Sunderland Selectboard Minutes

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Attending: D. Pierce, S. Bergeron, T. Fydenkevez, G. Kravitz

Others present: F. Mozea, G. Emery, A. Falbel, J. Pelletier, S. Snyder, K. Hand, E. Crowe, L. Forget, P. Gagarin, C. Bennett, W. Houle

Meeting via Zoom recorded and televised by FCAT.

Meeting called to order at 6:30PM.

MINUTES

Mr. Fydenkevez motion to approve minutes of May 18, 2020, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

BUSINESS

MUNICIPAL ENERGY AGGREGATION: The final pricing included Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) + 5% for the first five months at a lower rate than the Eversource basic rate. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to change the default option for the first five months from National Wind to RPS +5%, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0. No other changes were suggested.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WARRANT: Article 3 (operating budget) was presented in two drafts, one with only COLAs and one with the Personnel Committee's recommended wage adjustments and COLAs. Discussion of personnel costs among various partners and the need to work collaboratively during this difficult financial time. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to sign and send letters to Frontier, Sunderland Elementary, and Franklin Tech to engage in discussions with union partners about holding FY20 wages steady in FY21, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0. The Finance Committee's discussed and supported the budget that included both the wage adjustments and COLAs. If appropriated in the budget, the Selectboard does not need to implement the increases immediately. That decision could be made at a later date if revenue projections are accurate. Mr. Fydenkevez motion to recommend operating budget with the wage adjustments and COLAs for a total of \$8,763,822, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

Article 2: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Article 3: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to recommend, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

Article 4: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to remove because there is no proposal to transfer Free Cash to the Stabilization Fund, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

Article 5: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to remove because there is no proposal to transfer Free Cash to the Capital Stabilization Fund, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

Article 7: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Article 8: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Article 6: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Article 9: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to remove, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0. Town employees will continue to work on identifying culverts and putting information together for the development of an RFI for a plan for ditch remediation.

Article 11: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Mr. Pierce motion to remove the warrant article related to the Frontier Capital request because it is included in the Capital Budget warrant article (Article 4), Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MOTIONS:

Article 2: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Article 6: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Article 8: Mr. Pierce motion to recommend, Mr. Fydenkevez second, vote 3-0.

Article 11: Mr. Fydenkevez motion to recommend, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

Discussion of the PARC grant (Article 22), which is required to secure the PARC grant, however, there is no requirement to borrow funds. The matching funds will be supplied by related CPA projects.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING LOGISTICS: Discussion of the potential for a weather-related delay. If the weather forecast is not promising, a CodeRED alert will go out to residents on June 4, informing them of a delay and the rescheduled meeting date. Town Meeting members will be seated six feet apart and are asked to bring their own

chairs, face coverings, and a Wi-Fi enabled device if they would like to pull up relevant documents from the town website. All State is donating hand sanitizers and Millstone is donating water for the meeting.

SELECTBOARD UPDATES

The FRCOG Council had an emergency meeting at which it was decided that the organization would offer bulk purchasing of PPE for municipalities and businesses in the region. Mr. Ewen was praised for organizing the Memorial Day ceremony on May 22, and Senator Comerford and Representative Blais were thanked for participating.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fydenkevez motion to adjourn at 8:38 PM, Mr. Pierce second, vote 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Geoff Kravitz". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Geoff" and last name "Kravitz" clearly distinguishable.

Geoff Kravitz, Town Administrator