



Warner Board of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 4, 2014
APPROVED

Chairman Hartman opened the meeting at 6:05 p.m.

In Attendance: Selectman David E. Hartman – Chairman, David Karrick, Jr. – Selectman, Clyde Carson – Selectman and Jim Bingham – Town Administrator

Others present: Ed Mical, Allan Brown, Barbara Annis

1. 2014 Warrant Articles

- A. The Selectmen received a revised warrant.
- B. Before the Selectmen is a warrant article for a bond (Article 6) in the amount of \$2.7 million for a new fire station. The \$2.7 million includes full construction on the first floor, mechanics, including an elevator, and partial construction on the second floor. Selectman Carson asked if that cost includes stabilizing the embankment and a wood pellet furnace, the Town Administrator said no. The Town Administrator obtained the yearly cost for a \$2.6 million bond that would include the installation of the elevator and wood pellet furnace with an empty shell on the second floor.
- C. Selectman Karrick asked what would happen if the Board was in favor of the bond article but found another site that made more sense. The Town Administrator said it may lead to confusion at Town Meeting. Selectman Karrick asked the Town Administrator in his opinion, the Board would need to commit to the current site if the Board is going to stand behind the bond article. The Town Administrator said yes, a bond article requires the recommendation/not recommendation of both the Selectmen and Budget Committee.
- D. Chairman Hartman said he has heard from many people that this bond article needs to go before the voters. However, Chairman Hartman has problems with the site and the size of the building and he has a lot of unanswered questions. He questions if it is the right time to bring the bond article to the voters. Selectman Karrick reluctantly said the bond article needs to go before the voters, the Town needs a new fire station but he is not sure the current site and design is the best site and design plan. Selectman Carson said historically a bond takes three years to pass by the voters. He said there is an unknown cost for the site preparation, particularly if the embankment needs to be stabilized, and there is no additional cost to install a wood pellet furnace. Selectman Carson said he knows the fire station is needed, but he does not feel the proposal is ready to go before the voters, he feels a committee needs to be reactivated that would include not only the fire department but a Selectman and a Budget Committee member to prepare for the 2015 Town Meeting.
- E. The Town Administrator advised the Board to take a hard look at what it means to put forward a bond warrant article with their recommendation. The Board recommending an article says to the voters that the Board has completed everything necessary to come to the recommendation conclusion and the Board is asking for the Town's support; the voters count on the Selectmen to work out all the details. Selectman Karrick said his reluctant recommendation was a trial to prepare the way for another article next year. Selectman Carson feels an up to date report should be provided to the voters and the Board should make a firm commitment to work with the Fire Department to put together a sound proposal for 2015 Town Meeting.

- F. Selectman Karrick asked if he is correct in saying the reason the proposed site was purchased was because the Town needed to show a site for a Homeland Security grant application. Chairman Hartman disagrees on that reasoning, he recalls the site was brought up when it was believed there may be Homeland Security funding for a new fire station, he does believe the Town purchased it for that purpose, it was purchased after learning the Town was not eligible for the grant. Ed Mical said there was a grant available for a fire station, it was submitted and not approved; at the time the competition was very high.
- G. Chairman Hartman feels the Fire Department understands the Board's situation. The Fire Department was offered the chance to present a petition warrant article as well; they did not want to do that without the support of the Selectmen.
- H. Chairman Hartman asked the Board if they are ready to vote on Article 6, to recommend or not recommend. Selectman Carson asked if the Board does not move forward with the article this year, a strong statement needs to be included on how the Board is going to move forward to be prepared for 2015.

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the Article on the warrant. Chairman Hartman seconded the motion. Roll call vote; Chairman Hartman – no, Selectman Karrick – no, Selectman Carson – no. Motion dies; the bond Article will not be placed on the warrant.

2. Encumbered Funds for Red Chimney Road

- A. Selectman Carson still believes it is not in the best interest of the tax payers to carry forward \$60K from 2013 to 2014 for the purpose of reconstructing Red Chimney Road. He acknowledges Red Chimney Road is in need of repair but the Board's priorities have been to get ready for Waldron Hill Road. By putting the \$60K back into the general fund that money would help to off-set any tax increases or appropriations needed to reconstruct Waldron Hill Road. Using the \$60K for Red Chimney Road before Waldron Hill Road could make the decisions from a financing perspective for Waldron Hill Road more difficult.
- B. Selectman Karrick is not clear how the \$60K would be moved to the Waldron Hill Road project. Selectman Carson said if the money is not encumbered it goes back to general fund, when it comes time to begin Waldron Hill Road it could be funded by either tax revenue, through the general fund, a combination of both or used to help off-set the taxes.

Board Action

Selectman Karrick moved not to encumber the \$60K for the purpose of reconstructing Red Chimney Road and not accept the bid from Pike Industries. Chairman Hartman seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion passed.

3. Warrant Articles (continued)

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$ 2,967,008.00 (Two Million, Nine Hundred Sixty-Seven Thousand, Eight Dollars) as a 2014 Operating Budget? This amount does not include amounts from any other warrant articles. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

The Town Administrator explained that the operating budget shows a 2.9% increase (\$66,469.00) from last year, and the overall growth from 2006 to today is 1.3%.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$20,000.00 (Twenty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Property Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the amount of \$45,000.00 (Forty Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Exit 9 Improvements Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Selectman Carson said this represents half of the amount of the Town's portion for the project.

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$175,000.00 (One Hundred Seventy Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Highway Road Construction Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Karrick moved to place the article on the warrant. Chairman Hartman seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$100,000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Chairman Hartman asked the Town Administrator how the Department of Revenue Administration has the Selectmen listed as agents to expend, but the Town Administrator researched and has found no supporting data. However, there are numerous occasions after 1994 where the Board was directed by town vote to expend. The Town Administrator did speak to the Department of Revenue Administration and in there records the Board of Selectmen are agents to expend from this fund.

Ed Mical said it was voted in the mid 2000s that the Selectmen are agents to expend for all the capital reserve funds.

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to add to the already established Police Department Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$70,000.00 (Seventy Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Fire/Rescue Vehicle Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Karrick moved to place the article on the warrant. Chairman Hartman seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$50,000.00 (Fifty Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Fire Department Building/Renovation Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen, Not Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Selectman Karrick asked if there was a question about the appropriation amount. The Town Administrator felt there could be amendments to the article if it is presented at \$50K; the Town Administrator had previously recommended \$30K which would be enough to repair the fire station roof. Selectman Carson asked if this is the same capital reserve used to deal with the architects for the new fire station and if money is needed for additional work it would need some money available.

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town vote to establish a contingency fund in accordance with RSA 31:98-a for the current year to be used by the Board of Selectmen for unanticipated expenses that may arise and further to raise and appropriate the amount of \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to go into the fund? This sum is to come from fund balance and no amount to be raised from taxation. Any appropriation left in the fund at the end of the year will lapse to the general fund. Majority vote required. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$25,000.00 (Twenty Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Bridge Replacement & Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Karrick moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Carson seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town vote to authorize the creation of The Odd Fellows Building Capital Reserve Fund for the purpose of hazard mitigation of this Brownfield site, to raise and appropriate \$5,000 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be placed in this Fund and to name the Board of Selectmen as Agents to expend? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Selectman Carson said the reason for this article is so there is earnest money available which will also make the Town eligible for grants if they come available during the next year.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$10,000.00 (Ten Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Transfer Station Equipment Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion. The Town Administrator recommends reducing this article to \$5,000 to reduce the capital budget to reflect a total amount that is closer to last years total capital budget. A baler is scheduled to be replaced, but it is felt that if needed the Transfer Station could function with one baler. Chairman Hartman moved to amend the amount to \$5,000. Selectman Carson seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$5,000.00 (Five Thousand Dollars) to be added to the already established Town Hall Building Improvements Capital Reserve Fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

Article

Shall the Town raise and appropriate the sum of \$29,302.14 (Twenty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Two Dollars and Fourteen Cents) for the purpose of Library Operations. Of that sum, \$29,302.14 (Twenty Nine Thousand Three Hundred Two Dollars and Fourteen Cents) to come from one or more of the following funds managed by the Trustees of the Pillsbury Free Library: the Fines & Fees Account, Donations Account, the Library Operating Account, the Eleanor Cutting Account and the Mary Martin Children's Fund. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Karrick moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Carson seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

The Town Administrator is working with the Department of Revenue Administration regarding this article; it is strongly felt that this article is not needed in the warrant.

Article

Shall the Town vote to have rental proceeds from the lease agreement between New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC and the Town for a Communications (Cell) Tower located on Town Forest land off North Road be placed in the general fund? (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen; Recommended by the Budget Committee)

Board Action

Selectman Carson moved to place the article on the warrant. Selectman Karrick seconded the motion all were in favor; the motion passed.

4. Manifest

Selectman Carson moved to authorize the Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign Payroll check numbers 2989-3007 in the amount of \$32,058.92 (including 19 direct deposits) and Accounts Payable check numbers 49275-49344 in the amount of \$472,465.03. (Accounts payable number 49315-49336 and 49337-49339 are for 2013 budget). Chairman Hartman seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

5. Consent Agenda

Selectman Karrick moved to approve the following:

- Timber Warrant & Certificate in the amount of \$1,985.09 for Map 15 Lot 49
- Intent to cut for Map 11 Lot 27

Selectman Carson seconded the motion; all were in favor, the motion passed.

6. Adjournment

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:10 p.m.

Board of Selectmen

David E. Hartman – Chairman

David Karrick, Jr.

Clyde Carson

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Whalen

Recording secretary