

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
January 19, 2017
Harpswell Town Office
Approved February 10, 2017

At 5:00pm the Board of Selectmen held a workshop with the Road Commissioner regarding the possible change from elected to appointed. The Board recessed at 5:35pm.

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Selectmen Present: Richard A. Daniel, Elinor Multer and Kevin E. Johnson

Staff Present: Kristi Eiane, Town Administrator; Terri Sawyer, Deputy Town Administrator; Marguerite Kelly, Treasurer; and Mark Eyerman, Planner

1. Adoption of the Agenda: Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer, to adopt the agenda as printed; motion passed 3-0.

2. Public Comment: None.

3. Selectmen's Announcements: None.

4. Town Administrator's Report: Administrator Eiane reported she had a tour of the Cumberland County Jail today and gained an appreciation of the work of the staff and management. There are 15 County jails (2 counties share) and Cumberland County is the only accredited jail in Maine. She encouraged the Board of Selectmen to participate in a future tour. Administrator Eiane stated the volunteer organization Harpswell Aging at Home has implemented a new program – Connecting Seniors – where calls will be placed to seniors on a weekly basis as an opportunity to outreach and to discuss what resources are available. Harpswell is fortunate to have such dedicated volunteers. Selectman Multer added Harpswell Aging at Home is doing weatherization on seniors' homes and other upgrades such as improving handicap access. Chairman Daniel stated he was intrigued by the recruiter from New York that works with counties and outlying communities to recruit and retain firefighters. He asked if Cumberland County could offer such services as recruitment. Selectman Multer stated the County has wanted to take on more and the Town could check with them on this matter.

5. Legislative Update from Representative Jay McCreight: Representative Jay McCreight expressed disappointment about not being appointed to the Legislature's Marine Resources Committee and noted she intends to remain active in that area. Representative McCreight reviewed several bills she has submitted including one regarding muffling the noise of rockweed harvesters and one regarding how to properly dispose of expired marine flares. Representative McCreight invited the Selectmen to visit Augusta and have a tour. She noted Augusta is looking for honorary pages (children up to college age) to deliver messages. Administrator Eiane stated she is on the Maine Municipal Association Legislative Policy Committee and its platform is to see that state funding is maintained at current levels and not eliminated such as the homestead exemption.

6. Treasurer's Report: Marguerite Kelly, Treasurer, reviewed her monthly report for December (attached).

7. Cumberland County Development Block Grant (CDBG) Application: Mike Helfgott, Orr's/Bailey's Island Fire Department Board President, reviewed the application for CDBG funding in the amount of \$61,828 for renovations to the Fire Station. Mr. Helfgott stated he understands the Budget Advisory Committee and the Board agreed to ask taxpayers for \$30,914 towards this project. Mr. Helfgott asked the Board to consider structuring the warrant article to still allow for use of \$15,000 from the Town if the grant is approved. Those additional funds would go towards a sprinkler system. Chairman Daniel moved to approve submitting the grant application pending some edits by Selectman Johnson; motion passed 3-0. Mark Eyerman, Planner, reviewed the application for CDBG funding in the amount of \$7,000 for updating the Mitchell Field Master Plan. The third application is for \$61,950 for home repairs through a partnership between Harpswell Aging at Home and Habitat

for Humanity program. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to approve the Mitchell Field Master Plan and Harpswell Aging at Home grant applications; motion passed 3-0.

8. Planner's Update – Proposed Land Use Ordinance Amendments and Recreational Marijuana Survey: Mark Eyerman, Planner, reviewed the draft land use ordinance amendments as approved by the Planning Board. Mr. Eyerman reviewed the State law regarding recreational marijuana and noted the Town's survey resulted in no conclusive direction. Selectman Multer stated she supports implementing a moratorium as the Town is too vulnerable without zoning, other than Shoreland zoning. Selectman Johnson stated he favored not doing anything at this time as it will take quite some time for the State to flush out the details. Chairman Daniel stated a moratorium would be similar to not doing anything as it would delay action. The Board reached consensus to review proposed moratorium language.

9. MSAD 75 Report Re: New Mt. Ararat High School Project: Brad Smith, MSAD 75 Superintendent, introduced Mark Conrad, MSAD 75 Business Manager, Allan Cunningham, President PT Architects, and Linda Hall and Dave Johnson, Board Members. Mr. Smith provided the history of Mt. Ararat High School and the process the District has followed regarding constructing a new high school. Mr. Cunningham reviewed designs of the new school. Mr. Conrad reviewed the costs that the State will cover and the costs to the four towns (see attached presentation). Mr. Smith stated voters will vote on two articles on March 7, one for the new high school and associated costs and the other being the specific cost for the artificial turf only. Selectman Multer expressed dissatisfaction that the District did not split the costs out into more than two articles – one for the main costs, one for the turf and one for the other locally funded items (see attached list of locally funded items).

10. Consider Secret Ballot Articles for March 11 Town Meeting: The Board agreed to place the appropriation [\$137,104] for the Curtis Memorial Library on secret ballot for the annual Town Meeting. There was a discussion regarding whether to place the change of the Road Commissioner position from elected to appointed on secret ballot. The Board discussed how there is more participation by secret ballot. Chairman Daniel read the proposed article. Administrator Eiane noted the article does not include any term and the Board agreed to the article language. Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to place the Road Commissioner article on secret ballot; motion passed 3-0. Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to place the Curtis Memorial Library appropriation on secret ballot; motion passed 3-0.

11. Accept Donations: Chairman Daniel moved, seconded by Selectman Multer to accept the following donations: Norman & Emily Breitner \$100 for the bandstand, William Cheever \$300 for heating, Walsh Family \$400 for heating, Elijah Kellogg Church \$80 in food cards; motion passed 3-0.

12. Authorization of the Warrants: Selectman Multer moved, seconded by Selectman Johnson to authorize warrant 3 in the amount of \$698,664.76 and payroll warrant 3 in the amount of \$13,834.03; motion passed 3-0.

13. Public Comment: None.

14. Other Business: None.

15. Administrative Matters: Each Selectman recommended each article voted earlier to place on secret ballot.

16. 2017 Budget Review: The Board reviewed and approved the following budget categories:

1205	EMS bldg operations	\$4,100	9200	Vehicle repl & equip	\$45,000
1150	Clerk's-updated	\$53,852	9200	Recycling Center	\$40,000
3100	Law enforcement-updated	\$342,661	9200	Office equipment	\$2,500
5200	General assistance	\$15,000	9200	Emergency comm. Equip	\$2,500

5300	Social services	\$19,430	7000	Debt Service	\$470,000
6000	Orr's Isl Library	\$15,000	9400	Mitchell Field operations	\$32,800
6000	Cundy's Hrb Library	\$17,300	9400	Demo filtration bldg	\$7,500
6000	Curtis Mem. Library	\$137,104	9200	MF waterfront improve	\$150,000
6000	Harpwell Com. Broadcast	\$63,750	9200	EMS building	\$150,000
6000	Other cultural	\$15,571	9200	Emergency vehicles	\$100,000
6420	Recreation Dept	\$45,579	1650	Property tax assistance	\$5,000
6410-99	Recreation Programs	\$13,850	1650	PEG warranty	\$6,400
9200	Town Facilities	\$10,000	1650	Floodplain map review	\$5,000
1600	Contingency	\$10,000			

Administrator Eiane stated the Budget Advisory Committee also approved using \$150,000 from fund balance for a reserve for emergency pier and planning, particularly if the bond article is not approved. Baker Designs is working on the updated cost estimates for removing the pier so Selectmen can consider including in a bond article in the warrant. The Board will meet with Barney Baker on February 2 regarding the cost estimates. Selectman Multer expressed concern about the use of \$150,000 from fund balance and having less available to offset the tax commitment.

17. Adjournment: At 9:00 p.m. the Chair adjourned the meeting without objection.

Respectfully Submitted,

Terri-Lynn Sawyer
Deputy Town Administrator

- Attachments: Treasurer's Report
- MSAD 75 High School Costs presentation
- MSAD 75 locally funded items