

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Bethlehem Selectmen Office
November 21, 2016

Present: Chairman Glavac, Selectman Blanchard, Selectman Laleme.

Chairman Glavac opened the meeting at 6:03pm and announced that Selectman Staples is resigning as Selectman. Chairman Glavac said that she has been contemplating this for awhile and asked that everyone please respect that it was a personal decision.

Budgets:

Conservation Commission:

Cheryl Jensen and Linda Moore discussed the proposed budget with the Board. Mrs. Jensen said they are requesting the same amount as this year and reviewed the breakdown of the budget. She also said they have approx. \$13,000 in the savings account that comes from 5% of the land use change tax.

Selectman Laleme gave an update on Northern Pass and said she contacted Attorney Christine Fillmore about a price estimate for next year. Selectman Laleme said they have spent between 6 and 7 thousand so far this year and the estimate she received for next year is approx. \$10,000.00. Selectman Laleme said without the attorney the town would have no representation and will have no voice. She suggested adding \$10,000.00 to \$15,000.00 to the legal budget for Northern pass. Mrs. Jensen said the hearing will be at the end of May and then the SEC will deliberate with a decision due by 09/30/17.

Ambulance:

Fire Chief, Jack Anderson, came before the Board to discuss the ambulance budget. He said he will be doing a warrant article for a new defibrillator for the Ambulance which cost \$32,730.91 less the trade in value of the old one of \$3500.00 for a total of \$29,230.91. There was discussion about the ambulance capital reserve and whether to continue it. Selectman Laleme said we should continue to save because we will need another one in approx. 10 years.

Fire:

Chief Anderson reviewed the budget with the Board and said he increased the firemen salary line by \$2000.00 and said he really needs to increase their rates at some point. He said his retirement went up but he has no control over that. He explained that he would like to get paint to paint the station floor and said the ceiling will need to be addressed at some point too. Chairman Glavac said we are getting back to where the budget needs to be at.

Emergency Management:

Chief Anderson kept this budget at \$500.00

Recreation:

Richard Ledoux, Recreation Director, and Lisa Jacobs, Aquatics Coordinator, came before the Board to review the Recreation budget. Mr. Ledoux reviewed some of the needs he anticipates for next year including new swings, uniforms and other sports equipment. Chairman Glavac

said he would like him to project how much revenue he anticipates for next year. Ms. Jacobs reviewed the pool portion of the budget and said she increased the salary because they are open more days. She said they sold 50 family passes compared to 30 last year and 215 individual passes compared to 154 last year. She also said they tripled the enrollment for swim lessons and added a swim team and a junior lifeguard class. Ms. Jacobs told the Board that she will be taking the CPO training so the expense for oversight/chemicals next year will be less. She said she is getting a cost estimate to replace the filters and suggested it should be a warrant article because it will cost approximately \$35,000.00. The Board discussed whether to have that be a warrant article or to put it in the budget. Ms. Jacobs said the maintenance line along with the comfort station fund will be used to fix the porches on the comfort station. Chairman Glavac asked Ms. Jacobs to determine how much the oversight/chemicals line could be reduced due to her becoming certified.

Chief Ho-Sing-Loy presented to the Board 2 flashing speed signs that tell how fast you are going that he would like to get for each end of town as you enter town. He explained he wrote a letter to NCES asking if they could pay for them and they said they would pay for both signs. The signs cost \$2,500.00. Chief Ho-Sing-Loy asked the Board to accept the money from NCES to purchase the signs. Selectman Blanchard moved to accept the donation (\$5,000.00) from NCES to purchase 2 speed signs. Selectman Laleme seconded. Carried 3-0.

The Board discussed the buyout for our current copier. Chairman Glavac said for April to negotiate price on copier and bring information back to the Board.

The Board discussed the Local River Advisory membership fee of \$50.00 and Chairman Glavac moved to pay the \$50.00. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 3-0.

Selectman Laleme discussed with the Board the email from Kate Killeen who is interested in utilizing her skills in research by volunteering to give input about the Country Club. The Board agreed to have Selectman Laleme contact her to discuss this.

At 7:40 Chairman Glavac moved to go into non-public session per RSA 91A:3 for matters of personnel. Selectman Blanchard did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

The Board discussed personnel and an alternative plan for police prosecuting. Selectman Blanchard moved to move forward with an agreement with the county prosecutor and move the amount over from the salary line. Chairman Glavac seconded. Carried 3-0.

At 8:03 Selectman Blanchard moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Laleme seconded. Chairman Glavac did roll call with all members agreeing to come out of non-public session.

At 8:03 Selectman Blanchard moved to adjourn. Selectman Laleme seconded. Carried 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
April Hibberd