

TOWN OF SEABROOK

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

JANUARY 20, 2014

Present: Aboul B. Khan
Edward J. Hess, Jr.
Raymond Smith
William Manzi

10:00AM

Mr. Khan opened the meeting at 10:00AM.

PUBLIC HEARING - COMCAST CONTRACT

Mr. Khan opened the hearing at 10:06AM. Mr. Manzi explained this is a top priority for him but that Comcast is not ready. He was told the contract would be ready this week.

Mr. Smith said he would like the town manager to look into other vendors and if he finds one he can make a recommendation to the Selectmen.

Mr. Hess said he would like a meeting setup for tomorrow to find out what is going on. Mr. Manzi said he would send a note today and indicate the strong displeasure of the Board.

Mr. Khan commented that the town attorney did a poor job on this.

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To setup a meeting to
Second: Aboul B. Khan to talk with the Comcast
representative and to
post as a meeting.

Paula Wood asked why the representative was not here today. Mr. Manzi said it is a holiday for them. He will provide the date and time to Paula when he sets the meeting.

Unanimous

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To recess the public
Second: Raymond Smith hearing until the next
Unanimous Selectmen's meeting.

PUBLIC HEARING - D'ALESSANDRO FUNDS

Mr. Khan opened the hearing at 10:15AM. Chief Lee Bitomske was present for this hearing. He said they have received another check for \$250K and have received \$857,382 to date.

Mr. Khan closed the hearing at 10:20AM.

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To accept the funds from

Second: Raymond Smith D'Alessandro estate for
Unanimous \$250K.

Chief Bitomske said he is requesting to table his request to purchase items from the D'Alessandro funds until a future meeting.

Mr. Smith commented there is no timeline to spend the money and the Chief has done a great job in obtaining the items needed for his department. He would like the Town Manager and Police Chief to look at the items needed before spending the money.

MONTHLY MEETING - WATER SUPERINTENDENT

Curtis Slayton was present for his monthly report (see attached). He briefly went through his report.

Dwight Avenue - plans and specs were developed over the winter months and construction to begin in the spring. He expects the project completion in 2014.

ABATEMENT

Mary Aylward - 48 Rocks Road

Mr. Slayton said he is not recommending the abatement and the town manager concurs. There was discussion on this and whether or not there is a pool. The increase is only seen during the months of June and July. The owner did not indicate if the water was used for a pool but did say she did not use the water.

MOTION: Raymond Smith To deny the abatement.
Second: Edward J. Hess, Jr.
Unanimous

PREVIOUS MINUTES - JANUARY 6 PUBLIC & NON-PUBLIC AND JANUARY 8 PUBLIC & NON-PUBLIC

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To adopt the minutes of
Second: Raymond Smith 1/6 public & non-public.
Abstain: Aboul B. Khan - was not present for meeting

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To adopt the minutes of
Second: Raymond Smith 1/8 public & non-public.
Unanimous

PREVIOUSLY SIGNED PERMITS

Mr. Khan read the list of permits (see attached).

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To approve the permits.

Second: Raymond Smith
Unanimous

WATER SERVICE APPLICATIONS

Jaclyn Leonardi - 94 Concord Street - \$100
Joseph Quartarone - 108 Ocean Drive - \$400
Carole Anne Buckley Rev Trust - 144 Ocean Drive - \$100

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To approve and sign all
Second: Raymond Smith water applications.
Unanimous

VETERAN'S EXEMPTIONS

Janet Snow - 71 Cynthia Circle
William Weitzel - 54 Coral Lane
Kenneth Parent - 13 Dandiview Acres
Richard Silva, Jr. - 65 Silver Street
Steven Barnes - 33 Beckman Landing
Brian Holloran - 13 Maple Ridge Road
Conrad Digennaro - 28 Tricia Street
Harold Ober - 51 Tricia Street
Raymond Parent - 97 Concord Street
Danielle Sorrentino - 30 A Brooks Road Ext.

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To approve and sign all
Second: Raymond Smith veteran's exemptions.
Unanimous

TAXICAB LICENSES

Abba Taxi
Surfside Taxi

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To approve and sign both
Second: Raymond Smith taxicab licenses.
Unanimous

DONATION \$1000 FROM WAL-MART

Chief Bitomske explained this money is to be used for public use.

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To accept the \$1000 from
Second: Raymond Smith Wal-Mart.
Unanimous

Chief Bitomske commented on the 2 bike races coming through town in the spring. He said he spoke with the representatives and

was assured they would provide the proper police coverage needed for safety.

AMENDMENT TO TOWN MANAGER'S CONTRACT

<u>MOTION:</u>	Edward J. Hess, Jr.	To approve and sign the
<u>Second:</u>	Raymond Smith	amendment to the town
<u>Unanimous</u>		manager's contract for
		an additional year on
		the term.

DEFAULT BUDGET

<u>MOTION:</u>	Edward J. Hess, Jr.	To approve and sign the
<u>Second:</u>	Aboul B. Khan	default budget.
<u>Unanimous</u>		

WARRANT ARTICLES

Article 3 - Operating Budget

<u>MOTION:</u>	Edward J. Hess, Jr.	To recommend this
<u>Second:</u>	Raymond Smith	article.
<u>Unanimous</u>		

Article 12 - Ladder truck for the fire department. Mr. Hess commented the truck they have does not conform to what the town needs.

<u>MOTION:</u>	Edward J. Hess, Jr.	To recommend this
<u>Second:</u>	Raymond Smith	article.
<u>Unanimous</u>		

Mr. Khan said this article has been discussed for many years and before any big disaster happens this article needs to be voted in favor of.

Article 32 - License for operating system. Brian Murphy was present and explained this article. This will save money on the systems going forward. Mr. Manzi said if they buy one license per unit as we are today it costs more.

<u>MOTION:</u>	Edward J. Hess, Jr.	To recommend this
<u>Second:</u>	Raymond Smith	article.
<u>Unanimous</u>		

Article 39 - Citizens Petition - Community Home Solutions - There was discussion on the wording and if counsel has reviewed.

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To recommend this
Second: Raymond Smith article for \$7500.
Present: Aboul B. Khan

Article 40 - Citizens Petition - Dugouts \$7500

MOTION: Raymond Smith To recommend this
Second: Aboul B. Khan article for \$7500.
Unanimous

There was discussion on the article for the upgrades to the fire station and that the budget committee did not recommend this article. Mr. Hess said they are looking to see if this could be pushed out a year or phased in over a couple of years. They are also requesting more details as to what this project would include.

Board took a 5-minute break at 11:27AM. Board reconvened at 11:37AM.

Mr. Khan said he visited the fire station with the town manager and they felt it was essential to take care of the inside of the building.

There was discussion on smaller funding. Paula Wood said they had 2 articles that were over \$400K and then a 3rd for a ladder truck. She feels it is a little much for one year. Mr. Hess suggested \$50K for 3 years. Mr. Smith said he feels where employees live or when they use vehicles it should be a priority. Mr. Khan said the police department is not spending the taxpayer's money so he would like to get the fire station completed.

Mr. Manzi recommended changing the article to \$75K for the first year and \$75K for the second year. Mr. Hess said he feels \$50K over 3 years is a better option. There was discussion on having an article for long-term maintenance on the buildings in town.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To change the article to
\$75K for this year for
the renovations to the
fire station and for the
budget committee to
reconsider.

There was discussion on the article for the dispatch center and console.

Second: Raymond Smith
Opposed: Edward J. Hess, Jr.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To recommend this
Second: Raymond Smith article for \$75K.
Opposed: Edward J. Hess, Jr.

Wastewater Treatment Plant - is \$130K and not recommended by the budget committee. The committee increased the budget by \$25K and would like the Board of Selectmen to reconsider the article and remove from the ballot.

Paula Wood said the budget had \$50K for a trailer if the article did not pass. Phil Maltais agreed another \$25K would be more than enough to get a unit that would last for a few years.

There was discussion on if the budget did not pass.

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr. To remove the article
Second: Raymond Smith for the WWTP Building
Unanimous for \$130K from the
ballot.

Paula Wood thanked everyone for the work they did this year and said it was a combined effort of all involved and the process went really well.

Mr. Khan said they attended a hearing with the commissioners in Concord for the expansion of Route 1. He said Victoria Chase would be coming to the town on 1/27/14 at 9AM. Mr. Khan said they are doing everything possible to start this project sooner rather than later.

Mr. Hess said they had a double fatality on Saturday and both the police and fire departments did an excellent job. He said the DPW crew has been out straight with plowing and they are doing a great job. Mr. Hess requested the town set a policy on snow emergencies. Chief Lee Bitomske said he would make himself available to discuss.

Paula Wood asked for a policy on petition articles and the submission so everyone knows what happens and to inform everyone.

AngelJean asked for an update on the police brutality issue. Mr. Hess said the Selectmen cannot comment and all questions should be referred to the attorney general's office. Mr. Manzi said the officers are still on paid administrative leave.

AngelJean said there were studies done in 1993 and 2005 with recommendations made and nothing was done. She asked if the Board would action based on the attorney general's investigation. Mr. Manzi said it is a criminal investigation so they don't expect a management review for the attorney general's office.

Mr. Khan said the chain of command is the Board of Selectmen set the policies and the town manager enforces those policies to all the departments. This is a criminal investigation and they will need to wait until complete but will make sure it doesn't happen again.

Mr. Manzi said he would be drafting a letter to open negotiations to discuss the healthcare issues. Once the Board approves it he will send it out to the unions.

Mr. Maguire spoke and said the Selectmen should lead by example and take action on their own healthcare line item within the budget which has a large increase. Mr. Khan said he agrees and said the Selectmen have not taken any pay increase in the past 7 years. Mr. Smith said he would need further information before making any comment or suggestion.

Mr. Maguire said they need to come up with ways to reduce the budget when they are looking at a 9% increase. Mr. Hess said they have looked at ways to cut but no one wants to make the cuts. Mr. Maguire said he is not saying to cut the insurance but maybe reduce it and lead by example. Mr. Khan requested an agenda item for discussion on this at the 2nd meeting in February.

Mr. Maguire mentioned cutting back on position or privatizing services and no Selectmen is in favor of this.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

MOTION: Edward J. Hess, Jr.

Second: Aboul B. Khan

Unanimous

To go into non-public session at 12:47PM under RSA 91-A: 3, II, (a) personnel.

Roll call:

Mr. Khan - yes

Mr. Hess - yes

Mr. Smith - yes

The Selectmen reconvened in public session at 1:47PM.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To adjourn the meeting
Second: Edward J. Hess, Jr. at 1:47PM.
Unanimous

Meeting adjourned at 1:47PM.
Minutes taken by Kelly J. O'Connor

Approved and endorsed

Raymond Smith, Clerk

Date: _____