

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING

FEBRUARY 4, 2020

PRESENT: Willard J. Boulter, Jr. (Chairman), Arthur P. Boyle, Jr. (Vice-Chairman), John G. Brown, Jr. (Clerk), Jessica M. Rushing (Selectman), Daniel W. Trabucco (Selectman), Edwin J. Thorne (Town Manager), J. Michael Hill (Fire Chief), Mary Hill, Nick Zechello, Jr. (Energy Committee), Mark Cappadona, Stephen Curley, Brooke Young, Sabrina Chilcott (Assistant Town Manager), and others.

At 7:30 pm Mr. Boulter opened the meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Fire Chief Hill was present to announce his retirement on June 5, 2020 from his position of Fire Chief. Chief Hill stated that it has been an honor to represent the Pembroke Fire Department for the last 36 years, beginning in 1984 as a call firefighter. He stated that it has been a wonderful experience to work with his professional colleagues in Pembroke and he is grateful for the opportunity to lead the talented members of integrity and honor in the Department since 2015. The Board expressed congratulations and gratitude to the Chief for his exemplary service.

7:30 COLONIAL POWER: MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION PROGRAM PRESENTATION

Mark Cappadona of Colonial Power in Marlborough was present before the Board to review the past processes, actions and votes undertaken by the town over the last four years; he advised that there are some very advantageous opportunities for the town right now. The current rate charged by supplier National Grid is .13957/kw and the bids anticipated for aggregate rates will be in the .10500/kw or lower range. Discussion ensued. Mr. Cappadona stated that Halifax saved \$400,000 since 2017 and Plymouth has saved \$6million over 36 months, but they are Eversource customers. Discussion ensued on factors that affect the market and subsequent rates. Mr. Cappodano advised that rates change in April and November and reviewing all suppliers and terms available allow Colonial Power Group to work with towns to secure the most favorable rates available. Mr. Cappodano reminded the Board that the program is an Opt Out program whereby all residents will receive a mailer identified as being though the town with the National Grid supply rate and the aggregate rate published on it to allow the consumer to make an informed choice to remain in or to act to opt out. Mr. Zechello advised that they seek direction from the Board to authorize the Town Manager to enter into an agreement if pricing is favorable on Monday, February 10th. Rates will be released between 12-1pm and the town has until 3pm to decide. Discussion ensued on favorable rates and terms. Mr. Trabucco moved to authorize the Town Manager to enter into a municipal aggregation agreement with Colonial Power for rates in or around .10500 for terms up to 36 months. Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

VOTE TO RATIFY THE PEMBROKE POLICE UNION'S MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Mr. Boulter advised that the Board of Selectmen must vote in open session to enter into the Memorandum of Agreement with the Pembroke Police Officer's Union as presented in executive session at the meeting of January 28, 2020. Mr. Trabucco so moved. Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was 4/0/1 with Mr. Boulter abstaining.

DISCUSSION REGARDING HERRING SUPERINTENDENT'S FACILITY IMPROVEMENTS

Mr. Thorne advised that he has spoken with the Herring Superintendent and they have agreed to both the improvements that will be performed as well as to the use of the building.

VOTE THE MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2020

Mr. Boyle moved to accept the minutes of January 14, 2020 as written; Mr. Rushing seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

TOWN BYLAW REVIEW

Mr. Boulter requested that materials for discussion be presented a week in advance for an opportunity to review them going forward. Ms. Rushing requested that the Board discuss the Capital Planning Bylaw at the next meeting.

MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Thorne advised that tomorrow morning he will attend the Mayflower Health Group Steering Committee meeting to receive an indication of where the rates are going for the next fiscal year.

At 8:15 pm, Mr. Boulter read the upcoming issues from the agenda. Mr. Trabucco moved to adjourn; Ms. Rushing seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

MATERIALS & EXHIBITS

Email, M. Cappadona RE: Municipal Aggregation Timeline, Rates Chart (BOS/TM Office)

Memorandum of Agreement: Town of Pembroke and Pembroke Police Union (BOS/TM Office)

Draft Minutes of January 14, 2020 (BOS/TM Office)