

**MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
MARCH 31, 2014**

**PRESENT:** Willard J. Boulter, Jr. (Chairman), Arthur P. Boyle, Jr. (Vice-Chairman), Lewis W. Stone (Clerk), Michelle Burt (Selectman), Daniel Trabucco (Selectman), Edwin J. Thorne (Town Administrator), Michael Buckley (Town Accountant), Ben Bastianelli (DPW Commissioner), Scott Glauben (Assistant DPW Director), Ken Labrum, Sabrina Chilcott (Executive Assistant), and others.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Boulter commented on the success of Saturday's event to replace the fully restored bee back atop the Council on Aging building and the Board thanked Girl Scout Star Young for leading the project.

Mr. Boulter requested a moment of silence in honor of the fallen firefighters from Boston.

**7:00 DOOR-TO-DOOR SOLICITATION PERMIT APPLICATION: KEVIN LABRUM, VIVINT SOLAR**

Mr. Labrum was present before the Board to request a door-to-door solicitation permit in the Town of Pembroke to prospect south-facing roofs for solar opportunities. Mr. Labrum stated that the Commonwealth passed the Green Communities Act in 2008 which requires utility companies to obtain 25% of their energy through renewable sources. Mr. Labrum stated an opportunity for an evaluation would only be for homeowners. Discussion ensued on potential savings to homeowners; Mr. Labrum stated that these residents would have a net meter that spins forwards and backwards installed by National Grid. If the solar panels produce more electricity than the homeowner's uses, this energy is sent back to the grid and the homeowner receives a credit on their bill. Mr. Boyle moved to approve the application of Kevin Labrum on behalf of Vivint Solar for a Door-to-Door Solicitation permit to be exercised Monday through Saturday 9:00 am to 7:00 pm and Sunday 12:00 pm to 5:00 pm, expiring December 31, 2014, with final approval and issuance of the permit to be by the Chief of Police. Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. The vote was 3/2 in favor with Ms. Burt and Mr. Stone opposed.

**CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BACKYARD PARTY WITH LIVE BAND, 319 WEST ELM STREET ON AUGUST 16<sup>TH</sup> FROM 5:00 PM TO 10:00PM**

Mr. Boyle moved approval of Dr. Charles Garzik's request for a live band at 319 West Elm Street for his daughter's wedding reception on August 16<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 pm to 10:00 pm pending the approval of the Police Chief. Ms. Burt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**PRELIMINARY REVIEW OF TOWN'S BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS**

Mr. Boyle moved to table discussion for one week; Mr. Stone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

**DISCUSSION OF SPECIAL AND ATM WARRANT ARTICLES: ATM #3, 8, 9, SPECIAL #2, 4**

Mr. Buckley stated that adjustments were made based on Advisory Committee's feedback last Monday; \$168,000 in expenses was reduced and funds from escrow pertaining to litigation were able to be used. Mr. Buckley confirmed that the Town will maintain over \$340,000 in the Stabilization Fund and over \$900,000 in the Special Stabilization Fund while considering a balanced budget at Town Meeting. Mr. Thorne commended department heads for working closely with the Town Administrator during the budget process and reduce expenses. Mr. Boyle moved to recommend favorable action on article three; Ms. Burt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Boyle moved to recommend favorable action on article eight; Mr. Stone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Stone moved to take no action on article nine; Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Thorne advised that Special within the ATM warrant article number two has complete department transfer information. Mr. Trabucco moved favorable action on article two; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Glauben from the DPW was present to review Special article four; the DPW has performed maintenance on the mowers over the winter and determined that two of them must be replaced; he clarified that these are specialized mowers in use by the Cemetery Department. Residents pay

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fees for perpetual care at the cemetery and, further, regulations governing storm water protection require that they be bagging mowers as no clippings may be distributed, they must be bagged and removed. Mr. Glauben summarized by stating that interment fees have returned \$100,000 to the general fund over the last four years. Mr. Buckley stated the funding source would be borrowing. Mr. Stone moved favorable action on article four; Ms. Burt seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

Mr. Glauben acknowledged the thanks of the Board for his, Scott Ripley's and Chris Devine's volunteer hours over the weekend to restore the bee to its location on the Council on Aging building at no cost. Mr. Glauben stated that the DPW Commissioners volunteered the equipment.

#### **MINUTES OF MARCH 17, 2014 AND MARCH 24, 2014**

Mr. Stone moved the minutes of March 17<sup>th</sup> as written; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Stone moved the minutes of March 24<sup>th</sup> as written; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor.

#### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT**

Mr. Thorne advised that he and Town Accountant Mike Buckley are presenting a five year plan for Solid Waste. The Town just received a five year proposal from hauler DelPrete; based on the FY15 budget going forward over the next five years, projecting how much will be spent. Mr. Thorne stated that these expenses include increases in salaries, municipal user fee billing and operating the Recycling Center and are just over \$106,000 in FY15 with two percent increases annually projected forward. Trash disposal figures are broken into plans A and B with trash disposal figures, or curbside pickup of recycling and solid waste, from the hauler. Mr. Buckley stated that the Town needs to raise \$1.4million sending out 6,300 bills; some money is received from the Recycling Center and Interest and Penalties as well. Mr. Buckley states that the recommendation is to reduce the current rate of \$270 per household annually to \$200-\$210 per household. If the Board votes to reduce fees to \$200 it is possible that they will need to be raised toward the end of the five year period. Discussion ensued. Mr. Stone stated that Pembroke recycled at a rate of 17% when curbside recycling was implemented; now it is up to 24.5% and he feels that the rate will not need to be raised during the five year period as the Town is capable of recycling at 30%. Mr. Thorne explained that running the Recycling Center is a fixed cost and, while curbside pickup could increase slightly over the next five years, savings is being realized by a disposal reduction from \$118/ton to \$55-60/ton on 5,600 tons. Mr. Boyle moved the Town Administrator and Town Accountant's recommendation to set the municipal user's fee effective July 1<sup>st</sup> at \$200 per household. Ms. Burt seconded the motion; the vote was unanimously in favor.

#### **UPCOMING ISSUES**

On April 7<sup>th</sup> the BOS sign the warrants, April 8<sup>th</sup> the Special within the ATM warrant is posted; April 15<sup>th</sup> the ATM warrant is posted; April 14<sup>th</sup> is a joint meeting of the BOS, Advisory Committee and Town Moderator to review ATM procedures. Annual Town Meeting is April 22, 2014 at 7:30 pm at Pembroke High School.

At 7:50 pm, Mr. Stone moved to enter executive session to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with non-union personnel or to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with non-union personnel and to discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the bargaining or litigating position of the public body and the chair so declares. Mr. Boulter so declared and Mr. Boyle seconded the motion.

By roll call vote: Mr. Boyle - yes, Mr. Stone – yes, Ms. Burt - yes, Mr. Trabucco – yes, Mr. Boulter – yes.