

**MINUTES OF THE SELECTMEN'S MEETING
NOVEMBER 4, 2013**

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), Helen Boyle, Michael Buckley (Town Accountant), Robert DeMarzo, Steve Dodge (Town Moderator), Matt Dovell, Jennifer Driscoll, Matthew Driscoll, Maggie Driscoll, Jean Holland, David McPhillips (Veteran's Agent), Linda Osborne (Town Memorial Committee Chair), Stephen Curley (Advisory Chairman), Patricia Elsner, Jim McCollum, Matt McNeilly, Miriam MacInnes, Rachel Michael, Tony O'Brien, Linda Peterson, Steve Walsh, Sabrina Chilcott (Executive Assistant), and others.

At 7:00 pm, Mr. Boulter called the meeting to order. Miss Maggie Driscoll led the audience in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The annual Pembroke Tree Lighting will be held on Sunday, December 8th on the Town Memorial Green at 5:00 pm. There will be a public hearing Monday, November 25th at 7:00 pm in the Veteran's Hall for the purpose of allocating the percentage of tax levy to be borne by each class of property for Fiscal 2014. All interested taxpayers are encouraged to present oral and written information on their views.

7:00 TOWN MEMORIAL COMMITTEE: VETERAN'S DAY ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Chairman Linda Osborne was present before the Board to announce that the annual Veteran's Day celebration will be held Monday, November 11th at 11:00 am at the Pembroke Community Middle School with the High School chorus and several speakers. Refreshments will follow provided by the American Legion Post 143 Arthur Briggs Church Post. Veteran's Agent David McPhillips read the Governor's proclamation.

CONSIDER REQUEST OF MATTAKEESETT GARDEN CLUB: BANDSTAND MAY 17, 2014 8:00 AM TO 2:00 PM

Mr. Boyle moved to approve the use of the bandstand on the Town Green on May 17, 2014 for the use of the Mattakeesett Garden Club for their annual plant sale. Ms. Burt seconded the motion; the vote was unanimously in favor.

DISCUSSION OF ARTICLE PRESENTATION AT SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Mr. Thorne stated that there are several articles on which the Advisory Committee and the Board of Selectmen disagree; Town Accountant Mike Buckley has reviewed these articles and the amount in free cash to develop options to fund some of these requests. Mr. Thorne created a free cash scorecard to track the funding option of articles 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 9, 16 and 23. The Board of Selectmen has the option to support any or all of these eight articles to be funded from free cash to the total of \$284,226. Mr. Thorne opened discussion on article one by stating that two items were to come from the general fund and the balance of the items were to be funded from the water department. Mr. Thorne stated that the Water Department is choosing to withdraw these items from the warrant and will do so on Town Meeting Floor. Ms. Burt addressed the snow blower in article 1 recommending funding it at \$1500 instead of the requested \$2500. Mr. Stone agreed the item is an absolute necessity and he agreed to support partial funding at \$1500. Mr. Boyle spoke in support of the Chief's request for three tasers for \$2700 and he does not recommend reducing the allocation. Mr. Trabucco stated that these items are vital and are two appropriate expenses; he affirmed that the \$2500 request for the snow blower is for a professional grade unit, not a household unit or a more expensive commercial unit but will accept the will of the board to reduce the funding to \$1500. Mr. Boulter agreed and stated that the tasers are required to protect the safety of the officers. Mr. DeMarzo stated that the Advisory Committee did not request or receive information on the type or grade of snow blower and chose not to support it. Mr. Boyle moved to support article one \$1500/2700 for a total of \$4200 from free cash. Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion; the vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Thorne stated that article two is funding for the Police Department; Mr. Buckley stated that this figure of \$35,574 has been factored through

taxation, not free cash. Mr. Thorne confirmed this figure, reduced from an original request of \$42,000 as revealed in a line item review of the budget. Mr. Thorne advised that this figure does not represent an increase in staff; it is the result of a promotion in the department with two lieutenants, six sergeants and nineteen patrol officers. Mr. Trabucco asked if this figure is related to the promotion of the second lieutenant and Mr. Thorne confirmed. Mr. Trabucco moved to support article 2 in the amount of \$35,574; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Thorne stated he believes article 4 will be presented by Advisory for the funding of separation pay benefits in the amount \$100,000; Mr. Boyle stated he would present it if Advisory chooses no to do so. Mr. Boyle moved to support article 4 in the amount of \$100,000 from free cash; Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Thorne stated that article 6 is a transfer of \$25,000 from free cash to the OPEB fund as recommended by the Town Accountant; he further stated that this small transfer would show bond counsel and lending institutions that the town continues to make inroads toward its obligations. The Board has already voted to support this article. Mr. Thorne stated that article 9 will fund the Clerical Union contract with \$28,452 from free cash, \$2,711 from solid waste and \$906 from the water fund. Mr. Trabucco moved to affirm the Board's strong support of this article; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Thorne summarized article 16 as the request of the Fire Chief for two four-wheel drive vehicles; Mr. Thorne requested that the Board consider funding one of these vehicles at \$35,000 through free cash. Discussion ensued on the depreciated state of the vehicles; Ms. Burt moved to fund the replacement of one requested vehicle; Mr. Boyle seconded the motion. Mr. Stone stated that Advisory initially decided to support one vehicle in the previous Cash Management meeting but changed this decision after the BOS left the meeting. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Thorne summarized article 23 as a request from Conservation to return \$55,000 borrowed to the Open Space fund. Mr. Thorne stated that the BOS may recommend less than the requested \$55,000 as a good faith effort to show intent to reimburse. Discussion ensued; Mr. Trabucco stated that Conservation allowed the Town to draw this money when it was needed, but it makes no sense in this economic climate to take money from free cash to put into a reserve fund. Ms. Burt asked if reimbursement was promised for fall Town Meeting; Mr. Trabucco stated that it was expected to appear in April ATM and the promise was made to pay this money back with no time frame stated. Mr. Boulter recommended waiting for ATM; Mr. Trabucco agreed. Mr. Boyle moved to take no action at this time and leave the recommendation on article 23 as Town Meeting Floor. Mr. Trabucco seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous by roll call vote.

7:30 JOINT MEETING WITH THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE, TOWN MODERATOR: STM

Mr. Dodge stated that this joint meeting serves as a preview of November 12 STM. Mr. Dodge thanked all participants in the financial dealings that have led to the presentation of a balanced budget. Further, he stated that the purpose of this meeting is to orchestrate a process, not an outcome. The intent is to determine how and by whom the motions will be presented. Mr. Dodge advised that Special Town Meeting will be held at the Pembroke High School on Tuesday, November 12th at 7:30 pm. For babysitting services, please contact the school directly. The warrant of articles to be heard is available on the town website with paper copies available at Town Hall. Mr. Curley summarized Advisory action and recommendation on article 1; while majority of items would be funded through the water department, spending while not absolutely necessary is not advisable and Advisory recommends taking no action. Mr. Dodge confirmed when all are in agreement the motion would be to take no action; Mr. Boulter advised that the BOS support two items in article 1, the snow blower and tasers for a total of \$4200. Mr. Thorne stated that the DPW plans to withdraw their items from article 1 on Town Meeting floor. Mr. Dodge recommended that the BOS make the motion for article 1. Discussion ensued on the value and quality of snow blowers. Mr. Curley stated that article 2 has a current Advisory recommendation of Town Meeting Floor; Mr. Thorne advised that the BOS are going to move the amount of \$35,574. Mr. Dodge confirmed that all are in agreement to support article 3; Mr. Curley asked if this should be requested to be taken up first. Mr. Curley explained it would allow for the tax rate to be set if the meeting adjourns before completing all of the articles. Mr. Thorne recommended that article 7 also be considered; Mr. McNeilly asked if that motion can be one motion for both articles, Mr. Dodge confirmed. Mr. Curley confirmed that Advisory will make the motions on articles 4 and 5. Mr. Dodge confirmed that the BOS will make the motion on article 6. Mr. Curley stated that Advisory will make the motion on articles 7

and 8. Mr. Thorne stated that the BOS will make the motion on article 9. Mr. Curley stated that Advisory is not supporting it; they haven't had thirty days to review it and the process takes time.

All parties are in agreement on article 10; Mr. Boyle offered to make the motion. Mr. Curley stated that Advisory will move articles 11, 12, 13, 14 and 15. Mr. Thorne advised that the BOS voted to support \$35,000 to purchase one vehicle and the BOS will make the motion. Mr. Curley stated that Advisory will make the motion on articles 17 and 18. Mr. Dodge recommended that the Planning Board make the motions on articles 19 and 20. Mr. Curley stated that Advisory recommends favorable action on article 21, the school roof project, contingent upon successful vote of debt exclusion, or proposition 2½ exemption. Mr. Curley stated that the Town Clerk and the School Department are recommending January 25, 2014 for a Special Election should the article pass; Advisory will move article 21. Mr. Curley stated that Advisory will move article 22. Mr. Dodge stated that he will ask Conservation to present article 23 as both recommendation are to take no action at this time. Mr. Curley stated that Advisory will present articles 24 and 25. Mr. Dodge stated that CPC Chair Brian VanRiper will move article 26.

ASK THE SELECTMEN

Mr. Trabucco raised concerns regarding the Town of Pembroke's water supply that could arise from the ongoing issues with Southfield with Weymouth, Rockland and Abington. Mr. Trabucco stated that both Rockland and Abington receive their drinking water from Pembroke, Great Sandy Bottom Pond. Weymouth has had difficulty getting enough water in their town; if they seek assistance to provide drinking and firefighting water from Rockland and Abington, Pembroke could be seriously impacted. Mr. Trabucco requested that the Board send a letter to our State Representative and to the Senate President to advocate on the town's behalf to protect Pembroke's drinking water from being unduly allocated to the Southfield Project. Mr. Stone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. Mr. Dovell cited an article written by Representative Tom Calter indicating that some of the resources from Silver Lake in Pembroke that go to Brockton where they are then sold to Whitman. Mr. Trabucco confirmed that Brockton gets its drinking water from Silver Lake; they have a multimillion dollar agreement with Aquarion for the desalinization plant, but since they have a problem with the power plant, they appear to be intentionally not bringing in the water from Aquarion. They are currently receiving all of their water from Silver Lake and selling some of it off to Whitman. Mr. Trabucco stated that his intent in sending this letter is to prevent Southfield from also receiving water from Pembroke.

UPCOMING ISSUES

Mr. Boulter advised that on November 6th there will be a Public Hearing by the School Committee on the proposed Article 21 School Roofs Project in the Veteran's Hall at 7:00pm, Special Town Meeting on November 12th at 7:30 pm at the PHS and the Surplus Real Property Auction on November 21st at 12:30pm in the Veteran's Hall.

At 8:15 pm, Mr. made a motion to adjourn; Mr. Stone seconded the motion. The vote was unanimously in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.