

Select Board Regular Meeting
Monday January 23, 2017, 8:00 p.m.
High School Meeting Room A15, 535 Bliss Road, Longmeadow

Present: Chair Marie Angelides, William Low, Mark Gold and Richard Foster. Tom Lachus was absent.

Also Present: Town Manager Stephen Crane, CFO Paul Pasterczyk, Debbie House, Jeff Klotz, Auditors Robert Lynch and Grady Connor, Finance Committee members: Richard Liasse, Maury Garrett, Ed Clark and Andrew Lam

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m. by Chair Marie Angelides.
The Finance Committee attended the meeting.

Town Audit Report – Mr. Klotz from the Audit Committee and auditors Mr. Lynch and Mr. Connor from Lynch, Malloy and Marini attended the meeting. Mr. Klotz started by mentioning the new style of reporting; the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR). The CAFR is composed of many different sections; within is the totality of the audited financial statements. When Mr. Klotz refers to the CAFR, it is inclusive of the financial statements; when he refers to the financial statements it is not inclusive of the CAFR. Mr. Lynch gave an overview of the audit performed and answered questions. Ms. Angelides asked about continuing to put money aside for OPEB. Mr. Lynch noted that the town has to show that there is a plan and that the town is sticking to the plan. Mr. Gold mentioned that about a quarter of a million dollars from Adult Center programs is not audited due to the money going to FOLOCA (Friends of Longmeadow Older Citizens Association). These programs are run by town employees; should the money be moved into town finances so it will be audited? Mr. Crane said he is engaged in a discussion regarding putting the money on the town books and is researching the history of FOLOCA. Mr. Garrett asked if the OPEB liability was reasonable for the community size and was the Select Board measure that is in place for putting away money comparable to other communities. Mr. Lynch replied that the OPEB liability is reasonable and Longmeadow is actually putting away more money than some communities. Ms. Angelides asked if operational audits were recommended. Mr. Lynch feels they are good when there is a problem. Mr. Garrett questioned whether there was an “easy reading” document available for residents. Mr. Klotz commented that the auditors’ job is to find out if management fairly represented the financial situation of the town. Mr. Crane added that the Management Letter spells out the issues in a specific way. The Audit Correction Report spells out things that were done.
Mr. Gold made a motion to accept the financial statements as presented to the Select Board. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0.

Warrant Update

Mr. Crane is working on some articles for the Annual Town Meeting; DIF Project, storm water utility, and a three town senior ride pilot program. The inter-municipal agreement governing the DIF Project would potentially be for the fall Town Meeting. No citizen petitions have been received so far.

Old Business:

1. Approve Minutes – *Mr. Gold made a motion to approve the January 9, 2017 regular meeting minutes as presented. Mr. Foster seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0.*
2. Age-Friendly Community – The resolution was signed.

New Business:

1. Warrant Article /Water Rate - tabled
2. Two Night Town Meeting – Mr. Crane believes there could potentially be a large warrant for the Annual Town Meeting and suggested that the Select Board think about holding the Town Meeting over two nights, May 9th and 10th. A schedule could be set so that certain articles will be scheduled for a certain night so that residents are fairly warned. Articles would not be moved to another night.

Town Manager's Report:

1. A tentative agreement was reached with the Clerical Union.
2. Mr. Crane would like to hire a UMass student who worked on a Master's program which included a regional study of the impact of the MGM project. The student would consolidate, index and analyze the traffic studies done in Longmeadow as part of the surrounding community process. The funds for this proposed fellowship would be sought through the Local Mitigation Reserve Fund (\$100,000) that the Town was awarded last year, which is separate and apart from the funds awarded through the Surrounding Community Agreement.
Mr. Gold made a motion to submit a request for funding to the casino construction set aside fund for additional traffic study work as presented. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0.
3. Long Range Plan – A planning student was placed in the Town as part of a for-credit internship. The primary task will be to analyze the results of the Long Range Plan survey and to issue a summary of the results. The student also has GIS skills and can assist the DPW Engineering Division.

The next Select Board meeting will be on February 6th at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Foster made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 p.m. Mr. Low seconded the motion. The vote was 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Debbie House