

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
JULY 15, 2015**

Joint Executive Session with Police Commission at Suffield High School Media Center

Executive Session was convened at 6:03 p.m. to discuss litigation. Executive Session included First Selectman Edward G. McAnaney, Joanne Sullivan, Brian Fitzgerald, Timothy Reynolds and Ed Basile from the Board of Selectmen and Kevin Armata, Ken Pascoe, Jeff Davis, Linda Stevenson, Joseph Quinn, and Matt Joyal from the Police Commission as well as Interim Chief Riello. Executive Session ended at 7:00 p.m.

Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen at Suffield Town Hall Lower Level Conference Room.

Present: First Selectman Edward G. McAnaney, Joanne Sullivan, Brian Fitzgerald, Timothy Reynolds and Ed Basile. Mr. McAnaney called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

Approval of Minutes from June 17, 2015 Regular Meeting

Selectman Reynolds made a motion to accept the minutes of the June 17, 2015 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen (BoS). Vote 5-0 in favor.

Selectman Sullivan made a motion to **amend the agenda** to add the approval of a tax rebate for Robert Dudas in the amount of \$3,172.62 to the tax rebate in item #8.. Vote 5-0 to amend the agenda.

Public Comment: Mr. Pat Reilly of 740 Mather Street noted that his grandson Dylan Reilly of Day Avenue came to attend his first public meeting.

Reappointment of Brian Casinghino as a member of the Conservation Commission through 6/30/19.

Selectman Fitzgerald made the motion to reappoint Brian Casinghino to the Conservation Commission through 6/30/19. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Appoint Kate Daly Rietberg to the Economic Development Commission through 6/30/19 to replace Caroline D'otreppe whose term expired.

Selectman Sullivan made the motion to appoint Kate Daly Rietberg to the Economic Development Commission through 6/30/19 to replace Caroline D'otreppe whose term expired.

Authorize transfer of \$156,391.50 from various accounts to Legal Settlement account to cover Haynes arbitration decision and send to Town Meeting.

The Memorandum of Decision from arbitration awarded Haynes Construction

\$215,251.69 for the Fire Pump project. The balance in the project account is \$58,860.10 leaving a balance of \$156,391.50 due Haynes. The payment will be made out of the 2014-15 budget since the decision was dated June 25, 2015. The Director of Finance recommends transferring from the following accounts:

Middle School Roof 11-12	1088102-59140	\$60,000.00
Middle Sch Roof – Phase 5	1088102-59154	\$40,609.88
Public Utilities – Water	0161201-50627	\$50,000.00
Tax Rebates	0141451-50808	\$5,781.62

to the Fire Pump Project 1088102-59152 total = \$156,391.50

Selectman Fitzgerald asked if the transfers from the roof projects were excess funds from the completed projects and Mr. McAnaney replied they were. The roof projects are part of the capital budget. The Tax Rebate and Public Utilities accounts are part of the operating budget. The First Selectman also noted that the Town may be trying to recover monies from the architect and engineers involved in the project. He also noted that Haynes had to pay their subcontractors about \$175,000 for the pump house so the net to Haynes would be approximately \$40,000. Selectman Reynolds made a motion to authorize the transfer of \$156,391.50 as defined in the memo by the Finance Director and to recommend it to the Board of Finance and send it to a Town Meeting for approval. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Ratify the Retirement Agreement for Police Chief

First Selectman McAnaney said Chief Manzi had indicated a desire to retire and had one year remaining on his contract so they negotiated an agreement. The Chief will receive a \$20,000 payment this year and a payment of \$10,000/year for each of the next five years. The agreement included a release that Mr. Manzi will not sue the Town; he will cooperate with the Town in pending litigation and will receive his pension. The agreement was signed on July 6th and now must be ratified by the Board of Selectmen. Chief Manzi has been replaced by interim Chief Anthony Riello who will be on board for about 6 months. Selectman Basile commended the First Selectman on reaching a reasonable agreement with the situation that had been presented to him. He said the covenant not to sue was a key element. Selectman Reynolds made the motion to ratify the Retirement Agreement for Chief Manzi. Vote 5-0 in favor. First Selectman McAnaney noted that he is in negotiation with Interim Chief Riello for his contract. He will be compensated at the same rate as the former chief.

Approve a tax rebate for CoreLogic Real Estate Tax Service in the amount of \$3,446.14 due to a double payment.

Selectman Basile made the motion to approve a tax rebate for CoreLogic Real Estate Tax Service in the amount of \$3,446.14. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Approve a tax rebate for Robert Dudas in the amount of \$3,172.62 due to an error in an on-line payment.

Selectman Basile moved to approve a tax rebate for Robert Dudas in the amount of \$3,172.62 due to an error in an on-line payment. Vote 5-0 in favor.

Year End Fund Balance projection

Debbie Cerrato, the Director of Finance, provided the Selectmen with a spreadsheet projecting the Unassigned Fund Balance. The Fund Balance started at \$9,546,863 as of 6/30/14. Currently revenue received is \$1.7Million less than projected but additional revenue is expected. Expenses are currently projected to be under budget by \$305,649. \$1Million was budgeted to be taken from the fund balance. These figures project an ending fund balance of \$9,114,003 for a decrease of \$432,860. This is a preliminary estimate and may change due to additional revenues received for FY 14/15 and if estimated expenditures are more or less than the amount stated above.

Approve transfer of \$21,000 from Suffield Middle School Generator project to Emergency Shelter Electrical upgrade project and recommend to the Board of Finance.

Public Works Director John Cloonan had provided a memo regarding the request. First Selectman McAnaney explained that a new generator is needed for the High School shelter since the current generator has insufficient capacity for some items that need to be on generator service for the shelter to operate. This includes toilets, sinks, the nurse's office for medicine storage and security, etc. The stand-by generator for the server room at Suffield Middle School was not needed after consulting with the Building Official. Mr. Cloonan recommends transferring those monies to the Emergency Shelter Electrical Upgrade Project. Selectman Reynolds moved to transfer \$21,000 from the Middle School Server Room HVAC & Generator Tie (1088102-59195) for the purchase of a new generator for the additional circuits for the Emergency Shelter Electrical Upgrade project (1088102-59267). Vote 5-0 in favor.

Call Town Meeting for August 5th

Selectman Basile made a motion to Call a Town Meeting for August 5, 2015 at Suffield High School for the following purposes

- a. To consider and vote on a resolution to transfer \$156,391.50 from various accounts to the Town Counsel Legal Settlement account to cover Haynes arbitration costs.
- b. To consider and vote on a resolution to transfer unexpended funds of bonding projects for fire trucks and Boston Neck Road Bridge in the amount of \$372,491.61 to the road and drainage improvements bonding project as previously approved by the Board of Selectmen and Board of Finance.
- c. Adopt an ordinance to allow the Tax Collector to retain refunds of less than \$5.00

Vote 5-0 in favor.

Selectmen's Update

a. Streaming Video

First Selectman McAnaney explained that Suffield had been chosen to participate in a Streaming Video project with Capitol region Council of Governments (CRCOG). By being a participant Suffield would receive a discount for three years on hosting and equipment costs. A demo was held on Monday and attended by Town staff, the Chairman of the Board of Education and former First Selectman Tom Frenaye. Mr. Frenaye used to volunteer to tape meetings for viewing on Cox Public Access. The goal is to have a portable camera system that could be moved to different meeting sites. The system should be easy to operate so no staff is needed. The Selectmen agreed to move forward and are awaiting quotes from Valley Communications for camera set-up options.

b. Charter Revision Commission

Selectman Fitzgerald reported that the Charter Revision Commission has held its second Public Hearing. The report is due to the Board of Selectmen on July 31st. The assumption is that the charter revision recommendations would be brought to the electorate at the Town election in November and a simple majority is needed to pass them. If the items are brought to a special referendum they need to be approved by majority and at least 15% of the electors must vote.

c. Results of bonding discussion at Special Board of Finance Meeting held on 7/6/15.

First Selectman McAnaney reported that the Board of Finance tabled the bonding discussion. The focus was on roads and whether \$12Million was too large to be completed in three years. Mr. McAnaney noted that there is a meeting scheduled for July 21st with the Bond Advisor, Director of Finance and Treasurer. The Board of Finance will meet again on July 27th. Selectman Fitzgerald stressed that the bonding decisions should proceed before interest rates rise. Timing of the referendum was discussed. The original plan was to have a Town Meeting in late August with a September referendum. There is a chance that the referendum may take place at the general election in November.

There being no further business, by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 7:57 p.m.

The next Board of Selectmen Meeting is Wednesday, August 19, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Trase
Recording Secretary