



Town of Boylston Board of Selectmen

Date of Meeting: Monday, April 25, 2016
Location: Town Hall, 221 Main Street
Time: 6:32 PM – 8:10 PM
Members Present: Chairman James Wood; Michael May; James Underwood; Marty McNamara, Town Administrator; Lori Esposito, Administrative Assistant to the Board

The meeting commenced at 6:32 PM.

Financial Warrants were signed in agreement.

Report of the Town Administrator to the Board of Selectmen:

- ***New DPW Building:*** The floor has been poured and has been curing for approximately one week. The steel should be delivered this week, to be erected immediately upon delivery.
- ***Insurance:*** Our rates for property and casualty, workers' comp and professional insurance premiums for F' 17 were received. Despite claims for lightening strikes, we only had a 1.8% increase. With credits and rewards from MIA we should be a little below the budgeted amount.
- ***Gough House:*** We have been notified of a lawsuit being brought by a sub-contractor on the project. A painting company is suing the contractor, Murray Brothers Construction, as well as the HRP, seeking payment for their work. The Town is not involved. A copy of the paperwork is included.
- ***Police Detail Revenue to the Town:*** The total from the surcharge and the cruiser fee from July 1, 2015 through February 29, 2016 was approximately \$6,800.
- ***Annual Town Meeting transfers:*** A list of required transfers is included in your package with possible changes between now and the time of Town Meeting.
- ***Meals Tax:*** The DOR annually publishes a report on the amount of meals tax earned by each community participating in that tax. Boylston would have received \$132,918 over the past three years had the Town adopted a meals tax.
- ***Library at Town Hall:*** The Library has relocated to Town Hall. There have been no issues. Bob Bourassa has done an outstanding job reading the downstairs for the Library.
- ***Assessors Overlay:*** A motion will be made at Town Meeting to increase the Assessors' budget. This is only a procedural requirement and will have no effect on the bottom line of the budget.

Retiree Insurance: A husband and wife (Bob and Sandy Bourassa) both working for the Town, each have individual health plans, and one will be retiring in early 2017. According to the Town's retiree insurance policy, an employee is eligible for retiree benefits only if they have worked for the town for 10 years; the husband will retire in a few years with less than 10 years of service, rendering him ineligible for coverage. The policy also states that an employee may not opt for any more extensive coverage (eg. from single to family plan), at retirement than was in effect for the last 12 months prior to retirement.

The problem becomes that the 2017 retiring employee, in order for her husband to have coverage upon retirement, must elect to take a family plan effective this July 1, and work through next July 1 before retiring with a family plan. The employee states this will cost the Town a considerable amount of money (\$18,000 over the next four to five years), and would prefer to be allowed to change to a retiree family plan upon her husband's retirement.

Per Town Counsel, the Board may change the policy if it would be less costly for the Town and the employees. This can be done just for this case versus changing policy.

Mike May motioned to approve the Bourassas changing to a family plan upon Mr. Bourassa's future retirement and also that the Board of Selectmen be authorized to enter into a modification of policy for spouses' benefits up to and including retirement, pending submission to Town Counsel. Jamie Underwood seconded the motion; voted all in favor.

New Playground at Boylston Elementary School: Matthew Doyle of 60 Stiles Road presented a plan for a new playground. The PTO is looking for approval to remove the existing mulch and replace it in a new area. Jim Wood asked where the money is coming from. Matthew said local businesses are contributing to the cost and volunteers are doing the work. Mr. Doyle is coordinating volunteer efforts. The Board asked that he first communicate with the School Committee, then return with plan and cost estimates.

Recess at 6:57 PM; meeting reconvened at 7:02 PM

Warrant/Annual Town Meeting Review/Walk-through:

- Articles. 1 through 14: move as one. Discussion held regarding who will move following five articles/language.
- Articles. 20 through 24: Attorney Donohue to make the presentation (regarding Rte. 240 zoning); he is to copy Dennis Pojani in on his presentation.
- Article. 45: Per the Town Administrator the Assessors voted \$27,500 plus a \$16K overlay surplus to pay for re-evaluation. This was taken out of the budget due to the Assessors' agreement, yet Town Counsel advises it needs to be voted on for appropriation by Town Meeting. Dave Butler will motion to add to the budget and also fund from the Assessors' overlay. The net effect on the budget is zero; and it will not affect the tax rate. Dennis Pojani (Town Moderator) will review this with Town Counsel to draft a motion prior to Town Meeting.

Miscellaneous:

- Joe McGrath, in the audience, requested the signed contract for Stormwater, signed earlier by the Board.
- Karen Barber, in the audience, stated that volunteers collected 184 bags of trash throughout the Town on a "clean-up day." The Lions Club hosted a cookout for all volunteers.

At 8:10 PM Jamie Underwood motioned to adjourn; Mike May seconded; voted all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lori Esposito, Assistant to the Board of Selectmen