

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS --- REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 9, 2017

Chairman Peter Cross called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm.

PRESENT: Commissioners Peter Cross, Laura Cronin, Dennis Sullivan, Victor Skende and Chief Dean Melanson.

ABSENT: Demetrius Atsalis

1. MINUTES: The minutes of February 23, 2017 were accepted as presented. Motion made by Cronin and seconded by Sullivan.
2. CORRESPONDENCE: Cross received email from James Oberg notifying us that we have been named as Co-defendants in law suit brought by County concerning the contamination of the Hyannis water wells at the County Fire Academy. We have not been served notice to date. We will receive contact information for Defense Counsel when assigned by our insurer.
Attorney Ruth Weil has informed Cross that she agrees that we have taxing authority as a municipality and that we therefore are not bound by Regulatory Agreements reached by the Town of Barnstable granting tax relief to developers. She assured Cross that we will have a seat at the table in future negotiations. Cross will follow-up with Assessor Rudziak as to procedure ensure the Tax Collector submits the proper billing.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT: None
4. STREET LIGHTS: No correspondence
5. OLD BUSINESS: None
6. NEW BUSINESS:
 - a. Building Committee Update: Cross reported that Paul Griffin had received opinion that the site was asbestos free. Work on the lot is nearly completed. Filed Sub-contract bids were opened a week ago. CMS and KBA felt that the bids were encouraging and indicated that it looked good for the bids for General Contract.
 - b. Chief's Search Committee Update: The Committee has received an update from MRI. MRI has received 30 resumés and has begun the initial vetting of the applicants. The committee is waiting to hear from MRI when it would be appropriate to set up a meeting.
 - c. By Law Committee: Attorney Moss has given the Committee feedback on wording and made some recommendation. The Committee will have a letter prepared for the Commission at the next Commission meeting.

d. Budget FY 18: Cross distributed a draft copy of the Commissioners budget dated 2/28/2016. Cross said that we have \$1,242,665 in free cash. Ambulance reimbursement is un-determined at this time. Question was asked about the Group Health Insurance line indicating 7 blanks. Mike Dalmau offered that it indicated 7 personnel who may choose either an individual or family plan. Sullivan said the Board will determine the amount to be appropriated to the stabilization fund. He also stated that it is recommended that a Municipality carry 4 to 5% of operating budget as free cash.

The Chief presented his draft budget and discussed the various adjustments to the FY2017 budget. Sullivan questioned the \$10,000 increase in Building Maintenance. Chief indicated that a number of building issues will need to be addressed before a new building is completed, e.g. roof leaks. The budget for the Scott Air Packs was discussed and the need to anticipate replacement or receipt of a grant. Three new budget items were discussed infusion pumps (a Mass OEMS requirement), outfitting the reserve ambulance, and a new stretcher. Those items represented a \$63,000 increase to the budget. The Chief's budget as presented represented an increase of 1.72% over the FY17 budget.

7. Items not reasonably anticipated: None

8. CHIEF'S REPORT: The Hiring Committee has completed the initial interviews of the applicants for firefighter vacancy and has made recommendation of two candidates to the Chief. The Chief will not have to recuse himself from the hiring process at this point. He will interview the candidates and proceed with medical, psychological testing etc. Chief will present a candidate to the Board as soon as possible.

The Chief said that he has engaged staff in looking at a couple of options for replacement of ambulance 831. Options might mean a reduced cost and be an improvement on current vehicles.

Skende asked about progress on promotional exam for Deputy Chief. There should be funding available in the Commission budget. Chief will look into resource for testing for the Deputy Chief exam as well as Capt and Lt exams. Capt/Lt exam will need to be conducted in FY18.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

Sullivan moved that the Regular Meeting be adjourned and that the Board of Commissioners go into Executive Session under M.G.L. c.30A §21(a)(3) to discuss strategy with respect to negotiating collective bargaining agreement with Firefighters Union 2172 and not return in open session. Seconded by Cronin.

Roll Call Vote:	Cross	Yes
	Cronin	Yes
	Sullivan	Yes

Skende Yes

The meeting was adjourned and entered Executive Session at 8:20.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Skende
Clerk