

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS --- REGULAR MEETING  
FEBRUARY 22, 2018

Chairman Peter Cross called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM.

PRESENT: Commissioners Peter Cross, Laura Cronin, Demetrius Atsalis, Dennis Sullivan Victor Skende and Chief Peter Burke.

OPEN SESSION

1. MINUTES: The minutes of February 8, 2018 were approved on a motion made by Sullivan and seconded by Cronin with correction of typo on page 3 line 5. Change Chef to Chief.
2. CORRESPONDENCE: Cross presented an invoice received from CMS (Paul Griffin) for \$478,498.97 payable to CTA. Motion made by Skende. Seconded by Sullivan. Passed unanimously.
3. PUBLIC COMMENT: Mike Dalmau commented on an email he had sent to Board members with a link to legal opinion from the Court that found for the Wareham Fire District in the taxing of undeveloped land. The Court found that the tax could be based on the possible sub-division of the land and its potential value when developed. Sullivan raised the question if it would hold up on appeal.
4. STREET LIGHTS: Nothing to report.
5. OLD BUSINESS: Cross gave an update of the building. Through the oversight of the contractor and/or sub-contractor the steel column in the apparatus bay closest to the current station was apparently omitted from the bid. The sub-contractor is seeking an additional \$18,000 to cover the added cost of the temporary wall. Griffin feels that costs is greater than it should be. In order not to delay the project while negotiating the cost, Griffin has instructed CTA to proceed under a Letter of Protest. The Clerk of the Works will document time and materials. The final cost will be negotiated upon the completion of construction.

6. NEW BUSINESS: a. Memorandum of Understanding. The MOA with FF's Union 2172 was presented. President Dalamu explained the 3-year contract which begins July 1, 2018 to Cronin, who had been unable to attend previous discussion. Dalmau presented the signature sheet with 46 FFs who intend to enroll in the HAS insurance plan. This sheet will be attached to the Contract. Cross has talked with the Clerk/Treasurer who indicated that there would be a savings in the insurance account of \$163,890 which will fund the initial District contribution to the HAS.

b. Chief's Evaluation: Cross reported that he received the last Chief Evaluation Form and presented the Chief with the form. Cross will complete the tabulation and present the results at our next meeting.

c. Alternative Sources of Funding: Atsalis has given legislative materials to Rep. Will Crocker and will follow up with him to review possible amendment to enabling legislation.

Cross spoke at Public Hearing conducted by the Planning Board in opposition to the HAC proposal for construction of housing on Ridgewood Ave. This would be another tax-exempt property.

d. Office of Clerk/Treasurer: Sullivan presented a proposal for providing assistance to C/T office. Our current auditor, Bill Fraher, is planning to close his auditing company. He will be recommending a firm familiar with municipal auditing to us. Fraher would serve as assistant and consultant to C/T at a cost not to exceed \$20,000 per year. Cronin did not question the need for the position to provide for checks and balances. She was concerned that there appeared to be a conflict of interest and questioned why there was not a more open process. Skende said that the discussion of this item should be about the need for the position and not about a particular person. Cross stated that funding for this position would be included in the FY19 budget. Skende moved that the Board approve the position of part-time of consultant/assistant to the office of Clerk /Treasurer. Seconded by Sullivan. Unanimously approved. There was discussion that we should receive a letter or contract that would specify what the scope of work would be, how the person would be paid (hourly rate ?) and that the position would not be an employee but under contract. Sullivan said that there will be some sort of agreement.

7. Items not anticipated: None

8. CHIEF'S REPORT: This week on Tuesday, the Department was host to the town Citizen's Academy. Deputy Melanson and Captain Kenney conducted the session describing the services of the five town fire departments. There was demonstration of equipment used to remove an occupant from a vehicle. Mike Dalmau arranged for 5 volunteer FFs to participate in the demo.

The Chief met with First Net, a new cell phone company, this week. He is exploring possible saving with increased capacity.

Lt. Lawrence participated in hiring process for the new dispatch center at the BPD. Chief stated that the budget is a work in progress and did not feel it was developed enough to share at this time. Cronin asked when the budget needed to be finalized. Sullivan said that first of April was generally the date.

9. PUBLIC COMMENT: None

ADJOURN

Sullivan made a motion to adjourn. Seconded by Skende.  
Meeting was adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Victor Skende  
Clerk