

MEETING MINUTES
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
November 21, 2013

At 6:30 p.m., Chairman James P. Dawley, Jr. called the meeting to order with members Carol Lisbon and Robyn Hunter present. Also present were David W. Ramsay, Town Administrator, and Greer Pugatch, Assistant Town Administrator

ATTENDANCE: Bonnie Akins, Charlie Long, Caroline White, Board of Assessors; Karen MacTavish, Assessor; Chief Jay Hughes, Deputy Chief/Superintendent of Streets Craig Hughes, Dover Fire Department; John Sugden, Board of Fire Engineers; David Tiberi, Fire Inspector, Ken Soderholm, Sam Soderholm, builders for 36-38 Farm Street, Mike Watson, Medway Oil; John Cone, Warrant Committee

PRESS: Maureen Sullivan, Dover-Sherborn Press

Tax Classification Hearing - Assessors

Mrs. MacTavish highlighted tax rate options and exemptions, including 1) single-rate versus different residential/commercial rates, 2) open space discount, 3) principal residence exemption, and 4) small commercial exemption. The Board of Assessors recommended continuing with a single tax rate for Dover as the most fair and equitable choice.

Mr. Dawley moved to set a single tax classification rate for FY15 with no exemptions, seconded by Mrs. Lisbon; it was unanimously voted.

Appointments

Mr. Dawley moved to appoint Camille Johnston to a three-year term on the Council on Aging Board, seconded by Mrs. Hunter; it was unanimously voted.

Mr. Dawley moved to appoint Mark Bush to a three-year term on the Open Space Committee, seconded by Mrs. Hunter; it was unanimously voted.

At 6:45 p.m., Mr. Dawley moved to open the propane tank installation license hearing; but with all in agreement, continued the discussion on the Fire Department doors until completed.

Fire Chief Jay Hughes & Board of Fire Engineers

Chief Hughes stated that the new 109 foot ladder truck was delivered according to the requested specifications. Since coming to Dover, the new ladder truck has left the fire station 177 times without incident, but snow and ice accumulation at the fire station door was not fully contemplated during the time the specifications and discussions were being held before and at 2013 Town Meeting. Since there is not a full-time department, no-one would be available at the station continually to clear the snow from the windrows and the Fire Department Officers bought forward the scenario whereby the current existing clearance (4inches) would be compromised by snow and/or ice accumulation. The Board instructed Architect Don Mills to inspect the door clearance, and it is his opinion that it would be prudent to address the issue and delivered to the Town Administrator a preliminary budget of \$75,000 plus two alternatives that totaled \$17,240. In summary Mr. Mills is proposing to change two bay doors on Centre Street to 12' 8" openings, creating a one foot clearance above the truck.

Mr. Dawley said that it would be in everyone's best interest to correct the doors not only because they are Town assets, but also because of the safety of the fire personnel. Mrs. Lisbon asked Mr. Cone if it might be possible to handle this with a Reserve Fund Transfer, and therefore deal with the situation before winter is upon us. Mr. Cone was willing to bring the matter to the Warrant Committee. It was determined that the Ladder Truck could be housed in a different bay, since another truck will be out for service for approximately 6 – 8 weeks, which would allow the door openings to be enlarged. Chief Hughes thanked everyone for their help with this matter.

Mrs. Hunter moved to put in a Reserve Fund Transfer for an amount not to exceed \$92,000 for the reconfiguration of the fire doors, seconded by Mrs. Lisbon; it was unanimously voted.

Mr. Dawley moved to re-open the propane tank license hearing, seconded by Mrs. Lisbon; it was unanimously voted.

Propane Tank Installation Hearing for 36-38 Farm Street

David Tiberi said that by law, any request for greater than 2,000 gallons of propane must have a license. This license request is for six tanks, each containing one-thousand gallons. All tanks will be plumbed together, with a safety valve if a line should break. Each tank will be secured to a concrete pad and the system is designed for maximum safety. The license will stipulate residential use only.

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Mr. Dawley moved to approve the application for a license for six one-thousand gallon tanks for residential use, seconded by Mrs. Lisbon; it was unanimously voted.

At this point, Mr. Dawley closed the Open Hearing for the Propane Tank License.

Review Selectmen's FY15 Operating Budgets: #122, 129, 135, 145, 151, 155, 171, 176, 191, 192, 193, 195, 199, 201, 241, 291, 292, 294, 295, 299, 411, 422, 423, 424, 425, 428, 439, 450, 541,543, 604, 691, 692, 710, 751, 759, 911, 912, 916 and 950

Mr. Dawley said the review of these budgets will be continued, as the Selectmen have not yet reviewed them.

Set Opening & Closing Dates for 2014 Annual Town Meeting Warrant

The opening date for the 2014 Annual Town Meeting Warrant is November 21, 2013, and the closing date is January 17, 2014.

Mr. Dawley moved to set the opening and closing dates for the Annual Town Meeting Warrant for November 21, 2013 and January 17, 2014, respectively, seconded by Mrs. Lisbon; it was unanimously voted.

Other Business:

Prior Notices – Building Maintenance

There are four Prior Notices: An elevator upgrade at the Library to bring it up to code - \$1,920.00; Replacement of the hot water heater at the Protective Agencies building - \$3,554.00; Payment of the Local 1116 custodians clothing allowance per the terms of their collective bargaining agreement - \$1,400.00; Repair of the wheelchair lift located on the upper level at the Town House - \$3,995.00.

Mrs. Lisbon moved to approve the four Prior Notices as described above, seconded by Mrs. Hunter; it was unanimously voted.

Approve October 8, October 24 and November 6, 2013 Meeting Minutes

Mrs. Lisbon moved to approve the October 8, 2013 Meeting Minutes as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Hunter; it was unanimously voted.

Mrs. Lisbon moved to approve the October 24, 2013 Meeting Minutes as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Hunter; it was unanimously voted.

Mr. Dawley moved to approve the November 6, 2013 Meeting Minutes as submitted, seconded by Mrs. Lisbon; it was unanimously voted.

Citizens' Comments

Mr. Dawley wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. Mrs. Lisbon wished everyone a Happy Chanukah.

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Adjournment

At 7:30 p.m. Mrs. Lisbon moved to adjourn, seconded by Mrs. Hunter; it was unanimously voted.

DOVER BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Carol Lisbon, Clerk