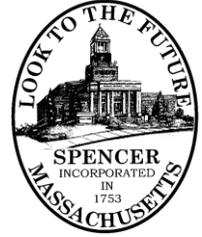


Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Selectmen



Date: January 22, 2014
Time: 6:00 p.m.
Place: McCourt Social Hall Memorial Town Hall, Spencer, MA
Present: Chair Woodbury, Vice Chair Berthiaume, Clerk Stevens, Members Fritze and Pepe, and Administrator Gaudette.

At 6:10 p.m. Chairman Woodbury called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Discussion: Questions for Legislative Delegation February 10, 2014

The meeting with the Legislative Delegation has been rescheduled to February 24th. Administrator Gaudette asked the Board to forward topics of interest. Further discussion will take place at the January 27th meeting.

Discussion: Transfer Station Review with Steve Tyler, P.E., U & F Superintendent

Chairman Woodbury noted that the Board should continue reviewing recommendations for the future of the Transfer Station.

Steve Tyler presented a variety of recommendations during presentations that took place in 2012 and 2013.

The Board agreed that "single stream" makes the most sense for recycling. Additional containers may be obtained through a grant.

Mr. Pepe said he is concerned over the effect on current contracts. If there is a plan to make changes to bag or sticker fees, a decision must be made soon. Mr. Gaudette advised the Board to keep existing contracts in mind during the detail review process and to consider a small increase in fees, which may help to maintain other essential services.

Mr. Fritze noted that the current rate for hauling is expensive at \$11,000 per month. Mr. Berthiaume suggested hiring two additional part-time people at the Transfer Station and to do hauling. Mr. Tyler estimates the cost to be \$215.00 per haul.

The Board will tackle in four parts:

- Review fee structures for stickers and bags
- Hauling
- Staffing and hours of operation
- Recycling – will do "single stream"

Mr. Pepe also suggested looking into the feasibility of an out-of-town sticker fee.

Mr. Tyler noted the following:

- “Single stream” recycling is a good decision
- The annual cost for hauling is \$130,000 per year and doubts there are hidden costs built in.
- If part time employees are hired, a manager will need to be available on site.
- Would like to see a change in bag fees to \$2 for larger bags. This will result in a \$35,000 to \$45,000 increase in revenue.
- A solar farm would be good to pursue once cap repairs are done.

Administrator Gaudette pointed out that the total cost of hiring an employee, including benefits, needs to be factored in. He will work with Mr. Tyler on a revised budget for the Transfer Station based on tonight’s discussion.

Discussion: FY2015 Budget Development Update Review

Governor Patrick announced his initial FY15 budget. Administrator Gaudette noted there is no additional aid for the Town at this time. This may change as the House and Senate consider amendments prior to the final budget.

Discussion: FY2015 Initial Capital Requests

The Capital Improvement Planning Committee reviews all requests over \$10,000. The Board reviewed current requests for the Long Range Capital Plan, which are part of the 10-year plan. They include an update to the Master plan, a request by the Town Clerk to update the Great Hall Sound System; requests from the Parks & Rec, Fire, Highway, Library, Police, and Water, and Town Hall boiler conversion. After requests are reviewed, a funding plan will be presented to the Board.

Request for Executive Session under Mass General Laws, Chapter 30A, § 21 (a), ¶ 3, for the purposes of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining

At 7:28 pm a motion to meet in Executive Session (Berthiaume/Fritze) in accordance with MGL Chapter 30A § 21 (a), ¶ 3, for the purposes of discussing strategy with respect to collective bargaining, and not to reconvene except to adjourn passed with a roll call vote: Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.

A motion to adjourn at 7:28 p.m. (Pepe/Fritze) passed with a roll call vote: Berthiaume-yes, Woodbury-yes, Fritze-yes, Stevens-yes, Pepe-yes.

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Savoie
Administrative Assistant

Referenced Materials:
FY2015 Initial Capital Requests