

APPROVED BY
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
ANNUAL MEETING OF

10-1-11

WENHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Joint Hamilton-Wenham Selectmen Meeting
Meeting of Tuesday, October 25, 2011 ~ 7 pm
Wenham Town Hall, 138 Main Street

With a quorum present, Ms. Martins called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Selectmen Present: Molly Martins, Chair; John Clemenzi, Vice Chair; Patrick Wilson, Secretary

Also Present: Jeff Chelgren, Town Administrator; Catherine Tinsley, Minutes Secretary

Also present and recording separate minutes from Hamilton; Selectmen Jennifer Scuteri, Chair; Dave Carey; Jeff Hubbard; Jeffrey Stinson (7:02 pm); Michael Lombardo, Town Manager; Debora Nippes-Mena, Finance Director

Abbreviations:

BOS Board of Selectmen

H Hamilton

W Wenham

FinCom Finance Committee

Public Information:

Agenda

WELCOME & OVERVIEW OF AGENDA

STATEMENTS OR QUESTIONS BY PUBLIC

There is a HW public vaccine clinic at October 26 and November 9th at The Meeting House, 299 Bay Road.

NEW BUSINESS

Hamilton Special Town Meeting (STM) Overview

Mr. Lombardo reported the "Reversion Amendment" passed by State has returned \$41,088 to Hamilton and \$26,196 Wenham in one time funding to maintain vital service function; funds will likely revert to Free Cash and be spent on what was approved in the budget at the 2010 Town Meeting.

He also stated that voters passed to change the Annual Town Meeting from May to April, contingent on Wenham's STM vote to do the same.

The Hamilton BOS approved the SMART program, adopting a bi-weekly trash pickup.

Ms. Martins reviewed in the best interest of Wenham for improved efficiency and cost savings Wenham should consider a joint contract with Hamilton.

On going negotiations with Hiltz and collection proposals were reviewed including organic pick up, single stream recycling, trash pickup, and the frequency. This conversation included if the totes / barrels / bins for automated pick-up would be included.

Mr. Chelgren observed this is on the STM warrant as Article 11 but the BOS are authorized to make this decision.

Ms. Martins was in favor of a combined contract with weekly trash, organic and recycling pickup.

Mr. Wilson supported this concept citing the anticipated savings of approximately \$30,000 in tipping fees and reiterated there is no reduction in trash collection service at this time; one large item weekly is still included.

The long term envisioned plan is to go to a bi-weekly trash pick to further reduce costs.

Mr. Clemenzi also spoke in support of the program, stressing public education.

Mr. Wilson moved to authorize the Town Administrator to start contract for weekly, (trash) weekly (organic) weekly (recycling) in a joint contract with Hamilton. Mr. Clemenzi seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Finance Department Discussion

Review of Program Options

Mr. Chelgren introduced the concept to consolidate and form a joint finance department asking for a sense from the BOS if this should be pursued further with more detail.

He went on to say with a vacancy in the Wenham Finance Department as of November 4, 2011 the goal is to look at the opportunity to reorganize Wenham's Finance Departments to improve service and increase resources jointly with Hamilton. It was noted that 60 % of Wenham and 70 % of Hamilton's budgets are associated with joint departments. Combining resources provides savings to the towns through salaries and benefits and the reduction of duplicated / repetitive services. Three phases were proposed: To review and develop necessary action; Begin preliminary reorganization / Finance Director run parallel FY 13 budget process; Continue to refine implementation.

Ms. Nippes- Mena talked about the Functional Design utilizing existing personnel and reviewed the proposed timeline, and further talked in detail about migrating to shared software.

Ms. Martins responded by encouraging the Boards to identify the pros and cons and their concerns.

Mr. Clemenzi offered a variety of questions to be answered at the next presentation, including the cost to each community.

Mr. Wilson stated support for this concept and asked for the efficiencies are included in the information.

Hamilton voiced concern with their cost increasing and for services to be assessed and this is an opportunity to outsource work for cost savings.

There was a brief side conversation that this may include the school in the future.

Both boards were comfortable with the next step of additional information.

Hamilton BOS adjourned at 8:26 pm.

Ms. Martins called for the Wenham BOS to take a 5-minute recess.

The Wenham BOS reconvened at 8:33 pm.

OLD BUSINESS

Ms. Martins announced the Special Town Meeting for November 8, 2011 at the Bessie Buker School.

Mr. Chelgren reviewed the Warrant Articles, noting with the BOS approval of the SMART Program Article 11 is no longer necessary and will be passed over at the STM.

There are 10 Articles on the Warrant.

NEW BUSINESS

Sign Request - United Way Thermometer on Car Barn Lot from November 2011 through April 2012.

Mr. Clemenzi moved to allow North Shore Untied Way to put their sign out as requested. Mr. Wilson seconded.

Michelle Bailey questioned where signs would go once the War Memorial is in place. The BOS will consider alternate location.

VOTE: The motion carried unanimously.

Mullen Advertising site - Development contract review

Mr. Chelgren explained a developer is interested in the Mullen Property on Essex Street as a continued care residential property. He stated A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the developer to set up an account to cover the costs (e.g. engineering, legal expenses the town incurs through the review process.

Mr. Clemenzi moved the BOS authorized the chair to sign a MOA on behalf of the BOS. Mr. Wilson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

MINUTES

The minutes were held.

EXECUTIVE SESSION (ES)

The BOS meet next on November 1, 2011 and with the Finance Committee on November 2, 2011.

Mr. Clemenzi moved at 8:52 pm that the BOS enter into ES according to MGL Chapter 39, section 23A and 23B (3) To discuss strategy with respect to collective bargaining or litigation if an open meeting may have a detrimental effect on the

bargaining or litigating position of the governmental body, to conduct strategy sessions in preparation for negotiations with nonunion personnel, to conduct collective bargaining sessions or contract negotiations with nonunion personnel that the BOS return to open session for the purpose of adjourning. Mr. Wilson seconded and the motion carried unanimously by roll call vote.

The BOS returned to open session at 10:05 pm.

On a motion by Mr. Wilson at 10:05 pm, it was unanimous to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted by

Catherine Tinsley