

FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, August 28, 2018

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Matthew Smith, Scott Landry, Stephan Bunker and Michael Fogg. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Deputy Police Chief Shane Cote, Assessor John O’Donnell, Channel 11, and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

Chairman Joshua Bell led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

ITEM 2: To Review the 2018 Tax Rate Scenarios

Assessor John O’Donnell was present and handed out and reviewed two spreadsheets which explained information regarding 2018 TIF tax choices, and tax rate history and the proposed rate for 2018. Discussion included: overlay scenarios, and use of overlay last year; TIF and unassigned fund balances; effects of valuation on the tax rate; State Revenue Sharing; increase in the Homestead Exemption; and Credit Enhancement Agreements. Richard Davis and John O’Donnell attempted to explain Credit Enhancement Agreements to resident Elaine Graham in answer to her questions regarding the Woodlands TIF. Resident Dennis O’Neil participated in the discussion.

Stephan Bunker moved to set the Downtown TIF appropriation at \$125,000; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Michael Fogg moved to set the overlay within the range of \$60,000;

Discussion included previous and future years’ overlays;

Scott Landry seconded.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 2 OPPOSED 3 MOTION FAILED
(Bunker/Bell/Smith)**

Matthew Smith moved to set the overlay within the range of \$40,000; Stephan Bunker seconded.

Discussion continued.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 2 OPPOSED 3 MOTION FAILED
(Fogg/Landry/Bell)**

ITEM 4: To Consider the Recommendation of the Downtown TIF Advisory Committee to Provide Security Cameras in the Downtown (Cont.)

Police Department line item. D.C. Cote gave some background information on this project in answer to resident Elaine Graham's questions regarding who and how this idea was generated. Also discussed was the possibility of a router being installed by BeeLine Cable in the Meetinghouse Park gazebo so that a camera can be placed there.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen thanked D.C. Cote for his time and effort on this project.

ITEM 5: To Review the Walton's Mill Dam Article for the November 6, 2018 Referendum

Richard Davis reviewed the referendum question and two related email exchanges between him and Town Attorney Amanda Meader. Mr. Davis stated that John Burrows has contacted him with the news that a \$100,000 grant has been secured already toward the culvert replacements. Mr. Davis clarified the location of the proposed Walton's Mill Park pavilion for the Selectmen.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Walton's Mill Dam article for the November 6, 2018 referendum; Michael Fogg seconded.

Stephan Bunker clarified that the ultimate vote on moving forward on this article is not that of the Selectmen, it's to place it before the voters for their vote.

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 OPPOSED 1 MOTION CARRIED
(Matthew Smith)**

Richard Davis confirmed for the press that there is a press release coming out soon on the upcoming meetings on this proposal.

ITEM 6: To Consider the Application of Peter Roberts to Serve on the Downtown T.I.F. Advisory Committee

Richard Davis reviewed Mr. Roberts' application.

Matthew Smith moved to appoint Peter Roberts to the Downtown T.I.F. Advisory Committee; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 7: To Approve the Minutes of August 14, 2018

Michael Fogg moved to approve the minutes of August 14, 2018; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

