FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, April 8, 2014

Vice Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Stephan Bunker and Andrew Buckland. Chairman Ryan Morgan was absent. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Wastewater Superintendent Stephen Millett, Sewer Clerk Mavis Gensel (left 6:50 P.M.), Public Works Director Denis Castonguay, Shop Manager Greg Soule (left 7:25 P.M.), Assessor Mark Caldwell (left 6:55 P.M.), Planning Board members Matthew Smith and Tom Eastler, Channel 11, and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag

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

To Consider a Request to Conduct Fundraising "Tollbooths" in Support of the Cape Cod Hill School *Destination Imagination* Student Team's Attendance at the Global Finals in Tennessee May 21-25 (Tammy Holmes)

Richard Davis stated that he received an email from the requesting parties yesterday withdrawing their request.

Stephan Bunker moved to pass over Item 2; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

ITEM 3: To Review and Approve the Proposed 2014 Sewer Department Budget

Richard Davis gave an overview of the proposed 2014 Sewer Department budget. Superintendent Steve Millett and Sewer Clerk Mavis Gensel were present to answer any questions. Questions and discussions included: purchase of a spare influent pump, capital improvements, solids disposal, Steve Moore continuing as a part-time employee, solar and wind power savings, and propane conversion.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the proposed 2014 Sewer Department budget of \$960,359, which is an increase of \$7,922 or 0.83%, from the 2013 budget; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

ITEM 4: To Approve the First Quarter 2014 Sewer Commitment

Richard Davis reported that the rates remained the same as the fourth quarter of 2013.

Stephan Bunker moved and Andrew Buckland seconded, as Sewer Commissioners, to approve the following rates for the first quarter 2014 Sewer Commitment:

Residential/Rental and Commercial Rate = \$7.285 / 100 cubic feet Residential/Rental and Commercial Minimum = \$36.43 / 500 cubic feet

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

The Selectmen signed the Commitment.

ITEM 5: To Review a Draft Request for Proposals for Tax Assessing Services and Consider Options for Assessing

Richard Davis reviewed the draft Request for Proposals and information on the salaries of assessors of various communities in an average population range taken from the 2013 Maine Municipal Association Salary Survey. Mr. Davis pointed out that the Selectmen may want to wait to review the options when the Chairman is present, or when there is a full Board in June. Assessor Mark Caldwell was present and joined in a brief discussion of how a contracted service would operate, as well as questions that may require legal input.

Andrew Buckland moved to postpone this Item until the June 24, 2014 Selectmen's meeting when there will be a full Board present; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

ITEM 6: To Consider Options for Replacing the Sidewalk Tractor

Richard Davis reviewed his memo dated April 7, 2014, which included prices for different models. Discussion included: the balance of and need to increase the Equipment Reserve account; payment options; and a lease purchase proposal by Chadwick-BaRoss. Public Works Director Denis Castonguay and Shop Manager Greg Soule were present and handed out brochures and reviewed the different tractor models. They also reviewed their recommendation. Favorable comments on the department's recommendation were heard from resident and former employee/sidewalk plow operator Nancy Porter. The scheduled purchase of a replacement dump truck and the opportunity to purchase a roll-off truck from the Sandy River Recycling Association were also discussed.

ITEM 6: To Consider Options for Replacing the Sidewalk Tractor (Cont.)

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the purchase of a demo 2012 Holder sidewalk plow from Chadwick-BaRoss by utilizing the six year financing option as presented; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

To consider Purchasing a Roll-off Truck from the Sandy River Recycling Association

Stephan Bunker moved to not purchase a roll-off truck from the Sandy River Recycling Association; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

Denis Castonguay stated that they will be sending out bids for the scheduled dump truck replacement within the next few weeks.

ITEM 8: To Adopt the Amended Town of Farmington All-Hazards Emergency Operations Plan

Stephan Bunker moved to adopt the amended Town of Farmington All-Hazards Emergency Operations Plan; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

The Selectmen signed the Plan.

ITEM 9: To Consider the Adoption of a Resolution Urging the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to Amend its Policy regarding Reimbursements for Ice Storm Events

Richard Davis explained the purpose of this Resolution.

Andrew Buckland moved to adopt the proposed Resolution with the exclusion of a paragraph referring to the December 2013 ice storm; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

The Selectmen signed the Resolution.

To Renew the Policy on Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Employee Wages and Benefits and State Fees

Stephan Bunker moved to renew the Policy on Treasurer's Disbursement Warrants for Employee Wages and Benefits and State Fees using Option 1; Richard Davis explained the purpose of this annual Policy to Mr. Buckland; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

The Selectmen signed the Policy.

ITEM 11: To Consider the Application of Jeffrey Wright to Serve as an Alternate Member on the Planning Board

Richard Davis reviewed Jeffrey Wright's application, and favorable comments were heard from Planning Board member Tom Eastler.

Stephan Bunker moved to appoint Jeffrey Wright to the Planning Board as an alternate member; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

ITEM 12: To Appoint a Member of the Board of Selectmen to the Safety Committee

Richard Davis explained that the previous representative was Jessica Berry and then Andrew Hufnagel when she was unable to attend the last two meetings due to work conflicts.

Stephan Bunker moved to appoint Andrew Buckland to the Safety Committee as the Selectmen's representative; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

ITEM 13: To Make the Following Appointments to the Transportation Advisory
Committee: Reappoint Bill Geller as a Regular Member, Appoint Dennis
Pike as a Regular Member, and Appoint a Member of the Board of
Selectmen as an ad hoc Member

Richard Davis explained the membership of and applications for this Committee.

To Make the Following Appointments to the Transportation Advisory Committee: Reappoint Bill Geller as a Regular Member, Appoint Dennis Pike as a Regular Member, and Appoint a Member of the Board of Selectmen as an ad hoc Member (Cont.)

Stephan Bunker moved to appoint Bill Geller and Dennis Pike as regular members to the Transportation Advisory Committee, and to table appointment of an ad hoc member until the June 24, 2014 Selectmen's meeting; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

ITEM 14: To Appoint a Representative to the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) General Assembly

Richard Davis explained that Andrew Hufnagel was previously serving in that role, and explained the purpose of the General Assembly.

Andrew Buckland moved to appoint Stephan Bunker as a representative to the Androscoggin Valley Council of Governments (AVCOG) General Assembly; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

ITEM 15: To Discuss the Election Process for MMA Executive Committee and Vice President

Richard Davis reviewed a memo from the Maine Municipal Association dated March 27, 2014. Stephan Bunker, speaking from experience, stated that there is a large time commitment with the Executive Committee, but it is a very worthwhile experience. He also announced that he will be reapplying for consideration as Vice President.

ITEM 16: To Approve the Minutes of March 11 and 25, 2014

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the minutes of March 11, 2014 and table the minutes of March 25, 2014, as they had not as yet been reviewed; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

ITEM 17: To Discuss Other Business

A) Resident and Planning Board member Dr. Tom Eastler asked the Selectmen for, and received, permission to address his proposal for the Town of Farmington to take over the operation of the composting facility by gift from the Sandy River Recycling Association (SRRA). Dr. Eastler handed out and reviewed his Compost Plan proposal, stating that if the Town will agree in principle to his proposal, he will pay the \$288 application fee, as well as the \$300 annual fee, if necessary. The Selectmen discussed Dr. Eastler's proposal.

Andrew Buckland moved to support in principle the acceptance of the Sandy River Recycling Association composting facility and license, with Dr. Tom Eastler donating the funds to pay for the application fee and providing a more detailed draft composting plan for consideration by the Selectmen at their next meeting on April 22nd; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

Resident Dennis O'Neil made favorable comments on this proposed endeavor.

- **B)** Richard Davis announced that nomination papers to fill the remaining two years of a vacated Selectman's position are available and need to be returned by 5:00 P.M. on Wednesday, April 30th.
- C) Richard Davis reported that LD 1754 regarding an amendment of the laws governing the collection of motor vehicle excise tax owed by a public utility went before legislators and they voted to require an excise tax revenue study.
- **D**) Stephan Bunker stated will be out-of-town from April 9th through 12th, but will be available by email and cell phone.
- **E**) Joshua Bell stated that he will not be at the April 22nd meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Stephan Bunker moved to adjourn at 8:30 P.M.**; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 3 ABSENT 2 MOTION CARRIED (Morgan/Vacant)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

Stephan M. Bunker – Secretary