#### FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

#### Tuesday, May 13, 2014

Chairman Ryan Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Joshua Bell, Stephan Bunker and Andrew Buckland. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Linda Grant, Channel 11, and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

#### **ITEM 1: Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag**

Chairman Ryan Morgan led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

# **ITEM 2:** To Hear a Presentation from the UMF Climate Change and Society Class regarding the *Farmington Climate Adaptation Plan*

Richard Davis introduced UMF Sustainability Coordinator Dr. Lucas Kellett, and welcomed those students present from his UMF Climate Change and Society Class. Mr. Davis explained that this year's project for this class was to create a Climate Adaptation Plan for the Town of Farmington. Dr. Kellett explained the course curriculum and gave an overview of the project before turning the floor over to five groups of students who presented the five sectors of the Plan. Questions and contributions from the Selectmen included: the increase in ticks, lyme disease, and West Nile virus relative to public safety, including tourists; meeting certain needs and problems through litigation versus adaptation; river dredging; the change over the years in snow dumping practices; risk assessment (particularly relative to people); and a request for class comments and suggestions in regard to the Town's Emergency Response Plan adequacies. One of the students generated a brief discussion regarding the process and cost of the Whittier Road project, including the political involvement. Dr. Kellett explained that the final document will be delivered to the Town once compilation is complete, which most likely will be during the summer. The Selectmen thanked Dr. Kellett and his class for their excellent presentation and gave them a round of applause.

#### **ITEM 3:** To Consider a Proposal to Landscape the Former Town Garage lot

Richard Davis reported that Mrs. Porter has withdrawn her proposal to conduct a flea market at the site. He further reported that he was approached by Richard Bjorn with the proposal to landscape the site, and his generous offer to donate toward its cause. He stated that he is in the process of compiling some concepts for cost analysis of this proposal for presentation to the Selectmen and Mr. Bjorn. He asked for the Selectmen's opinions on what should be on site in regard to picnic tables, etc., and explained his ideas

# **ITEM 3:** To Consider a Proposal to Landscape the Former Town Garage lot (Cont.)

and concepts. He further stated that Conservation Commission member Robert Zundel is working on the drawings, which are anticipated to be available by the end of the week. Topics discussed were: removal of the unhealthy trees and undergrowth; remove/relocate the banner poles; upgrade and maintenance of the town signs; and traffic issues relative to access and parking. It was the general consensus of the Board to table discussion of this Item until the next meeting to allow time for review and public comment. The suggestion of a "Welcome" kiosk by resident Bobbie Hanstein was discussed.

# ITEM 4: To Hold a Follow-up Discussion on the Regional Fire Service Meeting of April 30, 2014

Richard Davis pointed out to the Selectmen the written analysis by Deputy Chief Clyde Ross of the April 30, 2014 fire service meeting that was previously provided to them. Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell was present and joined in the discussion regarding feedback received since that meeting. Chief Bell asked for direction regarding having future meetings. Mr. Davis suggested, and Chief Bell agreed, that he and his department conduct an analysis and bring the results back to the Selectmen at the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting in an attempt to gain more publicity for the effort. Another meeting of all fire services can then be scheduled in 60-90 days for each department to present and compare its department's analysis.

# **ITEM 5:** To Approve the Employment of Kyle P. Ellis as a Probationary Member of the Fire Rescue Department

Richard Davis reviewed Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell's memo of recommendation dated May 7, 2014.

Ryan Morgan moved to approve the employment of Kyle P. Ellis as a probationary member of the Fire Rescue Department; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	MOTON CARRIED	
	(Vacant)					

# ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business

A) Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell reported that there will be a four hour large-scale disaster drill taking place on the UMF campus on August 8<sup>th</sup>, and the Municipal Building will be utilized.

#### **ITEM 6:** To Award the bid for Street Striping

Richard Davis reviewed the bid tabulation, with the recommendation to award the bid to Lucas Striping, LLC of Sidney, ME at a total cost of \$11,600.16.

# Stephan Bunker moved to award the street striping bid to Lucas Striping, LLC of Sidney, ME at a total cost of \$11,600.16; Andrew Buckland seconded.

Mr. Davis responded to Joshua Bell's questions regarding the cost difference from 2013.

# VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTON CARRIED (Vacant)

#### ITEM 7: To Award the bid for Hippach Field Basketball Court Repair

Richard Davis reviewed Director Steve Shible's memo dated May 5, 2014, with the recommendation to award the bid to Advantage Tennis Inc. at a total cost of \$3,950.00.

Stephan Bunker moved to award the bid for repair of the Hippach Field basketball court to Advantage Tennis Inc. at a total cost of \$3,950.00, with thanks to the Mills family for the Peter Mills Trust Fund support; Joshua Bell seconded.

Richard Davis stated that he will research Joshua Bell's question regarding why advertising was limited to the Franklin Journal.

# VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTON CARRIED (Vacant)

#### **ITEM 8:** To Review a Draft of the Updated Capital Improvements Plan

Richard Davis reviewed the draft Capital Improvements Plan, with emphasis on the need to increase the reserve accounts. He asked the Selectmen to study the Plan in preparation for discussing it at a future meeting. It was the general consensus of the Selectmen to discuss the Plan at the June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ryan Morgan encouraged the Selectmen to pass ideas on to the Town Manager.

#### ITEM 9: To Consider Town Membership in the Maine Tourism Association

Richard Davis reviewed the packet of membership information received from the Maine Tourism Association, and reported that this membership could be funded out of the TIF Reserve. He pointed out that one benefit of this membership would be to allow the

#### ITEM 9: To Consider Town Membership in the Maine Tourism Association (Cont.)

Town to have its approximately 10,000 brochures distributed to information centers throughout Maine. Joshua Bell generated a discussion regarding what will attract people to visit, as well as live in, Farmington.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the Town's membership in the Maine Tourism Association, with the annual membership fee of \$145.00 and \$135.00 cost of distribution of the brochures to all seven locations to be funded from the TIF Reserve account; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	<b>MOTON CARRIED</b>			
	(Vacant)							

# **ITEM 10:** To Approve Three (3) Cemetery Conveyances

Richard Davis reviewed three cemetery conveyances for Wendy Atwood and Flint J. Christie of Farmington, and James B. Christie of Yarmouth.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve a cemetery conveyance for Flint J. Christie, James B. Christie, and Wendy Atwood; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	4	ABSENT	1	MOTON CARRIED			
	(Vacant)							

The Selectmen signed each of the three conveyances.

# **ITEM 11:** To Approve a Municipal Quitclaim Deed

Richard Davis reviewed a quitclaim deed for Hannah c. Breault, personal representative of the estate of Dawn E. Howley.

Joshua Bell moved to approve a quitclaim deed for Hannah c. Breault, personal representative of the estate of Dawn E. Howley; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTON CARRIED (Vacant)

The Selectmen signed the quitclaim deed.

#### ITEM 12: To Approve the Minutes of April 8 and 22, 2014

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the minutes of April 8 and 22, 2014; Ryan Morgan seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTON CARRIED (Vacant)

#### ITEM 13: To Discuss Other Business (Cont.)

**B**) Richard Davis reported that the Town is in receipt of a check for \$500.00 from Mickey Amlotte of Sports Projects, Inc., which has been an annual donation to the Parks and Recreation Department for a number of years.

Joshua Bell moved to accept a donation of \$500 for the Parks and Recreation Department from Sports Projects, Inc., with a letter of appreciation to be sent to same; Ryan Morgan seconded.

# VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTON CARRIED (Vacant)

- C) Joshua Bell questioned why the Town Manager is not required to sign a contract at the time of his annual evaluation. Richard Davis stated that Town Managers are employed by State statute or by contract, and explained the difference. After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Board to research contractual formats and discuss the matter at a future meeting.
- **D**) Stephan Bunker reported that he will be unable to attend the University of Maine at Farmington graduation, as he will be out of town.
- **E**) Stephan Bunker pointed out the Arbor Day festivities on May  $20^{\text{th}}$ .
- **F)** Stephan Bunker generated a brief discussion regarding research of the conversion of the Town's department fleets and buildings to natural gas.
- **G**) Andrew Buckland asked if anyone else received a letter from a group questioning UMF's decision to convert to natural gas versus biomass. Richard Davis reviewed a panel presentation he recently attended and participated in that Dr. Lucas Kellett moderated and this subject was discussed.
- **H**) Richard Davis reminded the Selectmen that their next meeting will be on Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup> instead of Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Joshua Bell moved to adjourn at 9:15 P.M.; Andrew Buckland seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSENT 1 MOTON CARRIED (Vacant)

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

Stephan M. Bunker – Secretary