### FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

#### Tuesday, September 23, 2014

Chairman Ryan Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Joshua Bell, Michael Fogg, Andrew Buckland and Stephan Bunker. Town Secretary Linda Grant, Assessor Mark Caldwell (6:30-7:35pm) and members of the press and public were also in attendance.

Chairman Morgan reported that Item 9 will be tabled in order to allow Selectman Andrew Buckland time to complete his portion of the Town Manager's evaluation.

### **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 Hold a Public Hearing on a new Liquor License for the Sweet Ginger Restaurant, located at 112 Marceau Court - Suite 1, owned and operated by Wichai Tatiyanunthaporn d/b/a Sweet Ginger LLC

Chairman Ryan Morgan opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:32 P.M.

There being no comments, Chairman Ryan Morgan closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:33 P.M.

Jack Cahill spoke on behalf of and introduced the owners, as well as giving a brief history of their restaurant experience.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve a new Liquor License for the Sweet Ginger Restaurant, located at 112 Marceau Court - Suite 1, owned and operated by Wichai Tatiyanunthaporn d/b/a Sweet Ginger LLC; Joshua Bell seconded.

## VOTEAFFIRMATIVE5MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen signed the application. When asked when they expect to open, Mr. Cahill stated that they are aiming for October 1<sup>st</sup>, but most likely it will be closer to October10<sup>th</sup>.

### **ITEM 3:** To Award the bid for Property and Casualty Insurances

Ryan Morgan reviewed the bid tabulation. Rock Bjorn and Flint Christie from the Kyes Agency were present to answer any questions the Selectmen may have.

#### **ITEM 3:** To Award the bid for Property and Casualty Insurances (Cont.)

Stephan Bunker moved to award the bid for Property and Casualty Insurances to the Kyes Agency at a total cost of \$64,619 for the first year of a three year contract, subject to annual adjustments in cost and coverages; Joshua Bell seconded.

### VOTEAFFIRMATIVE5MOTION CARRIED

#### ITEM 4: To Approve the Third Quarter 2014 Sewer Commitment

Ryan Morgan reported that the rates remained the same as the second quarter of 2014: Residential/Rental and Commercial Rate = \$7.285 / 100 cubic feet Residential/Rental and Commercial Minimum = \$36.43 / 500 cubic feet

# Stephan Bunker moved and Joshua Bell seconded, as Sewer Commissioners, to approve the third quarter 2014 Sewer Commitment.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE	5	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>
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The Selectmen signed the Commitment.

# ITEM 5: To Determine whether to Contract for Assessing Services or Employ an Assessor on Staff

Assessing Services research committee members Joshua Bell, Michael Fogg, Mark Caldwell and Dennis O'Neil were present. Assessor and Committee member Mark Caldwell reviewed the results of re-interviewing three of the four assessing services applicants, and noted that it is his feeling that the change will be a challenge regardless of whether they choose to contract or employ. Resident and Committee member Dennis O'Neil reviewed and expressed his perceived pros and cons with contracting for assessing services. Selectmen Bell and Fogg shared their opinions during the Board's discussion, which included potential cost savings, revaluation, and the additional cost of a revaluation should the Selectmen choose to contract for assessing services. Resident Charley Murray asked for clarification on what the frequency of revaluations has been, and what they will be if the Town contracts for assessing services.

## Andrew Buckland moved for the Town of Farmington to contract for assessing services; Michael Fogg seconded.

## VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Stephan Bunker qualified his affirmative vote by stating that he will be looking very closely at the Town Manager's recommendation, which will determine his next vote.

### **ITEM 6: To Approve a Cemetery lot Conveyance**

Ryan Morgan reviewed the Conveyance for Clyde Allen and Anita Allen.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve a Cemetery Lot Conveyance for Clyde Allen and Anita Allen; Joshua Bell seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 7: To Approve the Minutes of August 12 and 26 and September 9, 2014

Stephan Bunker moved to approve the minutes of August 12 and 26 and September 9, 2014; Ryan Morgan seconded.

## VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 4 ABSTAINED 1 MOTION CARRIED (Andrew Buckland)

### **ITEM 8: To Discuss Other Business**

- A) Stephan Bunker handed out a copy of the Maine Fire Service Institute's bi-weekly update in which there appeared an article about a Maine Fire Chiefs workshop which will be taking place at the University of Maine at Farmington (UMF) on October 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>, and includes elected and appointed officials. Mr. Bunker reviewed the content of the workshop and encouraged his fellow Selectmen to attend any portion of the workshop possible. He also asked them to let Chief Terry Bell know if they are going to be attending.
- **B**) Stephan Bunker reminded the Selectmen of the Chamber of Commerce legislative and gubernatorial candidates' forum Wednesday morning from 7-9 A.M. at the North Dining Hall at UMF.
- C) Stephan Bunker reminded the Selectmen of the Maine Municipal Association (MMA) annual convention on October 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Civic Center in Augusta.
- D) Stephan Bunker reported that he has copy of the DVDs of the MMA Gubernatorial Candidate Forums of Eliot Cutler and Mike Michaud, which he will leave with the Town Secretary if anyone is interested in watching them. He stated that they can also be viewed on MMA's website.
- **E**) Linda Grant reported that Public Works mechanic Wesley Witherly has given his three week notice, with his last day being October 16, 2014. Mrs. Grant stated that she is in hopes to have the position vacancy posted by the end of the week.

## ITEM 8: To Discuss Other Business (Cont.)

- **F**) Michael Fogg asked for clarification from Farmington Transportation Advisory Committee Dennis O'Neil that there is no meeting this month.
- G) Ryan Morgan generated a discussion regarding obtaining an unbiased opinion and guidelines on whether or not to develop a contract for the Town Manager, and suggested Warren Scott from Skowhegan who is a municipal attorney for Somerset County. The Selectmen discussed the potential advantages of discussing the matter with someone familiar with contracts. Stephan Bunker stated that he knows someone on the MMA Senior Management Staff who does recruitment on behalf of Towns for managers, and also does contract negotiations for communities. It was the consensus of the Board for Mr. Bunker to check with this person on availability and cost.

# **ITEM 9:** To Hold an Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.A to Discuss the Manager's Annual Performance Evaluation

Item 9 was tabled.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Andrew Buckland moved to adjourn at 7:55 P.M.; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE	AFFIRMATIVE	5	<b>MOTION CARRIED</b>

Minutes respectfully submitted by Linda H. Grant.

Stephan M. Bunker – Secretary