FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Stephan Bunker, Michael Fogg, Matthew Smith, and Scott Landry. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Nancy Martin, Assessor John O'Donnell, Police Chief Jack Peck, Officer Ethan Boyd, Officer Roger Bachelder, Acting Fire Rescue Chief Timothy A. Hardy, Public Works Director Phil Hutchins, 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 Hold a Public Hearing on the Following Application for a Marijuana Business:

Mike McInnis/GreenGrow LLC 19-MJ-10

Conversion from Medical Marijuana Business to Adult Use Marijuana Business 104 Fairbanks Road U19-16-A

Richard Davis provided a copy of the GreenGrow LLC application.

Chairman Joshua Bell opened the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:31 P.M.

There were no comments from the public.

Chairman Joshua Bell closed the Public Hearing under Item 2 at 6:31 P.M.

Mike McInnis introduced himself and stated that there are no changes, other than they are switching from medical marijuana to adult use.

Scott Landry moved to approve the application of Mike McInnis/GreenGrow LLC 19-MJ-10; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 3: To Consider a Request to Incorporate Town-owned Property off Front Street into an Adaptive Multi-use Trail System (UMF Professor Scott Hoisington)

Richard Davis provided a copy of UMF's grant application, the \$3,500 grant award letter from the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund, and a map of the existing trail system.

Professor Scott Hoisington introduced himself and stated that they started the multi-use trail system three years ago with Nordic trails around the UMF athletic fields and expanded to nature trails along the Sandy River, which allows access to the river's sandy

ITEM 3: To Consider a Request to Incorporate Town-owned Property off Front Street into an Adaptive Multi-use Trail System (continued)

beaches. Professor Hoisington stated that UMF was recently awarded the \$3,500 grant through the Maine Outdoor Heritage Fund to further improve the trails. UMF is working with Brandon Merry, Maine Adaptive, on how to create these trails with handicap access. The plan is to create handicap access by using the Town owned old snow dump located off Front Street and add kiosks and nature signage. The signage will be done in braille and large print. Professor Hoisington stated that the trails would be used for cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, walking, biking, bird watching, and river access. ATV access would be limited to the shared snowmobile trail that runs through the system. Professor Hoisington explained that abled bodied persons would use the soccer parking lot, with the Town's old snow dump area being reserved for handicapped parking. Mr. Davis stated that the old snow dump is level, the entrance has a culvert for drainage, and it is well suited for handicap parking and trail access. Professor Hoisington explained that this is a long-term project and that he would provide the Town with the plan prior to beginning any work. Trail development will begin this spring. Professor Hoisington stated that UMF students will maintain the trails, and there will be no maintenance cost for the Town.

Michael Fogg moved to approve the request to incorporate Town-owned property off Front Street into an adaptive multi-use trail System; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 4: To Approve an Expenditure of \$67,520.27 from the Public Works Equipment Reserve Account to Convert the Second LESO-Acquired Freightliner Ten-Wheeler Truck to a Plow Truck

Richard Davis provided a sales quote from H.P. Fairfield, and stated his opinion that the quote is reasonable. Mr. Davis stated that the funds are in the Reserve Account, and that this expenditure will deplete the account until the 2020 Budget is approved. Mr. Hutchins explained that the Freightliner will replace the 2002 Volvo plow truck, which will be taken out of service. Mr. Hutchins stated that H.P. Fairfield will build a chute that will allow salt to be dropped on the center line, and they will add a four-seasons body vs. a hopper/sander.

Mathew Smith moved to approve an expenditure of \$67,520.27 from the Public Works Equipment Reserve Account to convert the second LESO-acquired freightliner ten-wheeler truck to a plow truck; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 5: To Approve an Expenditure of \$18,000 from the Police Academy Reserve
Account to Reimburse the Carrabassett Valley Police Department for Newlyhired Farmington Officer Ethan Boyd's Training

Richard Davis provided an invoice from Chief Mark A. Lopez, Carrabassett Valley Police Department.

To Approve an Expenditure of \$18,000 from the Police Academy Reserve Account to Reimburse the Carrabassett Valley Police Department for Newlyhired Farmington Officer Ethan Boyd's Training (continued)

Chief Peck was present and introduced full-time Officer Ethan Boyd. Officer Boyd is a graduate of Mount Abram High School. He attended Central Maine Community College. Officer Boyd graduated from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA) in 2016 and has worked for the Carrabassett Valley Police Department since November 2015.

Chief Peck also introduced part-time Officer Roger Bachelder. Officer Bachelder attended Monmouth Academy and graduated from the MCJA in 2019. Officer Bachelder is currently employed full-time by the Livermore Falls Police Department.

Chief Peck requested permission to pay the state-mandated reimbursement using the department's Reserve Account. Richard Davis stated that Reserve Account's current balance is \$56,666. Chief Peck explained that Farmington has benefited from the State's reimbursement mandate when it lost officers to other departments, and the reimbursement amount is based on a five-year proration.

Stephan Bunker moved to approve an expenditure of \$18,000 from the Police Academy Account to reimburse the Carrabassett Valley Police Department for newly hired Farmington Officer Ethan Boyd's training; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 6: To Accept a Grant from the *Firehouse Subs Safety Foundation* to the Fire Rescue Department for the Purchase of a Hurst Cutter Package, Hurst Spreader Package, two (2) Hurst Ram Packages and Mounting System valued at up to \$29,944

Richard Davis provided an email dated January 6, 2020 from the Firehouse Subs Public Safety Foundation Board of Directors awarding the grant to the Farmington Fire Rescue Department.

Fire Rescue Deputy Chief Hardy was present and explained that Gerry Pineau and Captain Hardy applied for this grant last fall, and the department was notified last week that they were awarded the grant. Deputy Chief Hardy stated that this equipment would be added, along with the new extrication equipment, to the new firetruck next fall.

Michael Fogg moved to accept a grant from the Firehouse Subs Safety Foundation to the Fire Rescue Department for the purchase of a Hurst Cutter Package, Hurst Spreader Package, two (2) Hurst Ram Packages and mounting system valued at up to \$29,944; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Deputy Chief Hardy invited the Selectmen to attend a Fire Rescue Department meeting to meet the firefighters. The Selectmen welcomed the opportunity to attend the meeting. Mr. Davis asked Deputy Chief Hardy to confirm the date.

To Consent to the Registration by the Farmington Emblem Club #460 to Operate Beano/Bingo at the West Farmington Elks Lodge on March 15, 2020

Richard Davis provided a copy of the application.

Matthew Smith moved to approve the consent to the registration by the Farmington Emblem Club #460 to operate Beano/Bingo at the West Farmington Elks Lodge on March 15, 2020; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Board signed the consent document.

ITEM 8: To Schedule a Special Meeting for January 30, 2020, if necessary, to vote Recommendations on the Proposed 2020 Departmental Budgets

Richard Davis stated that it may not be necessary to schedule a special meeting for January 30, 2020. Mr. Davis explained that if the Budget Committee meets on January 22^{nd} and completes its review of the Budget, and if the Board of Selectmen's Agenda for the January 28^{th} meeting isn't too crowded, the Selectmen could review the budget on the 28^{th} . He will notify the Board if a special meeting becomes necessary.

ITEM 9: To Approve the Minutes of January 7, 2020

Matthew Smith moved to approve the minutes of January 7, 2020; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

ITEM 10: To Discuss Other Business

- A.) Stephan Bunker announced that the sub-committee for the WWII Memorial will hold its first meeting on Wednesday, January 15th. Matthew Smith stated that the committee should have an update at the next Board of Selectmen's meeting.
- B.) Scott Landry stated that on January 21st the Energy and Utilities Committee will be hearing a bill proposing changes to the Dig Safe Law. The meeting will be held in room 11 of the Cross State House Building at 1:00 P.M. Discussion will include the propane lines that are now exempt from Dig Safe regulations. Stephan Bunker stated that the public can also listen to audio broadcasts of committee hearings by going to the maine.gov website.
- C.) Michael Fogg stated that he is very impressed with the letter sent by Town Manager Richard Davis to Sergeant Hastings congratulating him on being recognized as the Police Department Employee of the Year.

ITEM 11: To Hold an Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.C to discuss an Economic Development Matter

Matthew Smith moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.C to discuss an economic development matter at 6:58 P.M.; Stephan Bunker seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 8:04 P.M. No action was taken.

The Selectmen took a brief recess.

To Hold an Executive Session Pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.D to discuss the Police Labor Contract Negotiations with the Negotiators, Richard Davis and Jack Peck

Matthew Smith moved to go into Executive Session at 8:08 P.M. pursuant to 1 M.R.S. § 405.6.D to discuss the Police labor contract negotiations with the negotiators, Richard Davis and Jack Peck; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

The Selectmen came out of Executive Session at 8:30 P.M.

Stephan Bunker moved to ratify the Agreement between the Town of Farmington, Maine and the Bargaining Unit of the Maine Association of Police Effective April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2023; Matthew Smith seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

There being no further business to come before the Board, Matthew Smith moved to adjourn at 8:30 P.M.; Scott Landry seconded.

VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy L. Martin.

Michael J. Fogg - Secretary