

**FARMINGTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN**

**Tuesday, July 14, 2020**

**6:30 P.M.**

The meeting was conducted through remote access by telephonic, video, and electronic means. The public was able to attend by viewing the livestream at <http://mtbluetv.org/program-live-stream-farmington-selectmen.html> or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/MBTV11/> and/or calling 778-5874.

Chairman Joshua Bell called the meeting to order at 6:30 P.M. with the following members present: Michael Fogg, Stephan Bunker, Matthew Smith, and Scott Landry. Town Manager Richard Davis, Town Secretary Nancy Martin, and the Mt. Blue TV camera operator were also physically in attendance.

**Votes were taken by roll call.**

**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 Appoint Committee and Board Members**

Richard Davis reviewed the list of renewal and new Board and Committee applicants. Matthew Smith stated that his application for re-appointment to the Conservation Committee is at his home and requested that his name be added to the list of re-appointment applications. A consensus was reached, and Mr. Smith was added to the list of re-appointment applications.

Mr. Davis reported that after twenty-two years of service, Donna Tracy has not renewed her membership on the Planning Board and David Robbins also chose not to re-apply. Judith Murphy, who is currently serving as a 1-year Alternate, will move up to the 3-year term member position. Linda Brown, a first-time applicant, if approved, will fill the 1-year Alternate vacancy.

Mr. Davis recommended that the Selectmen address the appointments in two motions. One motion to re-appoint members who are re-applying and a second motion to appoint new members. Joshua Bell thanked all those who applied.

**Board and Committee Re-Appointments**

**Scott Landry moved to re-appoint all applicants to the respective Board or Committee for which they have applied; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE**

**AFFIRMATIVE 5**

**MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 2: To Appoint Committee and Board Members - continued**

**Board and Committee New Appointments**

**Scott Landry moved to accept all new applications and appoint all applicants to the respective Board or Committee for which they have applied; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE                      AFFIRMATIVE      5                      MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 3: To Consider an Expenditure of up to \$2,000 from the Blake Cemetery Trust Fund to Replace the Fence at the Blake Cemetery in Farmington Falls (current balance = \$12,341)**

Richard Davis provided a materials list and cost breakdown for the Blake Cemetery fence repairs. Mr. Davis stated that the fence, which is highly visible from Route 2, suffered some damage over the winter, and it is time for the fence to be replaced. Joshua Bell inquired about the state of the headstones. Mr. Davis stated that he would need to look at them, and if necessary, include funds in next year's budget for repair of headstones in this and other local cemeteries.

**Stephan Bunker moved to approve an expenditure of up to \$2,000 from the Blake Cemetery Trust Fund to replace the fence at the Blake Cemetery; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE                      AFFIRMATIVE      5                      MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 4: To Consider Expenditures Totaling \$8,625.00 from the Municipal Building Reserve Account for Asphalt Patching and Sealcoating of the Parking lots (current balance = \$10,811.81)**

Richard Davis reviewed an estimate from DMR Sealcoating totaling \$16,575: \$7,950 for sealcoating the back lot and the front of fire department; \$7,200 for asphalt patch work; \$1,425 for sealcoating the parking lot out front of the office. Mr. Davis recommended the Town complete the asphalt patch work and sealcoat the newer parking lot out front of the office at an estimated cost of \$8,625. Mr. Davis suggested that sealcoating the back lot and out front of the fire station be done another year. Joshua Bell asked if DMR's estimate was comparable price wise. Mr. Davis stated that he believed it was, as he researched this project several years ago and the cost for sealing the back parking lot was around \$7,000 then.

**ITEM 4: To Consider Expenditures Totaling \$8,625.00 from the Municipal Building Reserve Account for Asphalt Patching and Sealcoating of the Parking lots (current balance = \$10,811.81) - continued**

**Michael Fogg moved to approve an expenditure of \$8,625 from the Municipal Reserve Account for asphalt patching and sealcoating of the parking lots; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 5: To Approve three (3) Cemetery lot Conveyances**

Richard Davis reviewed the following three Cemetery Lot Conveyances: Stephen Doel and Melinda D. Doel for (1) lot in Fairview Cemetery; Frank S. Chin for (2) lots in Fairview Cemetery; and Richard Patnaude and Patricia Patnaude for (3) lots in Riverside Cemetery.

**Stephan Bunker moved to approve three Cemetery Lot Conveyances as noted above; Matthew Smith seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

The Selectmen signed the three (3) Cemetery lot Conveyances.

**ITEM 6: To Approve the Minutes of June 23, 2020**

**Matthew Smith moved to approve the minutes of June 23, 2020; Stephan Bunker seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE AFFIRMATIVE 5 MOTION CARRIED**

**ITEM 7: To Discuss Other Business**

**A.** Richard Davis reported that Robert Vallette submitted a letter of resignation from the Board of Appeals and the Revolving Loan Fund Committee. Mr. Vallette has sold his home and will be leaving the area by mid-August. In an email to Mr. Davis dated

**ITEM 7: To Discuss Other Business - continued**

July 13<sup>th</sup>, Mr. Vallette stated that it has been a privilege to serve Farmington, and he enjoyed getting to know the committee and board members. The Selectmen thanked Mr. Vallette for his service.

**Matthew Smith moved to accept Robert Vallette’s resignation from the Board of Appeals and the Revolving Loan Fund Committee; Michael Fogg seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE                                      AFFIRMATIVE                      5                                      MOTION CARRIED**

**B.** Richard Davis reported that he received a request from Charlie Woodworth, Executive Director of the Greater Franklin Development Council (GFDC), for a letter of support. The GFDC is working to fill a budget void and is applying for operational funding through the Betterment Fund. The Betterment Fund website states that, “the Betterment Fund was created for charitable purposes by the will of the late William Bingham, 2<sup>nd</sup>, a resident of Bethel, Maine, who died in 1955.” Mr. Davis provided a letter of support addressed to The Betterment Fund for the Selectmen to review and sign.

**Scott Landry moved to support the Greater Franklin Development Council (GFDC) with a letter of support for GFDC’s application to the Betterment Fund for operational funding; Michael Fogg seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE                                      AFFIRMATIVE                      5                                      MOTION CARRIED**

The Town Manager and the Selectmen signed the letter of support.

**C.** Stephan Bunker reported that he visited the election polling site today, and he was favorably impressed with how well organized and how smoothly things moved. Mr. Bunker stated that he appreciated the Clerk’s efforts.

**D.** Michael Fogg commented on the notice the Selectmen received from Fire Rescue Chief Terry Bell regarding the hiring of two full time firemen, bringing the Fire Rescue Department up to full strength. Mr. Fogg stated that he was pleased that firefighters Evan Dorr and Connor Perkins were promoted from within the Department. Matthew Smith stated that he would like to welcome Mr. Dorr and Mr. Perkins into their full-time positions with the Farmington Fire Rescue Department.

**E.** Scott Landry stated that the June excise tax numbers look good. Richard Davis reported that June produced the largest amount of excise tax that the Town has ever collected in one month. Mr. Davis stated that he believes the increase is because of the backlog from April and May. The Town is close to being on track with estimated excises tax revenues for the year. Matthew Smith reminded everyone that the

**ITEM 7: To Discuss Other Business - continued**

Governor's grace period for inspections, registrations, and taxes ends Wednesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>.

- F. Joshua Bell reported that the Franklin County Commissioners purchased television coverage through Mount Blue TV/Channel 11 and will start broadcasting the Budget Committee meetings and Commissioner meetings live. The Franklin County Commissioners also purchased Closed Caption TV (CCTV) for the hearing impaired. Richard Davis stated that he will check to see if this feature is available for the Selectmen's meetings.

There being no further business to come before the Board, **Matthew Smith moved to adjourn at 6:54 P.M.; Scott Landry seconded.**

**Roll Call Vote – Joshua Bell: Yes, Stephan Bunker: Yes, Michael Fogg: Yes, Matthew Smith: Yes, Scott Landry: Yes**

**VOTE                      AFFIRMATIVE      5                      MOTION CARRIED**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Nancy L. Martin.

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Michael J. Fogg - Secretary