

THESE MINUTES ARE SUBJECT TO APPROVAL BY BOARD OF SELECTMEN

The Board of Selectmen held a special meeting Thursday, January 28, 2016 in the Council Chamber of the Newtown Municipal Center, 3 Primrose Street. First Selectman Llodra called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m.

PRESENT: First Selectman Llodra, Selectman William F.L. Rodgers, Selectman Herbert C. Rosenthal.

ALSO PRESENT: Finance Director Robert Tait, Director of IT, Al Miles, Board of Fire Commission Chair Rob Manna, Jay Nezvesky, Kevin Cragin, Lisa Gooseman, three members of the public and no members of the press.

VOTER COMMENTS: none.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES: First Selectman Llodra moved to accept the minutes of the special meeting of January 25, 2016. Selectman Rosenthal seconded. Selectman Rodgers abstained. Motion passed, Llodra, Rosenthal.

COMMUNICATIONS: none.

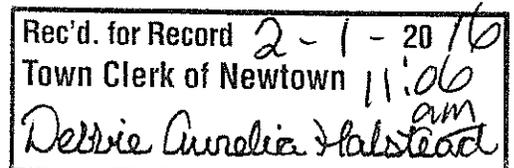
FINANCE DIRECTORS REPORT: none.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

- 1.) **Board of Selectmen 2016-2017 budget:** Mr. Manna and Mr. Nezvesky were present to discuss the fire budget. Mr. Manna said that some line items have increased due to particular areas that needed attention; he feels it is a responsible budget. First Selectman Llodra said she would like to see more information on the town comparatives for full time and part time deputy marshalls. Mr. Nezvesky said, and Mr. Tait agreed, that the additional \$2,000 and the 2% increase the salary would be more in line with other towns. The part time deputy marshalls would increase \$1 more an hour, about 14 hours a week. First Selectman understands the need for paid drivers. The request for additional funds was decreased by \$13,000. First Selectman Llodra is leaving it up to the commission to figure out how to serve all fire houses. Mr. Cragin stated that there is not a set situation; if money is needed to be allocated for more calls vs. drivers it is managed internally. Truck repairs was adjusted to historical actuals. Selectman Rosenthal asked if reductions will be a burden on the departments. Mr. Manna said the budget committee reviewed the reductions and were able to make internal adjustments in different accounts to balance out the reductions.

Al Miles, Director of IT was present to go over the line items in the Technology budget. Mr. Miles said that there were challenges with maintenance that were resolved as well as a couple of large projects that were completed. The NE Geo System is for the work order system. The \$10,000 represents maintenance and enhancements. The amount will be reduced next year.



VIWO budget is offset by the server amount from last year that is not in this years budget; this is a recurring charge. Vaulting is for email storage and will be a recurring charge. The Dept. of MV will also be a recurring charge. Fortinent support is a replacement of older equipment, a reduction of what was paid last year. Computer environment monitoring looks at PC's, allowing us to be proactive in computer care. Public Safety Data Network connects the municipal center to the police department via broadband and internet. LexisNexis is used by the tax department but is an IT item so therefore moved from tax budget to the IT budget. First Selectman Llodra said that while she appreciates the program to replace PC's the \$40,000 request was reduced to \$20,000. As some point a data center has to be built at the Parks & Recreation Maintenance building, but it will not be in this budget. The recording equipment in the council chamber will need upgrading. Mr. Miles said there was no PC replacement program and he is happy that one will be started now. IT will be looking into disaster recovery; this can wait, but not a long time. There have been issues with the server in the AV room; Mr. Miles is unsure how many times it can be rebuilt. It is in jeopardy and will need attention.

Further discussion on the Highway Budget: Mr. Rosenthal said that Mr. Hurley spoke about the limitation of contractors due to state and municipal contracts for roads. Mr. Rosenthal is happy about the increase in the capital budget for roads but would be more comfortable supporting the highway budget if the debt service could be increased. First Selectman Llodra stated the CIP has already been approved. Mr. Rodgers said the town leaders are supposed to put forth a responsible budget that can be defended. He believes it sends a stronger message having roads in the operational budget and addressing the CIP the next time around. Selectman Rosenthal agreed that the board should not guess in advance what the public will or will not support.

- 2.) **Action on selected line items from budget proposal:** Selectman Rodgers moved the following bottom line budgets; Selectman Rosenthal seconded the following bottom line budgets and each passed unanimously:

Technology Department: \$659,086
Social Services: \$316,169*
Senior Services: \$329,605
Newtown Youth & Family: \$302,526
Children's Adventure Center: \$142,332
Outside Agency Contributions: \$78,842
Land Use: \$708,809
Economic & Community Development: \$76,096
Grants Administration: \$25,401
NW Conservation District: \$1,040

*Selectman Rodgers noted he is a non-voting member of the Sandy Hook Community Foundation.

Selectman Rosenthal moved the following bottom line budgets; Selectman Rodgers seconded the following bottom line budgets and each passed unanimously:

Fire: \$1,336,821
Highway: \$7,311,887
Newtown Health District: \$395,988

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion and possible action:

- 1. Appointments/Reappointments/vacancies/openings:** Selectman Rodgers moved the appointments of Laura Branchini (U) to the Animal Control Advisory Board, alternate position and George Guidera (R) to the Commission on Aging for a term to expire 1/6/18. Selectman Rosenthal seconded. All in favor.
- 2. Driveway bond release/Extension:** Selectman Rosenthal moved the \$1,000 driveway bond release to Don Fischer, 1 Head of Meadow Road, M15, B5, LB5. Selectman Rodgers seconded. All in favor.
- 3. Tax Refunds:** Selectman Rodgers moved the tax refunds, February 2016, refund #11 in the amount of \$5,927.11. Selectman Rosenthal seconded. All in favor.

VOTER COMMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS: none.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business the Board of Selectmen adjourned their special meeting at 8:33p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Marcinek
Susan Marcinek, Clerk