

# Board of Selectmen

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January 8, 2019  
Regular Session 6:30pm

Present: Mr. Paul Healey, Ms. Karen Johnson, Mr. Tom Mayo, Town Administrator, Ms. Michelle Monsegur, Assistant Town Administrator.

Ms. Johnson departed the meeting at 7pm to join Hingham Housing Authority meeting. She did not return to the Selectmen meeting.

Ms. Monsegur joined the Selectmen meeting after the Housing Authority meeting.

Mr. Mayo departed the meeting when Ms. Monsegur joined the Selectmen meeting.

## **Approval of Minutes**

Mr. Healey made a motion to approve the minutes dated December 18, 2018. Ms. Johnson seconded. All were in favor, 2-0. Ms. Power was absent from the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting so she did not vote.

## **Public Comment**

Ms. Johnson read a statement announcing her December 31, 2018 resignation from Ropes & Gray. She stated that the Conflict of Interest Disclosures she provided to the Town pursuant to the requirements of Section 23 of the Massachusetts conflicts of interest statute on June 7, 2017 (pertaining to the firm's representation of the School Committee) and on December 5, 2017 (pertaining to the firm's representation of Eversource) are no longer applicable.

## **Budget Hearings**

### **Fire Department – Fire Chief Steve Murphy and Deputy Chief Lachance presented.**

Mr. Mayo stated that the FY20 department request for the Fire Department is \$5,977,046 with an additional Administrator recommendation of \$32,000. This is a \$369,321/6.55% increase from last year.

There were comments and questions from the Board. Chief Murphy was thanked for being proactive in hiring new firefighters, building community in the department, special training for the Avalon and Alliance communities and for the firefighters getting to their calls safely. Mr. Healey thanked all that wear the uniform at Hingham Fire.

### **Building Department– Mike Clancy, Building Commissioner, presented.**

Mr. Mayo stated that the FY20 department request for the Building Department is \$242,072. This is a \$0/0% increase from last year.

There were questions and comments from the Board. Ms. Power thanked Mr. Clancy for an informative presentation and the team for all of the work that they do.

Mr. Healey echoed Ms. Power's remarks and gave a special thanks for Mr. Clancy's professionalism pertaining to the 58 Main Street situation.

### **Public Safety Utilities - Mr. Mayo presented.**

Mr. Mayo stated that the FY department request for the Public Safety Utilities is \$515,900. This is a \$-3,144/-0.61% decrease from last year.

Mr. Mayo explained that the Public Safety Utilities consisted of emergency water and street lighting.

### **Dispatch (SSRECC) - Mr. Mayo presented.**

Mr. Mayo stated that the FY department request for SSRECC is \$901,390. This is a \$42,924/5.00% increase from last year.

Mr. Mayo stated that SSRECC supports Police and Fire for Hingham, Cohasset, Hull and Norwell communities.

Mr. Mayo also stated that this budget is not complete and that the annual increase has been 5%.

Ms. Power questioned the percentage of grant funding support that SRECC receives. She suggested that this be a follow-up item.

Ms. Power thanked Ms. Monsegur and the Police Department for their handling of the 911 service-outage last week. Their response and professionalism was very much appreciated.

### **Police Department – Chief Glenn Olsson and Deputy Chief David Jones presented.**

Mr. Mayo stated that the FY department request for the Police Department is \$6,079,795 with an additional Administrator requested amount of \$63,577 bringing the total requested amount to \$6,143,372. This is a \$138,054/2.30% increase from last year.

There were questions and comments from the Board. The Board thanked Police Chief Olsson and Deputy Chief Jones and offered compliments to them.

### **Animal Control – Leslie Badger, ACO, presented.**

Ms. Monsegur stated that the FY department request for Animal Control is \$72,672. This is a \$418/.58% increase from last year.

Ms. Power commented on the coyote increase in the area. Ms. Badger responded that she is in talks with New England Wildlife and the environmental officers to set up a forum to discuss how to handle coyotes and other wildlife backyard issues protocol.

The Board thanked Ms. Badger for her presentation.

### **Harbormaster – Ken Corson presented.**

Ms. Monsegur stated that the FY department request for the Harbormaster is \$247,892 with an additional Administrator request of \$11,726. This is a \$21,592/9.07% increase from last year.

There were questions and comments from the Board.

The Board thanked Mr. Corson of being proactive with the dredging program. Ms. Power inquired whether a Warrant would be needed. Mr. Corson stated that he has sought Legal Counsel on the matter.

### **Votes**

Ms. Power made a motion to approve the issuance of a Special (One Day) All Alcoholic Beverages license to Jennifer LaRhette on behalf Hingham Sports Partnership for the Hingham Sports Partnership Winter Classic Fundraiser to be held at the Hingham Community Center on Saturday, February 1, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Mr. Healey seconded. All were in favor, 2-0.

### **Appointments**

No appointments this evening.

### **Selectmen/Town Administrator Reports**

Ms. Monsegur - Announced that the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs Department of Energy Resources has granted Hingham designation as a Green Community and has awarded the Town with a grant for \$142,232. Ms. Monsegur thanked the departments, Brad Moyer and the Energy Action Committee for their support in securing this grant.

The Hingham Police Department has been selected to receive a FFY 2019 Traffic Enforcement and Equipment Program grant award from the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security/Office of Grants Research/Highway Safety Division. This award of \$1,400 will be used for overtime enforcement patrols during the Winter Impaired Driving Focus campaign period presently scheduled now through March 31, 2019.

The Hingham High School Veterans Appreciation Club will be hosting a Military & Veterans appreciation night in the High School gymnasium during the home wrestling match against Pembroke High School on Wednesday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:55pm.

Ms. Power – Nothing to report.

Mr. Healey – Appreciated the Police and Fire Chiefs and Deputies for their thoughtful presentations which showed an emphasis on future leadership within the departments.

Commented on Ms. Johnson's earlier announcement concerning her resignation from her employer. Her service rendered to the Town is extraordinary – extreme sacrifice given. Ms. Power concurred.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will take place on January 10, 2019.

**Meeting adjourned at: 9:05pm**

**Approved January 15, 2019**

**Sally Sinclair**

**Documents:** A complete meeting packet of supporting documentation is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen's Office.

