

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MIDDLE SCHOOL CAFETERIA
MINUTES OCTOBER 17, 2016
APPROVED**

BOS Members Present: John G. Petropoulos, Chair; Joshua A. Degen, Vice Chair; Barry Pease, Clerk; Anna Eliot, Member; Peter S. Cunningham, Member

Also Present: Mark W. Haddad, Town Manager; Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Mr. Petropoulos called the meeting to order at 6:15pm.

1. Mr. Haddad said that the Board had continued the public hearing to layout and accept Crystal Spring Lane. He said that according to the law, they needed to vote to accept the layout seven (7) days prior to Town Meeting vote. He said that the Board could vote to accept the layout but it would need to be voted on by Town Meeting at a subsequent Town Meeting but could not occur at this one.

Mr. Pease move to open the continuation of the public hearing. Mr. Cunningham seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Degen said he drove down the road and was happy with it. He said that the Planning Board approved the path adding he was okay with it even though he didn't think it should have happened. Mr. Pease agreed that it looked strange. Mr. Collins said it was a lousy design adding the Planning Board thought it would be a nice amenity when it was designed. He said that no one uses it and it was not paid for with town money. He said that the Homeowners Association would be responsible for maintaining it. He added it was not part of the road layout. Mr. Degen said he was concerned about three (3) of the trees adding they didn't look like they were going to make it. Mr. Collins said that Mr. Delaney had signed off on them adding that the Planning Board was still holding money in escrow. Mr. Degen said that \$3K was more than enough to hold in case those trees did have to be replaced.

Mr. Degen moved to close the public hearing. Mr. Pease seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Degen moved to accept the layout of Crystal Spring Lane as requested and that they ask the Planning Board to hold \$3,000 of bond on deposit through the end of May 2017 for any plantings/tree issues that may occur before that time. Mr. Pease seconded the motion.

Ms. Eliot asked if they accept the road, would the plantings be on the Town's nickel. Mr. Collins said his client would replace them.

Mr. Degen amended his original motion to include that the planting of trees be replaced by the developer as looked at by the Tree Warden. Mr. Cunningham seconded this motion. The motion carried unanimously.

2. Mr. Haddad said that the Board need to take positions on a couple of articles.
 - a. Article 6 – Council on Aging Feasibility Study – Mr. Haddad said that they were going to need \$20K to further study Prescott School; \$12,500 for engineering and \$7,500 for wetland delineation if necessary. Mr. Cunningham supported this. Mr. Degen said he was in favor of \$12,500 being expended by the Town Manager but wanted the \$7,500 be subject to Board of Selectmen vote. Mr. Pease supported this. The Board was in favor 4-1 of this article with Mr. Petropoulos against it.
 - b. Article 10 – Operational Audit – Mr. Haddad said that they had received four (4) bids the week before. He said he opened the price proposals. The prices were \$20K, \$27,500; \$45,500 and \$99K. He said that he could not recommend that the Board spend \$99K on this audit and suggested that they leave the

article amount in at \$45,500. Mr. Petropoulos said he was not in favor of this suggestion adding they should put the highest bid in and consider all proposals. Mr. Pease said that if the \$99K bid was a good bid, he asked if they could go back to a future Town Meeting for more money. He said that the \$45,500 would get them through three (3) quarters. Mr. Degen thought that was complicated. Mr. Haddad said that he could not recommend spending \$99K on an audit no matter how wonderful it may be. Mr. Degen said he would be willing to go up to \$75K. Mr. Haddad asked Ms. Manugian how much their bids were for their audit. She said they came in around \$80K. Mr. Haddad said that the Town's audit would not be nearly as complicated as the Schools. Ms. Eliot thought they should hold it at \$45,500. Mr. Pease agreed with Mr. Degen's suggested amount of \$75K. Mr. Haddad said he thought \$75K was still too much. Mr. Haddad said that he reached out to three firms when this was brought up and all three estimates came in around \$40K. He said that two of those firms did not reply to the RFP.

Mr. Cunningham said that he was in favor of the article as written at \$45,500.

Mr. Pease was in favor of increasing it to \$75K.

Ms. Eliot was in favor of the article as written.

Mr. Degen said that he would stick to the article as written and if they were not happy, they could reject the bid and come back at another Town Meeting adding this would not be ready for this budget cycle anyway.

- c. Article 12 – Florence Roche Boiler Replacement - \$60K – Mr. Haddad said that they had their bids vetted by an engineer and the bid of \$54K with \$6K in contingency. Mr. Degen said that the motion was not correct in the handout but would be correct on the screen.

- 3. Mr. Haddad reminded the Board that they needed to have their goals and objectives into him by Wednesday in order for there to be time to include them in the Board's packet. He added that they would have an Executive Session on November 14th at 5:30pm.

Mr. Petropoulos adjourned the meeting at 6:35pm to Town Meeting.

Approved: _____
Barry Pease, Clerk

_____ *respectfully submitted,*
Dawn Dunbar, Executive Assistant

Date Approved: 11/2/16