

TOWN OF SEABROOK

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

DECEMBER 7, 2018

Present: Ella M. Brown  
Aboul B. Khan  
Theresa A. Kyle  
William Manzi

11:00AM

Mrs. Brown opened the meeting at 11:10AM.

Mrs. Brown presented questions asked by Mr. Maguire from the budget meeting on Monday evening. Mr. Khan addressed the actions taken by the board regarding the Next Era revenue decrease. He said there is no plan to change the level of service but everything is still open. Mrs. Kyle commented she doesn't agree that the decline with Next Era started last year it has been ongoing for the past few years. She said that Mr. Manzi has been very successful at bringing new commercial businesses into the town. If they look at changing the service levels it would mean layoffs so they really need to study this for the town. Mrs. Brown said the assessed value of the plant is what it is they cannot change that. Mr. Manzi said this is the first time in many years that they have not been able to reach an agreement with Next Era. He said the board stood their ground and they went to the traditional method of assessed value which has not been used in a long time.

Mrs. Kyle said there was a question on the legality of the ambulance fees and asked if the attorney would be looking at this so it could be addressed. Mr. Manzi said that he and the fire chief are looking at this and they don't want to be doing anything illegal so there may be some changes in order to comply with the law but it has not yet been determined.

There was an issued raised with the auditor's in regards to the scholarship fund. Mr. Manzi is looking into this and if the policy needs to be changed he will do so. Mrs. Kyle said they are looking into everything to make sure it is being done legally. She said the town needs to be run like a business and Mrs. Brown agrees 100%.

There was discussion on building capital reserve funds. Mr. Manzi explained what Mr. Maguire was looking for and how he answered him.

There was discussion on the fees and Mrs. Brown said she told Mr. Maguire they were looking at of the fees and Mr. Manzi would be bringing a fee schedule to the board. The board is hoping to

have information by the end of the year and look into adopting those fees at the beginning of 2019.

Mrs. Kyle asked about impact fees and if there is a reason why they have not been implemented. Mr. Manzi explained how they were going to implement the fees but there was a potential that it would have impacted the residents. The second issue was that the beach would have to separately vote to impose the fees and the planning board was not happy about that. Mrs. Kyle said that it was never brought to the beach. The board feels that the planning board should work on bringing the impact fees forward.

There was discussion on the healthcare costs. Mr. Manzi said this is a work in progress and they are working towards rectifying. Mr. Khan said when they negotiate with the unions, healthcare cost sharing is the number 1 goal they strive for.

The board appreciates Mr. Maguire for asking these difficult questions and hopes he is satisfied with the answers received.

There was discussion on the rescue vehicle for the police department and taking the funds from D'Alessandro. Mr. Khan said it would be essential to purchase this vehicle with those funds as D'Alessandro resided at the beach and he would like to see something on the vehicle indicating it came from Mr. D'Alessandro.

There was discussion on this purchase and which department needs the vehicle. Storage is an issue as there is already a vehicle being used at the beach for patrol. Mrs. Brown said the trust fund is for law enforcement which is the police department. Mrs. Kyle and Mr. Khan feel it is for law enforcement and safety which includes the fire department. They will both use this vehicle for public safety and in an emergency both police and fire respond together. Chief Walker commented it would be a valuable piece of equipment for the town. Mr. Manzi said there is no division of police and fire as they both work for him. The three of them came together and want this vehicle but the way it is funded is a policy decision by the board as they did what was asked. It is not fair to ask either of the chief's what they would ask for with this money. Mrs. Kyle said she voted to use D'Alessandro so it was not turned down at town meeting.

<u>MOTION:</u>	Aboul B. Khan	To approve the use of
Second:	Theresa A. Kyle	D'Alessandro funds to
Opposed:	Ella M. Brown	purchase the vehicle for

public safety.

Mrs. Brown commented she does not agree with where the money is coming from but does agree they need this vehicle.

#### **WARRANT ARTICLES**

Mr. Manzi read his memo addressed to the board. There was discussion on using fund balance and that it helps with voters turning the articles down.

Mr. Maguire came into the meeting and said the points he made were addressed in the report distributed by the town manager back in May. He said these are not his questions but summary points made by the town manager's report. He said the water and sewer rates have been addressed, the ambulance fees were brought up but he said there are many more options to be explored.

Mr. Khan commented on the ambulance fees and said the article was written a certain way and he asked the town manager to run it by town counsel if it could be changed. A change in the policy would increase revenue in that account but it is not a tax rate issues as it is a self-contained fund.

Mr. Khan said that Mr. Maguire has always asked to look at privatizing services but he is not convinced that letting all of the employees go and taking this route is the right thing to do at this time. Mrs. Brown said she agrees with Mr. Khan. Mr. Khan said there are many other services they can look at and they will. Mr. Maguire said he may or may not agree with some himself however, he said there has been no serious discussion on the options.

Mr. Khan said they take this very seriously and at the beginning of this year they knew they were facing the decrease with Next Era. He said it is important the residents understand this. The main issue with the union contracts is with cost sharing of healthcare. They did not know that it was going to increase by 16% this year. Mrs. Kyle said she has asked that they look into how the assessed value are done as she is not happy with Vision Appraisal Services. Mrs. Brown said not just the beach is being affected everyone is and she has received a lot of calls from in town residents. She is also not happy with the assessed values and said Angela Silva would go back out if anyone has an issue they just need to contact her. Mr. Maguire said he did not mean to suggest it wasn't affecting others but he lives at the beach so the comments he hears come from beach residents.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To approve the article  
Second: Theresa A. Kyle for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To recommend the article  
Second: Theresa A. Kyle  
Unanimous

Asset Management Program - Sewer

Mr. Manzi said there will be a further note to this article. He said a similar article was put on last year but did not get the 3/5 vote required. This article if passed would have a zero impact on the tax rate.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
Second: Aboul B. Khan for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To recommend the article  
Second: Aboul B. Khan  
Unanimous

Council on Aging - Community Center

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To approve the article  
Second: Aboul B. Khan for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To recommend the article  
Second: Theresa A. Kyle  
Unanimous

Library

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To recommend the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

Boiler - Community Center

Mr. Manzi said this is a fund balance request so there will be no tax impact.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To approve the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot and to

Unanimous

use fund balance to fund the article with no tax impact.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

To recommend the article

Locker Room - Police

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle  
Second: Aboul B. Khan  
Unanimous

To approve the article for the ballot and to use fund balance to fund the article with no tax impact.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

To recommend the article

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

To add "unhealthy" to the note.

Radio EOC - Emergency Management

Mr. Manzi said they are looking to finance this with the police department's request for radio's and repay through the communication fund which would give the article a no tax impact. There will be a note added to this article.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle  
Second: Aboul B. Khan  
Unanimous

To approve the article for the ballot.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle  
Second: Aboul B. Khan  
Unanimous

To recommend the article

SCBA - Fire

This is the first request to put money in this capital fund.

MOTION: Ella M. Brown  
Second: Theresa A. Kyle  
Unanimous

To approve the article for the ballot.

MOTION: Ella M. Brown  
Second: Theresa A. Kyle  
Unanimous

To recommend the article

HVAC - DPW

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
Second: Aboul B. Khan for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To recommend the article  
Second: Aboul B. Khan  
Unanimous

Dump Truck - DPW

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To recommend the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

SCADA - Water

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To recommend the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

Water Tank - Water

This article may need to be amended to include both tanks as this article only includes one. This article approval is vital for the town's water system. Mr. Manzi said the water superintendent will be on channel 22 to talk about this article.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To strongly recommend  
Second: Ella M. Brown the article.  
Unanimous

Well Maintenance - Water

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot.

Unanimous

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To recommend the article  
 Second: Ella M. Brown  
 Unanimous

Town Streets - DPW

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
 Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot with the  
 Unanimous numbers inserted.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To recommend the article  
 Second: Ella M. Brown  
 Unanimous

Mr. Manzi said this article will come back to the board with the numbers before going to the budget committee.

Land Purchase - Water

Mr. Manzi feels they may need to apply \$300K from the water capital reserve fund to help with the tax burden.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To approve the article  
 Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot with  
 Unanimous financial information  
 from the town manager.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To recommend the article  
 Second: Ella M. Brown  
 Unanimous

Lifeguards

The board would like to have a note that indicates this is a new program with new hires. Both chief's are present and agree they need additional personnel. Mr. Manzi said with the expand for services in both departments without new personnel they are not going to continue to hold the line.

There was discussion on the apartment complex that was presented before the planning board.

Mr. Khan feels this article is important to Seabrook as there was an incident this past summer. Mrs. Brown does not agree with the new hires for this article.

MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle To have the town manager  
 Second: Ella M. Brown rewrite in a more

Unanimous comprehensive way that includes new hires, costs needed, etc.

Radios - Police

Mr. Manzi said the financing will be bond authorized and combined with emergency management radios. The bond will be paid back through the communication fund so there will be no tax impact.

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To approve the article  
Second: Aboul B. Khan for the ballot with the  
Unanimous addition of the bond  
language.

MOTION: Ella M. Brown To recommend the article  
Second: Aboul B. Khan  
Unanimous

There was discussion on bonds and lease payments. If the life cycle is 20 years it makes more sense to bond and he is not recommending they bond the rescue truck this year. However, the fire chief disagrees with him on this one. Mr. Manzi will bring a recommendation back to the board after his meeting with the bond agent. There was discussion as to whether or not there would be an impact to the tax rate where the money would not be spent in 2019. Budget wise it would fold into the budget and the taxpayers would see a reduction.

Board took a break at 2:05PM. Board reconvened at 2:10PM.

Rescue Truck - Fire

The payment on this truck would not start until the lease payment ends on the ladder truck. The payments on this truck is about \$60K less than the ladder truck.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To approve the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown for the ballot.  
Unanimous

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan To recommend the article  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

Human Service Agencies

Mr. Manzi provided the board with sheets for all of the agency requests as well as with a 10%, 15% and 20% reduction.



MOTION: Theresa A. Kyle  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

To cut the agency requests by 20%.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

To approve the articles for the ballot as each one individually.

Mr. Khan said the application form has all of the pertinent information and sees no reason to interview them. The meeting has been done for the past 3-4 years jointly with the budget committee.

Chief Walker said he is looking to add three new officers. Even though there was support it was not majority support. Without being able to put them in as a warrant article they will never be able to catch up and service calls are going to go unanswered. As every year goes on they continue to play catch up and need more manpower.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan  
Second: Theresa A. Kyle  
Unanimous

To approve the article for the ballot for new officers.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan  
Second: Ella M. Brown  
Unanimous

To send a letter to the planning board to not support any zoning change for apartment complexes either by zoning or citizens petition.

MOTION: Aboul B. Khan  
Second: Theresa A. Kyle  
Unanimous

To adjourn the meeting at 2:34PM.

Approved and endorsed

\_\_\_\_\_  
Theresa A. Kyle, Clerk

Date: \_\_\_\_\_