



Town of Griswold

28 Main Street
Griswold, CT 06351



**Board of Selectmen
Special Meeting
Selectmens' Meeting Room
Wednesday, February 12, 2014
4:30 PM**

APPROVED MINUTES

- 1. Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting was called to order at 4:30 PM by First Selectman, Kevin Skulczyck

Members Present: Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman
Steve Mikutel, Second Selectman (arrived at 4:37 PM)
Philip Anthony, Third Selectman (left at 5:23 PM)

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Erik Christensen, Finance Director
Ryan Aubin, Parks & Recreation Director
9 other interested citizens

- 2. Discussion and possible action on 2014/2015 departmental budgets**

Parks & Recreation (5301) – R. Aubin, Parks & Recreation Director, gave an explanation for the request for \$4000 for town event payroll. He noted he reduced the cost for the summer recreation program, which is running more efficiently causing a \$3000 savings. Youth center workers currently are working at the town events but being paid from the youth center fund, causing youth center to not have enough funds at the end of the year. They should be paid from the Recreation side as event staff. R. Aubin noted a \$1000 was removed from the budget as the Recreation department will, as of this year, no longer have to pay fees to use the school facilities. R. Aubin confirmed for P. Anthony, this is the first time there has been a request for town event staff and commented as the events are growing there really is the need. The BOS made no changes to the proposed budget at this time.

***S. Mikutel arrived at 4:37 PM.**

Slater Library (4103-5602) – J. Wolkowski and Meg Czmyr, Librarian spoke presented facts and data regarding usage of the library and its programs, noting the services have increased. It was mentioned that contact should be made with the school system for possible grant collaboration or donation of used equipment to the library. It was confirmed that the \$83,000 budget request is for operating expenses and does not include any capital improvements. There is a current historical preservation grant the library has been awarded in the amount of \$250,000. The BOS made no changes to the proposed budget at this time.

Board of Education –Facility Use Fees: Lori Sorder mentioned they are trying to rid of charging fees for community, non-profit, organizations. The requirement would be that 50% of those involved in the group would have to be residents of Griswold. P. Smith noted it is an opportunity to get residents of other towns interested in our school system. P. Smith expressed it is the decision of the town to make since any money currently collected goes to the town general fund. Last year, there was \$4000 collected and \$3000 of that was for non-profit organizations. P. Anthony noted he has always been in favor of not charging for town organizations. S. Mikutel commented he just does not want the school to incur costs for janitors for example. P. Smith commented those costs are incurred but are usually necessary anyway. Any other expenses such as kitchen use would be charged separately. S. Mikutel commented the taxpayers paid for the school system so they should be able to benefit from it. The Board of Selectmen is in favor of the proposal. L. Sorder commented she is concerned the Board of Finance may come back and expect the schools to recoup those fees.

3. **Discussion and possible action on request for supplemental appropriation for Bicentennial** – S. Mikutel commented there was a meeting with the chair of the Bicentennial committee and he was asked for a cost estimate on what it would cost to operate the events, as soon as possible, so they can make commitments to organizations and events. P. Anthony commented that request has come in at \$48,000. This estimate takes into account funds or donations they intend to collect. P. Anthony noted the Bicentennial is inquiring as to whether or not they could be incorporated under the town as a 501(c) for fundraising. S. Mikutel commented that the Chairman, L. Laidley, needs to go before the Board of Finance for support with a breakdown of anticipated costs.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, that the BOS support a supplemental appropriation for the Bicentennial Committee for \$48,000 as requested by the Bicentennial Committee and that we forward that recommendation to the Board of Finance. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. **Discussion and possible action on request for supplemental appropriation for Griswold Ambulance** – S. Mikutel commented he does not believe Griswold Ambulance has enough money to go through this fiscal year. He gave the history of the events regarding funding the ambulance. S. Mikutel commented the BOS had previously recommended a contract for the amount of \$90,000 which would have

resulted in an additional amount of \$70,000. Brian Ayers, Griswold Ambulance, confirmed there is no way they will make it through the rest of the year without the additional money. He did not, however, that the Board of Finance has to approve the amount, and has not in the past. B. Ayers did confirm the additional \$70,000 would get them through the remainder of this fiscal year. S. Mikutel noted he could support that as that number was agreed upon some time ago and would allow time to work on a more permanent contract.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to formally request the Board of Finance for a \$70,000 supplemental appropriation for Griswold Ambulance operation to finish out this fiscal year. **Motion carried unanimously.**

5. Executive Session – Discussion on status of contract negotiations with Griswold Ambulance

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to enter into executive session at 5:15 PM to discuss contract negotiations with Griswold Ambulance and to invite in the Finance Director, the Executive Secretary to BOS. **Motion carried unanimously.**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to include in executive session, the Griswold Ambulance personnel. **Motion carried unanimously.**

***P. Anthony left at 5:23 PM.**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by K. Skulczyck, to come out of executive session at 5:38 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

6. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by K. Skulczyck, to adjourn the meeting at 5:39 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant**