



Town of Griswold

Board of Selectmen

Special Meeting

March 17, 2014

4:30 PM

Selectmen's Conference Room, 2nd Floor
28 Main Street, Griswold, CT



APPROVED MINUTES

1. **Call to Order/Roll Call** – Meeting was called to order at 4:39 PM by First Selectman, Kevin Skulczyck

Members Present: Kevin Skulczyck, First Selectman
Steve Mikutel, Second Selectman
Philip E. Anthony, Third Selectman

Others Present: Lisa M. Wood, Executive Assistant
Erik Christensen, Finance Director
Brian Baker, Chairman of the CIP
James Barnie, CIP
3 other interested citizens

2. **Discussion and possible action on setting an informational town meeting date regarding the additional appropriation of \$70,000 for Griswold Ambulance for fiscal year 2013/2014**

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to hold an informational meeting on March 24, 2014 at 6:30 PM in the Griswold Middle School Cafeteria for the purpose of presenting information relevant to the supplemental appropriation of \$70,000 to the Griswold Ambulance for fiscal year 2013/2014. **Motion carried unanimously.**

3. **Discussion and possible action on the 2013/2014 proposed budget**

T. Falck, Senior Center Director, requested to make the assistant part-time position to a full-time position, be put back in the proposed budget as originally requested. S. Mikutel commented it is the position of the Board to not have two part-time positions but one full-time position. The numbers figured into the budget are for a full-time position and benefits based on the person currently holding the position.

MOTION: Motion was made by P. Anthony, seconded by S. Mikutel, to request that the position of Assistant Director Sr. Citizens Center be increased to a full-time position. **Motion carried unanimously.**

James Barnie passed out informational sheets regarding the CIP that showed past year's amounts, current amounts requested, amount approved and future allotments. The total proposed amount for CIP's this year is \$1,024,000. S. Mikutel mentioned he would support the proposal with the possible exception of the school maintenance garage, only because there is no specific place, cost or size determined at this point. Brief discussion took place regarding finding a location and getting some rough estimates of what the construction cost would be for the garage. J. Barnie commented that the school PA system as well as the window balance may be eligible for some reimbursement money due to safety issues. The wide area mower has been budgeted with a discount amount of \$51,000 but no trade in amount is figured in. Two GMS boilers to be replaced funded over time. Total Board of Education proposed amount is \$172,000. The total Human Services amount proposed is \$5,000 for replacement of the small bus, with eligible money from the state for the difference. The Public Safety amount proposed is \$82,000 with funding of the self-contained breathing apparatus for two trucks for each department. There was brief discussion about the fire departments not duplicating equipment and equipment being purchased on the basis of need, not desire because the other department has gotten something. The Road Construction Plan is proposed funded for \$550,000, amount of \$50,000 was moved down to Mason Dump, which was the top priority and fully funded at \$85,000 this year. The money for roads will only allow for repair and maintenance to roads. The total Public Works amount proposed is \$730,000. The General Government is proposed funded for \$35,000 to include complete funding for computers and a copier for Town Clerk.

J. Barnie presented those present with a projected fifteen year plan and reviewed it briefly. He noted this is at best a guess, with estimates of prices and is sure to change within five years, but the goal is to keep the total proposed CIP's at or around one million dollars. However, all the equipment is around the same age as a lot of it was purchased during the revenue sharing era. The idea is to spread the anticipated costs out over time. There are also a number of town properties/buildings not shown on the fifteen year plan. J. Barnie suggested the BOF needs to look at putting away 1.5 mills of revenue each year to prepare for the future. B. Baker cautioned about, moving forward, where we invest our money in used older equipment. There was brief discussion about the fire equipment in town not being worn out in the amount of time required by state statute for replacement. Griswold is certainly not at the same exposure as New York City for example. It was mentioned looking into the mandates that are placed federally and statewide and perhaps allowing for some changes to smaller municipalities where equipment is not used as much. J. Barnie noted that the future funding of items is staggered within each department, to allow the build-up of funds so if something did go unexpectedly; they would have the money available within that department.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, that the Board of Selectmen approve the CIP as submitted by the CIP committee in the amount of \$1,024,000, with the qualification that the issue surrounding the maintenance garage has to be worked out so that a definitive site and cost are presented. **Motion carried unanimously.**

K. Skulczyk mentioned that he spoke with T. Giard this morning in regards to the previously discussed \$5,000 for a consultant of sorts for economic development initiative. S. Mikutel commented this person would give support to the EDC to enable them to draw

business to the community. The Town Planner is part-time and does not have the time to set up and market the information for our town. S. Mikutel commented he would not be opposed to it as a contractual and occasional appropriation for the budget. K. Skulczyck confirmed we need to sell the town and build economic development to help support the town with the CIP. S. Mikutel commented it would be the BOS that would interview and decide if the proposal the consultant is offering is worthwhile. Other towns have Economic Development Coordinators who do this work. P. Anthony sees it as a tool that could be utilized. If Mario is funded full-time than a portion of his position is to do some work with the EDC and BOS to grow economic basis as long as the BOS has control over it. The BOS would have total control over this person and his performance.

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, that the Board of Selectmen approves a new line item in the Economic Development Commission budget for contractual and occasional for \$5,000 for the purposes of contacting with an economic development consultant with the condition that the Board of Selectmen will have to approve the request for proposal and select the person during the interview process. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. Adjournment

MOTION: Motion was made by S. Mikutel, seconded by P. Anthony, to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 PM. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Respectfully Submitted,

**Lisa M. Wood,
Executive Assistant**