

Selectmen's Workshop
Monday, November 10, 2014

Chairman Morgan called the workshop to order at 2:00 PM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan and Franklin Riley, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. Selectman Robert Freeman was absent.

White requested a date and time to schedule a meeting with the Fire Chiefs to review the ambulance proposals received. She will confirm availability with Chief Riley and get back to the Selectmen.

Discussion took place on the status of the proposed budget thus far. Morgan began the review of the budget requests to be presented this evening. Riley suggested level funding all outside agencies to their 2014 requested amounts. Concerns about certain increases in requests were discussed.

End 68 Hours of Hunger was questioned as a new agency seeking appropriations. Riley wants to know if this will be a supplement to what is already provided through the school.

An increase in the request for Ossipee Concerned Citizens was questioned but found to be a result of a compressor repair in their sprinkler system. Morgan commented on the Daycare program provided by the organization.

Appalachian Mountain Teen Project and the School's Out Program were discussed in detail with concern. Riley stated that he is currently on the Board of Directors for the School's Out Program but may be stepping down.

Morgan suggested reducing the Schools Out Program's request to \$15,000, Kingswood Youth Center's request to \$4,000 and Ossipee Children's Fund's request to \$19,000. These all being agencies requesting a significant increase over last year's request. Riley agreed that they should try to achieve a bottom line close to the 2014 budget.

Elaine Sherman, Finance Manager, entered for discussion at 3:00 PM to provide further information on the Water & Sewer collections. The question of how the Town took over the billing for the department was raised. Discussion also took place on the process for past due receivables and whether the service is suspended due to non-payment. This will be brought up for discussion in the next finance meeting.

Further discussion took place on the responsibilities of the Water & Sewer Department and Morgan expressed concern with it coming back into the Town's hands. The status of the system was discussed and the cost of repair and replacement when it is required.

Riley suggested listing out their concerns and bringing them before the Commissioners for discussion.

Morgan suggested setting up a meeting between the Board of Selectmen, Tax Collector, and Finance Manager to go over the functions, then follow up with the Commissioners.

Questions arose on the payment requests due to the Forest Fire Warden. A workshop will be scheduled to ask these questions prior to the budget request for that department.

Being no further input, the workshop was adjourned.

Adjourned at 3:40 PM.

Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

ABSENT

Robert C. Freeman

Franklin R. Riley

To be approved 11/17/2014