Selectmen's Workshops Monday, November 9, 2015

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan and Franklin Riley, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. Selectman Robert Freeman was absent.

The Board reviewed the budget requests received from the outside agencies. Riley commented that the total amount is \$900.00 less than last year. White stated that Life Bridge Mentoring is not requesting funds this year, but White Mountain Community Health is but did not request in 2015.

Discussion took place on the Ossipee Revitalization (Main Street) Program request. Morgan commented that the Old Home Week Committee is able to run without taxpayer support.

Additional discussion took place on the School's Out Program which supplements the Recreation budget. Morgan requested that White have Peter Waugh, Recreation Director, prepare a comparative analysis of expenditures versus revenue for the Summer Recreation Program.

Brief discussion took place on the Sign Ordinance. A memo will be drafted and sent to David Senecal, Zoning Enforcement Officer, requesting the review of all existing signs along major routes in Ossipee for compliance with the Sign Ordinance.

Riley stated that the Planning Board followed up on their memos regarding the use of the properties located at 1845 Route 16 and 2330 Route 16 and were informed by Senecal that no action would be taken. Morgan requested that they follow up with Senecal at their next meeting with him on 11/16/2015.

White questioned if the Board would like to proceed with pursuing a Town credit card. Discussion took place on general purchasing. It was noted that Waugh is the only Department Head with discretionary spending, all others use approved vendors or receive prior approval. Morgan and Riley agreed that all expenditures (except for emergency) should be pre-planned, and pre-approved, if needed.

White questioned when the employees can exercise the option to turn in their vacation week for reimbursement. It was agreed that it should happen in the month of December.

Discussion took place on the health insurance rates and plan availability. Morgan stated that the Town of Freedom just entered into a very competitive plan. White will seek additional information from them. White stated that she will be researching additional coverage and plans for the upcoming union negotiations. White questioned whether the employee contributed amounts will be increased across the board or if they will continue to grandfather at the 2%, 4%, and 10% levels as they are currently. Morgan responded that they plan on continuing the percentages as they are. Morgan discussed the option of a menu-driven plan much like the Town of Wolfeboro offered several years ago allowing the employee to choose their coverage and premium levels.

Morgan suggested that White reach out to the NH Municipal Association and other agencies for language examples for the Affordable Care Act in preparation for the union negotiations.

White stated that she has met with Davis & Towle Insurance and Primex who will be providing quotes on the property-liability, worker's compensation and unemployment compensation insurances, but it is unlikely that she will have the information for the budget review next Monday.

Being no further input, the workshop adjourned at 4:05 PM.

Chairman Morgan re-opened the workshop at 5:50 PM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan and Franklin Riley, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. Selectman Robert Freeman was absent-excused. Also present was Forest Fire Warden Adam Riley.

Riley stated that currently 635 permits have been issued and he anticipates more. Discussion took place on how many permits are issued by each fire department. Morgan and Riley agreed that the 2015 permits issued will be reimbursed at \$5.00 per permit.

Discussion took place on how to handle the permit reimbursement for 2016. Warden Riley will speak with the deputies and departments to see if they would be in favor of receiving direct payment which can then be distributed through each department's payroll. Additional discussion took place on establishing a higher fee to compensate those who do field inspections to issue the permit in comparison to permits that are issued at the station by the duty crew who are already being paid by the department.

Discussion took place on the Forest Fire Warden's reimbursement. Warden Riley explained that he has kept the pay the same since he took the position which figures out to be 108 hours at the State rate of \$14.69. Morgan and Riley agreed that the rate should be increased to \$18.00 and to account for Medicare and Social Security withholding in the budget.

Morgan commented on how well the Bayle Mountain Fire was run and handled and suggested it to be a good article for the Town Report.

Warden Riley stated that he is in need of foam and prevention materials which can be expended from this year's budget. Morgan suggested that any fire suppression items be ordered but to hold off on fire prevention until the 2016 budget if possible.

Riley informed the Board that the ambulance service is investigating a new location on Route 41 which may delay Ossipee's response times. The ambulance contract states that any location changes must be brought to the Boards' attention by CarePlus. This will be reviewed further.

White stated that there have been no quarterly reports or maintenance logs received since the new ambulance contract took effect.

Morgan requested that Riley and the other chiefs keep the Board apprised of any new information, issues or concerns they have with the ambulance service.

Being no further input, the workshop was adjourned.

Adjourned at 6:45 PM.	
Richard H. Morgan, Chairman	
Franklin R. Riley	
ABSENT	
Robert C. Freeman	

To be approved 11/16/2015