

**Board of Selectmen
Minutes of March 11, 2014
Bourne Community Building
Bourne, MA 02532**

TA Guerino

Earl Baldwin, Chairman
Linda Zuern, Vice-Chairman
Peter Meier, Clerk
Don Pickard
Don Ellis

Note this meeting is being televised and recorded. If anyone in the audience is recording or videotaping, they need to acknowledge such at this time

**6:30 – 6:40 (Items 1-4) Call to order
Moment of Silence for our Troops
Salute the Flag**

Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items

None.

Minutes: January 7, 2014; February 25, 2014

Meier moved and seconded by Zuern to approve minutes of 1/7/14 as amended by Zuern and Ellis. Vote 5-0.

Meier moved and seconded by Ellis to approve minutes of 2/25/14 as amended by Zuern. Vote 5-0.

Correspondence

Meier read into record correspondence. Copies are available at the Town Administrator's Office per request.

Item C – Zuern would like to see this document sent to the Transportation Committee. TA Guerino believes they have seen it.

Item A – TA Guerino said this is relative to herbical spraying.

Item E – TA Guerino will prepare Proclamation on behalf of the board for the board to sign at the next meeting.

Meier moved and seconded by Baldwin that the board take no action. Vote 5-0.

Item G – TA Guerino said further explanation on the grant is needed and will be discussed at the next BOSC meeting.

Licenses/Appointments

a. McDonalds – 370 MacArthur – Change of Manager

The manager is a U.S. Citizen and no issue with CORI. TA Guerino recommends the board approve this change in Manager.

Ellis moved and seconded by Meier to approve McDonald's request for Change of Manager from Adriana DeFaria to Jason Bourne at 370 MacArthur Blvd. per routing slip. Vote 5-0.

b. MMA @ Beachmoor – [14] One Day Liquor Licenses

Meier moved and by Zuern to approve MMA @ Beachmoor request for 14 One Day Liquor Licenses per routing slip:

- 4.06.14 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - Baby Shower
- 5.03.14 2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - Flynn Fundraiser
- 5.17.14 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - Baby Shower
- 5.21.14 7:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. All Alcoholic - Maritime Day Dinner
- 5.31.14 2:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - Kellogg/Desmond Reception
- 6.07.14 5:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - MMA Hall of Fame Dinner
- 6.20.14 5:00 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. All Alcoholic - Saranataro/Lavalle Reception
- 6.28.14 4:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. All Alcoholic - Sackett/Grosso Reception
- 7.12.14 4:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. All Alcoholic - Killion/Tonge Reception
- 7.19.14 4:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - Fischer/Powers Reception
- 9.05.14 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - Baptiste Rehearsal Dinner
- 9.06.14 4:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. All Alcoholic - Woiszwilllo/Richardson Reception
- 9.26.14 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - Homecoming Dinner
- 9.27.14 3:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. All Alcoholic - Homecoming Dinner

(16 licenses remaining for the calendar year).

Vote 5-0.

c. MMA @ MMA – [2] One Day Liquor Licenses

Meier moved and seconded by Ellis to approve MMA @ MMA request for two One Day Liquor Licenses per routing slip:

- 4.26.14 5:30 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. All Alcoholic – Canal Centennial Gala.
- 6.20.14 5:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. All Alcoholic – MMA Sunset Reception.

(28 licenses remaining for the calendar year).

Vote 5-0.

Meier moved and seconded by Ellis for a moment recess. Vote 5-0.

7:00 p.m. Joint Session with Finance Committee

Called by Chm. Baldwin of the Board of Selectmen and by Chm. Ford of the Finance Committee.

Request for Reserve Fund Transfers

There is a request for \$23,000 to hire an IT position between \$55,000-\$75,000 and will find in existing budget as proposed.

Pickard saw this as an opportune way to investigate for both the school side and the town side work together. TA Guerino said there is very little redundancy given software issues and wireless contracts. There may be economies to be realized.

Mastrangelo asked to explain duties and if GIS capabilities will fit in on a long term basis. TA Guerino expects the position be similar to what is in Concord - a GIS/Analyst and a Tech person. This position will increase the live non-static GIS capability as well. Mastrangelo asked if this position can assist in the Planning Department. TA Guerino said yes, but he doesn't know to what extent.

Meier said we need to keep in mind we need to make a new permanent position. TA Guerino will take from the existing budget and make it neutral.

Pickard suggested a group discussion with a representative from the Selectmen and the Finance Committee, the Public School Superintendent, the School Business Manager, TA Guerino and the School IT on how to address budget shortfalls.

Ellis suggested getting in touch with the UCT School and seniors who could help as well. TA Guerino said this gets into personnel issues, tax bills, sick leave and confidential information.

School Superintendent said he is the school's IT person overall and is always willing to sit down and discuss possibilities.

Chm. Ford said at a minimum, Part A is we need short time help to keep the town running. Part B is the long-term piece Pickard is suggesting with the need of a strategy which includes the schools and the library. Part C is if there are any common points. Right now need a short-time issue to take care of day-to-day issues with a group to put more focus on the rest of the parts which may take more of a couple days. TA Guerino said Triage will take some time to figure out, but the school will take priority.

Zuern suggested dealing with the request tonight and at the next meeting's agenda discuss long-term solutions.

Galusha would like to see a task force and suggested to look at other communities. TA Guerino said most communities have two or three on the IT town side only.

Grant moved and seconded by Conron to approve the Reserve Fund Transfer in the amount of \$23,000 to hire an IT person between \$55,000-\$75,000 and to find in the existing budget as proposed. Vote 6-0-2 (Galusha and MJ abstained). ****MJ CAN YOU CHECK THIS VOTE?

Selectmen's Business

- a. TA Guerino said Pickard's document submitted to the board and minutes at the last board's meeting will be on the board's agenda for discussion on 3/14/14.
- b. Meier reminded folks of the FEMA presentation this Saturday in the Veteran's Hallway of this Building. Mr. Quigley, from Congressman Keating's office and Ms. Dody Adkins-Perry will be present.

Unibank discussion on bond rating

Ms. Lynn Foster from Unibank, the town's fiscal advisor. Discussion on the bond rating upgrade and any changes in the future. A brief overview was given with regard to the rating itself and how the market evolved. Written policies are the foundation and what the town has to work with. The recent upgrade in Bourne is an AA+. There are implications if the money doesn't get paid back. You lose credibility as the town isn't doing what they told the analyst you would do.

TA Guerino asked what would happen if we utilize some of the \$700,000 toward the budget this year and have a plan to pay back over a period of time. Ms. Foster said \$700,000 is an operational draw out of Reserve. The reserves are still within below the threshold and are susceptible to a rating review. She doesn't recommend Bourne do.

Mastrangelo suggests setting up a committee now for override discussions. She suggests taking \$930 and put into Stabilization to fund the budget as planned and if come spring, prepare for an October STM override to replenish reserves.

Zuern would be against that as we need to make cuts now. She doesn't feel the town will approve both an override and funding for a new Police Station.

Chm. Ford said Bourne's policy is 12% of Reserves and asked if the sticking point is 12% or the number saying we are going to pay. Ms. Foster said it is both. Chm. Ford asked if the town didn't pay monies back to reach the 12%, how quickly would the review kick in. Ms. Foster said it is an annual due diligence and would strongly advise not to do.

TA Guerino said if the full amount paid back to Stabilization, Free Cash would be at 5% and Stabilization would be slightly below 7%. His concern is if we fund the budget as in excess two of the TA FY15 recommendations and go to October with the plan that Mastrangelo discussed, we will have spent the first quarter of the next fiscal year which will make reductions that much greater. It will be greater than what the proposal is to go into July.

Chm. Ford suggested going forward as presented with cuts and repaying to stabilization. The town maintains their promise to the bond rating agencies and we go to the town with an override. TA Guerino said it makes it harder for the school side.

Conron asked if we didn't repay the money what would happen. Ms. Foster said it would be a credibility issue. Conron asked what would happen if we told the agent we had a responsibility

to educate our children. Ms. Foster said she understands, but it is the foundation and a promise the town made.

Legacy said it is in the town's best interest to go by the policy.

Grant would like to go by the policy. He said he would rather change policy rather than not go back on our word.

Ms. Foster said the average percent of bond ratings is between 8-15%. If the town later on looked at the policy and asked to bring the percentage rate down, the bond raters wouldn't think highly of that as they would see the town as shifting to accommodate.

Mastrangelo said we should have gone for an override this year, but we should start discussions now for an override for next year. She suggests maintaining our 12% policy and start talking about an override.

In summary, Ms. Foster said the town should know how to address the policies as a general rule and know that the bond raters do pay attention.

Review Bourne School District budget

Both Chm. Matt Stoke (School Committee) and Chm. Chris Hyldburg (Budget Sub Committee) expressed their desire to work with the community before turning the meeting over to School Superintendent Steven LaMarche.

Mr. LaMarche reviewed a PowerPoint presentation of the School's budget. The Administrative Team Recommended FY15 Budget is \$20,802,374 which is a level funded budget. TA Guerino recommended budget of \$20,244,738%.

Discussion

TA Guerino said the town needs to make a decision as to whether the TA properly funded education overall. The town side feels that based on numbers, you have to decide if it is sufficient. The Cherry Sheet net is upside down going into next year.

TA Guerino explained that the \$1.5M deficit is due to the UCT enrollment of 55 students totaling \$800,000. Another \$300,000 due to the dental health line. The overall insurances are up 24% which include workers compensation and building insurance and automobile insurance.

Mastrangelo said we should have taken from Stabilization and not Free Cash. \$342,000 from Host Fee could have been spent. TA Guerino said this money had nothing to do with the FY09 funding. It wasn't due to how we budgeted.

Ms. Marzelli said the Medicaid money since 2002 was divided by the administration (town) and direct service costs (school). Atty. Troy ruled that the school side gets the direct service costs. Superintendent said that wasn't true. Vote decided to do between the boards and the committee.

Ms. Marzelli said the Mckinney Transportation Reimbursement is a General Fund Revenue and not ear marked for the schools.

Pickard asked how many positions were actual positions eliminated of all budgeted from both the town side and the school side. TA Guerino said 4 -6 real positions on the town side and another 2 funded but not filled. On the school side there were actual 23 people cut under the TA Guerino recommended. A total of \$342,000 of actual funded positions is not moving forward in the FY15 budget.

Conron requested to see a list of actual funded positions not moving forwarded in the FY budget. Mastrangelo asked to include how much was funded in FY14, how many positions and how much funded and how many bodies.

On the school side, no one exceeded the 2% fixed for 3 years with regard to contractual increases.

Meier requested the classification study will be on the Selectmen's agenda on 3/25 or first meeting in 4/1. TA Guerino said that is included in this FY15 budget. Meier would have a hard time agreeing to upgrading jobs at this point. TA Guerino recommends an Executive Session for contractual issue discussions.

Galusha stated the school budget is not a quality education. He asked about the staff-to-child ration. Mr. LaMarche said grades K-20, 2nd -20, 3rd/4th grade-23-25 and middle school/high school-26. Galusha would like to see in writing where the money is going to the school but gets put into the General Fund.

Mr. Hyldburg raised concern of education is a whole. With regard to the 2.5%, how much has the school received from that 2.5%? The overage should be divided by the budget. TA Guerino said the town budget takes into consideration that effect of the school and the town.

Conron asked for both the Selectmen and the Fincom to look into budgets and maybe spread a little differently so the schools get a little more. It is important for a future of our town.

TA Guerino said the town authorized an override for public safety. He didn't go after public safety. The Fire Department is based on the numbers based on the grant requirements. If we reduce firefighters, we have to reduce 9 and we can't go below the threshold of the grant. It left us with a small pool of where we could go.

Zuern said reducing a school budget is not the reason people want to move out of Bourne. It is due to economic issues. This is a town focus and not just about looking at the educational side. She doesn't see where we can cut from the town side.

Ellis is worried this is an issue about "them" or "us". He would appreciate further discussion.

When School Committee member Ms. Walton was asking TA Guerino why he didn't see this deficit coming, TA Guerino explained the deficit. At this time Pickard said the way TA Guerino responded to Ms. Walton of the School and said it was not becoming of a Town Administrator.

TA Guerino apologized for being discourteous Ms. Walton (School Committee) as called out by Pickard. He said it wasn't intentional. The town is upside down for the Snow & Ice Budget. It's not just the numbers on the plate. If we get more monies in, they can be utilized toward the budget but he cannot count them towards the budget until that happens.

Walton, of the School Committee, quoted articles of school enrollment numbers and asked why didn't we see this coming? TA Guerino said it isn't until after the census in October is when we get the real numbers. Ms. Walton said the School District knew the numbers of students going to schools. TA Guerino said he would be happy to go the numbers with her.

Mr. Stokes agrees about another meeting and asked when the next meeting could be for further discussion. TA Guerino said the anticipated vote on the budget for the Selectmen is the second week of April the latest - 4/15/14.

Galusha wants full transparency.

Chm. Ford said she has been holding her comments until the end. The community set priorities and that didn't want to spend a lot of money. The public spoke about increasing public safety and keeping the tax rate low so the elderly people will stay in the town. The way things are now, the town will not be able to enjoy the level of service we have enjoyed. We have "hit that wall." The budget is a reflection of our values: "What do we want to support?" over "What are we doing about the school budget?" We live with what the dollars we have.

Legacy asked about getting a cost breakdown of cost per person for health insurance. Ms. Marzelli said this could be done.

Steve Mealy suggested two or three people come up with a number for each side with a list of priorities and present to the town as a whole. This will allow us to see how to adjust our priorities and which will be put off to the following override.

Other Finance Committee business

None.

Adjourn joint meeting

Zuern moved and seconded by Meier to adjourn joint meeting. VOTE 5-0.

Galusha moved and seconded by Grant to adjourn joint meeting. VOTE 11-0.

Adjourn

Meier moved and seconded by Ellis to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 pm. Vote 5-0.

Respectfully submitted – Lisa Groezinger, sec.