



**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF NEW MARLBOROUGH
OFFICE OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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**Nathaniel H. Yohalem, Chair
Tara B. White
Michele Shalaby
Board of Selectmen**

Minutes of April 7, 2014 Selectmen's Meeting

Board Members Present: Nathaniel Yohalem, Chairman
Tara B. White
Michele Shalaby

Others Present: Sharon Fleck, Administrative Secretary

The meeting of the Board of Selectmen convened at 5:07 p.m.

The Board read the minutes. **After a discussion, a motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the minutes of the March 31, 2014 Selectmen's meeting and Executive Session. A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the Minutes of the April 3, 2014 Selectmen's meeting and Executive Session as amended.**

Emergency Management Salary - Approved by the Finance Committee for \$4,000.00. Initially the salary was proposed to be raised to \$4250.00. The Chairman was uncomfortable that the salary was not being raised, in view of the fact that he felt that the Emergency Management Director has taken on a lot of responsibility, i.e. opening the warming station at the Fire House, attending different conferences, etc. The Chairman would like to see this salary increased by more than the 2%. A call will be made to the Emergency Management Director to determine whether or not he would like to discuss this further with the Board on Monday, April 14, 2014. This is currently on hold.*

Highway Truck for \$93,000.00 – The Finance Committee's took the position that all truck financing should be borrowed. This issue will be revisited on Monday, April 14, 2014 to determine which items will be borrowed and which items will come from Free Cash.*

Fire Truck – Will be financed.

Highway Truck for \$220,000.00 – Will be financed.

Clayton Mill River Bridge - The Finance Committee recommended that funding for the bridge be taken from Free Cash. The logic behind that is putting the Fire Truck, the two highway trucks and the Clayton Mill River Bridge on the same ballot would create difficulty in getting it passed. The Finance Committee felt the Clayton Mill River Bridge was the most important item. It therefore, recommended taking that amount out of Free Cash. The voters could then decide if they wanted to limit the borrowing, but, whatever their decision, it would not interfere with the Clayton Mill River Bridge being completed. *

*Further discussions will be held at the April 14, 2014 Selectmen's Meeting as to whether financing for these items will come out of Free Cash or borrowed.

Assessors Computer Contingency - \$4,325.00

Board of Appeals - \$600.00

Town Hall Account - \$38,000

Roads and Bridges Salaries - \$260,547.00

Winter Roads - \$256,334.00

Cemetery Officers Salary - \$400.00

SBRSD Capital - \$83,703.00

Firefighters Stipend - \$36,500.00

Animal Control Officer Expense - \$3,411.00

911 Coordinator Expenses - \$500.00

Board of Health Expenses - \$2,500.00

Board of Health Clerical - \$5,000.00

Transfer Station Expenses - \$61,000.00

Interest Expense - \$5,000.00

Banking Services - \$200.00

Berkshire County Retirement - \$100,953.00

Social Security/Medicare - \$11,425.00

Veteran's District - \$5,813.00

Veterans Benefit Trust - \$6,000.00 (not from Free Cash)

Berkshire Regional Planning - \$1,063.00

Reserve Fund - \$50,000.00

Insurance Trust Fund - \$3,500.00 (not from Free Cash)

Wired West - \$1,000.00

Stabilization - \$50,000.00

Fire Truck - \$550,000.00 (borrow)

FY15 Highway Truck - \$220,000.00 (borrow)

Building Inspector Computer Program - \$7,400.00

A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the above budget items.

Highway Department Re Foley Bridge Signs – There have been complaints lodged on Maggie’s List regarding the detour signs, and also some comment such as “why can’t the bridge be built in a week.” Chuck Loring put up some new signs today clarifying the detour. Keyes Hill should not be the detour because it’s just too narrow. Chuck Loring will request some new signage from Maxymillian, but will also make some signs himself to further clarify the detours. Chuck Loring also stated that the State of Massachusetts has cut back on funding for roads, but there is sufficient funding to complete County Road, which is a priority.

Chairman Yohalem stated that the MassWorks has a \$1 million grant available that the Town of New Marlborough is eligible to apply for.

Recycling Grant – Additional information is on the Massachusetts State government site regarding a grant that may be used for the compactor. Michael Skorput has seen the letter from the Department of Environmental Protection regarding funding and has done some preliminary investigation. There are informational sessions available in April and May in various locations within the State.

Campbell Falls Bridge –The Town received a letter from the State closing the bridge. However, Michael Skorput spoke with the engineer who suggested the bridge be reduced to one lane, which has been done. He will also request the state reinspect the bridge to determine if the work done is acceptable. A letter, with pictures, has to be sent by Michael to the engineer confirming that Campbell Falls is now a one-lane bridge.

New Marlborough Volunteer Fire Company – An invoice has been received, billing the Town of New Marlborough for \$500.00 per month for six months (November 2013-April 2014) for the Police Department cruiser to rent one bay in the Old Firehouse. This needs to be put on a warrant for payment.

David Ralph Special Permit - This is still an open item. We are awaiting for one report:

- a letter from the Board of Health (Scott McFarland) stating they have been back to reinspect or approve the water source.

Department of Revenue – Michelle Shalaby, not Michael Skorput, will contact the DOR regarding the audit.

New Marlborough Agricultural Commission Warrant Article – The article will be amended in the second paragraph and read “The Commission shall consist of five members appointed by the Board of Selectmen. A majority of members shall be substantially engaged” **A motion was made and seconded and so voted by all members to approve the above proposed Agricultural Commission Warrant Article as amended.**

Senators Downing and Pignatelli – A meeting should be set, after the annual Town Meeting, to meet with the Senators for the purpose of discussing Chapter 90 funding, regionalization of services, school choice monies as well as other items. An agenda will need to be set prior to a meeting.

New Marlborough Central School Boiler – The CO2 alarm went off at the school on Friday, April 4, 2014 which turned out to be a boiler issue. Emergency plans need to be revisited, so that parents are notified in a timely manner during an emergency. Ed Harvey should review emergency plan with the school, so that everyone follows protocol in an emergency. A meeting will be set with Ed Harvey and Francine Groener at the school if Dave Hastings agrees that such a meeting needs to take place. Chairman Yohalem will contact Dave Hastings to discuss the issue of emergency plans.

If the boiler continues to be a problem, there is money in the school Stabilization Fund to cover the cost of a new boiler.

Meeting with Former Selectmen re. the budget - If updated budgets and warrants are available by Thursday, April 10, the former selectmen could attend the Selectmen’s Meeting on April 14, 2014 to offer their feedback on such items as borrowing vs. free cash items and special articles.

Memorial Day – Chairman Yohalem will discuss with Dave Hastings if he is taking care of Memorial Day.

Transfer Stickers – It was suggested that the cost to the residents be raised to \$110.00 per year effective July 1, 2014. More scrutiny is needed to determine who does not purchase Transfer Stickers and who is eligible to use the Transfer Station. Selectman Tara White will run a receipt report and this matter will be further discussed on the April 14, 2014 Selectmen’s Meeting.

Being that there was no further business to be brought before the Board, a motion was made, seconded and so voted by all members to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sharon Fleck". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Sharon Fleck
Administrative Secretary