TOWN OF GILL
MASSACHUSETTS

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SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
April 8, 2013

Call to Order: The Selectboard meeting was called to order at 5:05pm.

Present: Randy Crochier and John Ward, Selectboard members; Ray Purington, Admin. Assistant; Claire Chang, Rick James, and David Detmold.

Approval of Minutes: John made a motion, seconded by Randy, to approve the minutes from 3/25 and 3/27. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Project Updates: Ray reported that RCI Roofing expects to begin the Town Hall roof around May 1st. During an April 4th pre-construction meeting, RCI suggested installing a gable vent on the west end of the building. The Board suggested Ray discuss the idea with Bart Bales, but also asked to have RCI provide more details about the vent.

Police Cruiser Computers: The Board reviewed a quotation provided by Sergeant Redmond for three Ipads, cases, and chargers to be used as in-car computers for the Town’s police cruisers. The total cost is $2,159.91, and the Sergeant estimated that another $250 will be needed to buy mounting stands. The purchase will be funded from a $5,000 allocation from the NMH gift account (June 7, 2012). The Board raised questions about how the Ipads will connect to computer monitors in the cruisers, and whether the lack of traditional keyboards will affect the functionality of the devices. They asked to have the Sergeant attend an upcoming meeting in order to answer the questions.

2004 Explorer Cruiser: The 2004 Explorer has a broken right rear spring and what appears to be an extreme amount of rust on the quarter panel and possibly the frame. An initial quote to repair the rust was $4,950. Given the serious condition and magnitude of the repair cost, the Board instructed that no further repairs are to be done on the Explorer without the Board’s approval. It was suggested that the auto body program at the Tech School might be able to make the repairs for a lower price. Ray will have the Highway Superintendent bring the vehicle to the April 10th budget meeting so that the Board may look at it first-hand.

The amount of rust concerned the Board, and generated questions about how the new Interceptor cruiser will be maintained and who will do the work, given how far the rust was allowed to progress on the Explorer. It was also asked what warranty the Town ended up with on the new Interceptor.

Marking/Unmarking Cruisers: The Board reviewed information provided by the Police Chief about the expected costs related to unmarking the 2005 Crown Vic cruiser ($200) and marking the new 2013 Interceptor ($530). The Chief’s memo also listed $2,160 in additional equipment that would be needed for the Interceptor in order to equip it for use as a marked cruiser. There were several other incidental costs associated with transferring seats and license plates. The memo raised questions about the future use of the Explorer as well.

The Board had many questions about the proposed costs, and asked to have the Chief attend a meeting to provide answers. Due to a planned vacation, the Chief will attend on April 22nd.

CDBG Rehab Loans & FY14 Application: MJ Adams, Director of Community Development for the Housing & Redevelopment Authority (HRA), provided a response to the Board’s questions about progress on housing rehab loans. In a phone conversation with Ray she reported that 3 rehab loan contracts have been signed, with 3 more in the scoping phase, and 10 more in the pre-application process. The Board indicated a desire to have the HRA assist the Town with an FY14 application for additional housing rehabilitation funding.
Fire Department Engineers: The Board scheduled the annual appointment of Fire Department Engineers for April 16th’s meeting, when Ann Banash will be able to participate remotely. Because his son is one of the Engineers, Randy must recuse himself from the vote to avoid a conflict of interest.

Skip’s Roadside Diner: John made a motion, seconded by Randy, to grant the annual food concessions license to Skip’s Roadside Diner. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Guardrail at Gill Elementary: The Board reviewed a sketch of a parking lot guardrail proposed by the GMRS maintenance staff for the lower parking lot at the Gill Elementary School. The explained purpose is to prevent cars from driving from the lot over the lawn and onto to Boyle Road. The Highway Superintendent has reviewed the plan, and except for a couple of minor adjustments, has no objections to the District installing the guardrail. The Selectboard had no objections to the plan.

2013 Road Sweeping Bid: John made a motion, seconded by Randy, to award the 2013 road sweeping contract to the low bidder, Kicza Sweeping, for $115 per hour with no minimum number of hours and no travel costs. The vote was unanimous in the affirmative.

Town of Dudley Chapter 70 Legislation: The Board reviewed a letter from the Selectboard of the Town of Dudley, Mass. asking for Gill’s support of a bill being filed by State Rep. Peter Durant. The bill seeks to initiate a “conversation” about funding of a town’s minimum required local contribution for education, and would require any required contribution that increases by more than 2.5 percent would need an override vote by the town at a ballot election. The Board noted that the letter asks Gill to request its state representative and senator to co-sponsor the bill, but that the deadline to do so is April 9th – tomorrow. The letter was received in today’s mail, and has been emailed to Senator Rosenberg and Representative Andrews. Citing a lack of information about how this bill might impact Gill and the Gill-Montague District, the Board took no further action.

5:50pm David Detmold and Rick James left the meeting.

Warrant: The Board reviewed and signed FY 2013 warrant #21.

Adjournment: The Selectboard meeting adjourned at 6:03pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ray Purington, Administrative Assistant.

John R. Ward, Selectboard Clerk
2005 CV removal of Lettering $200
  • Paint decided after removal
  Total-Sub $200

2013 Utility Interceptor Lettering $530
  Push Bumper $275
  Window Bars $195
  Prisoner cage w/gun rack $895
  Rear Prisoner Seat w/barrier $795

  Total-Sub $2690
  Total: $2890

Transfer of confidential Plate from 2013 to 2005 Cruiser

Transfer rear seat from 2008 cruiser to 2005 cruiser
Removal of cage from 2005

Explorer: Not ready for Town wide use as Blue Lights are still in the unit.

Explorer: Sharing at question as Fire and Hwy were already looking to use during a crossover time.

*Working in Partnership with the Community*
Explorer may not be readily available for Police Dept.

Explorer: Gas card and repairs will be assigned to who?

Common practice that the Chief operates a unmarked unit due to being on-call.
April 1, 2013

Ms. Ann Banash, Chair
Board of Selectmen
Town of Gill
325 Main Road
Gill, MA 01354

Re: FY2014 Community Development Block Grants

Dear Selectmen,

The Town of Gill may be eligible to apply for FY2014 Massachusetts Community Development Block Grants (CDBG). Although this year’s request for proposals has not yet been published, it is time to start planning for eligible activities and to update the town’s Community Development Strategy (CDS). Many community members have been participating in the Sustainable Franklin County discussions, which I hope are translating to local conversations about the future of our towns. Updating the town’s Community Development Strategy is a valuable next step to start lining up the resources needed to implement activities.

The Franklin County Regional Housing and Redevelopment Authority (HRA) would be happy to assist your community in assessing potential projects to determine whether they would be eligible for CDBG funding and in developing and submitting an application for Massachusetts Community Development Block Grant funding to benefit low to moderate income residents or address slum/blight conditions. Eligible activities for these funds include:

- Housing programs: housing rehabilitation, acquisition, demolition and homeownership;
- Public facilities and infrastructure improvements: for example, parks, senior centers, water and sewer systems, road improvements, and handicapped accessibility renovations to public buildings;
- Community economic development: may include infrastructure improvements (commercial rehab), which support economic development activities;
- Social Service programs; and
- Community planning activities.

I am including a list of CDBG projects that the HRA has implemented successfully in the county, as well as a more comprehensive list of CDBG-eligible activities.

Please contact me in writing by May 1, 2013, if your community is potentially interested in HRA’s assistance with developing an application for FY2014 CDBG funding. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (413)863-9781 x 144 or mjadams@fcwhra.org.

Building a sustainable future,

MJ Adams
Director of Community Development

Enclosures
THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS

TOWN OF GILL

This is to certify that Dennis & Nancy Scipione d/b/a Skip's Roadside Diner, located at 24 French King Highway, Gill, MA 01354 is hereby granted a license for a seasonal license to operate a food concession trailer at the address noted above in compliance with the conditions of the Special Permit and Site Plan Approval dated July 10, 2006.

This license is granted in conformity with the Statutes and ordinances relating thereto, and expires December 31, 2013 unless sooner suspended or revoked.

Signed by the Gill Selectboard on April 8, 2013

John A. Ward

THIS LICENSE MUST BE POSTED IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE UPON THE PREMISES.
Guardrails for Gilil Lower Parking lot

8x8 Ballards = 16 Pcs.
2x12x16 = 9 Pcs.

Note:
we are attempting to preserve the asphalt drive & parking lot
vehicles are driving off the parking lot onto the grassy area then on to Boyle Rd. The edge of the lot
is being broken off and destroyed.
4' hole & roughly 2' Exposure, the rail 2x12, approx
3" from Top of Post.

Boyle Rd.
"Bright ideas will get you everywhere."

No objections from Mick,
Just some small details to work out w/ Bob F.

VIRGINIA SLIMS

Dig safe has already marked.

Posts will be installed 2 feet off edge of asphalt.
April 5, 2013

Dear Chairman and Members of the Board:

The Worcester Telegram and Gazette recently reported what we have all known for some time. Of 352 cities and towns in the Commonwealth, 110 communities are unable to meet the financial mandates of the Chapter 70 law—in particular, the “catch-up” provision. The reasons have very little to do with poor local government management and oversight and have everything to do with the simple fact that the “Chapter 70 Formula” is unsustainable. “Proposition 2 ½” makes it unlawful for us to raise property taxes to meet the Chapter 70 requirements. In most cases, the only options left are deep cuts to local services.

Recently, the Dudley Board of Selectmen, with the conceptual support of our school district neighboring town of Charlton, filed legislation through our local State Representative Peter Durant to begin the process of addressing a problem that can’t be solved at the local level. We are now asking for your immediate support in allowing the conversation about the unsustainable Chapter 70 formula to begin on Beacon Hill.

The text of the legislation is simple:

**The Commonwealth of Massachusetts**

An Act relative to establishing a limit for the municipal revenue growth factor..

> Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

Chapter 70 of the General Laws is hereby amended by inserting after section 6 the following section:

> Section 6A. Preliminary local contribution shall be the municipality's minimum required local contribution, increased or decreased by the municipal revenue growth factor; provided however, that any contribution over 2.5 per cent shall require an override vote by the town at a ballot election.

> If regional school district requests an additional contribution over the permitted 2.5 per cent, all of the municipalities affected by said increase shall be required to vote on the override at a ballot election.
A majority of the municipalities must vote yes for the override to carry. In the event of a tie, the override shall fail.

The intent of this bill, an act that we hope will continue as a bipartisan effort, is to allow for a conversation to begin at the state level about the “man-made” economic crisis that is caused by a law that requires cities and towns to increase spending at a level that outpaces the ability for local government to raise taxes and revenue to meet the mandate. There is however a ten day cutoff for other legislators to cosponsor the bill and the Dudley Board of Selectmen is asking for and urging you to contact your state representative and state senator and request that they cosponsor the proposed bill.

This must be accomplished no later than April 9, 2013. Please do it today-this opportunity to form a coalition in address significant spending requirements that are outside our control does not come often and will disappear without widespread support.

I, the entire Dudley Board of Selectmen, Representative Peter Durant and the Dudley Town Administrator, Peter Jankowski are available to answer any questions that you may have relative to this important collaborative effort. Your support in contacting your state legislators is the only way for all of us to make meaningful change in the economic condition of our communities.

Sincerely,

Jonathan Ruda, Chairman
Dudley Board of Selectmen