

Meeting Minutes
February 23, 2016
Chenery Meeting Room

PRESENT: Selectmen DeSorgher, Fisher, Peterson; Town Administrator Sullivan;
Administrative Assistant Clarke

Chairman DeSorgher called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. He announced this meeting is being recorded and asked for a moment of appreciation for our brave servicemen and servicewomen serving around the world.

MEDFIELD STREETLIGHTS

Andrew Seaman, Energy Manager began his presentation saying that Medfield has 347 street lights for a cost of \$41,000.00 annually which is based on a fixed rate. If the Town changes to LED lights and buys the streetlights from Eversource for a cost of \$104,864 (88,677 after incentives) the town would save \$16,188 annually. A maintenance contract would be about 5,000 per year. He reviewed this service with a few companies and found that it covers outages, repairs, storm damage, etc; emergency response within two hours. Towns such as Natick, Medway, and Westwood own their lights and have good success.

Mr. Peterson remarked that this would be a huge savings for the Town and with LED lights there will be better lighting on our streets. Mr. DeSorgher said that Andrew has done a tremendous job gathering this information that not only will save the Town money but be good for the Town. However, he would like to know the experience of those other towns, their pros and cons, and feels that this project should be brought to Town Meeting for a vote. The townspeople should have the option to vote yes or no. It should not be the Selectmen voting only.

Mr. Sullivan is concerned with the maintenance contract as we need to be cautious in selecting a company making sure they are vetted properly. Also another concern is that the Department of Utilities as of yet has not lowered the costs for LEDs. Mr. Peterson said that if Andrew could put together information from other towns perhaps that would satisfy Mr. Sullivan and the warrant could be reopened to place this article on it. Mr. Fisher said that it appears we are moving too fast to bring this to 2016 Town Meeting. The Warrant Committee also needs information to make their decision.

The Selectmen agreed that we should have information from other towns particularly maintenance costs and success and then consider a 2017 warrant article.

The Board queried the status of the solar array status at the treatment plant. Andrew responded that it is almost complete, needs final connection into panel. Our consultant needs to review the project and sign off. He is projecting completion by March 1st.

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WARRANT ARTICLES AND 2017 FINANCIAL REVIEW

Mr. Sullivan reviewed the capital budget projects. The request amount comes to 1,314,464 with the committee recommending an amount of 587,762.00. Tax levy would support 399,540 and the remaining 188,222 would come from the water and sewer enterprise fund and other unexpended appropriation funds.

A review ensued regarding the warrant articles with Mr. Sullivan commenting that actually not many carry large dollar amounts. Next meeting several committees will attend to go over articles needing funding, i.e. capital plan, a town-wide master plan, funding for a park and recreation facility and an addition to the CENTER.

As of this date the grand total departmental budget request amounts to 59,169,700.00 an increase of 4.36% over fy2016.

INFORMATIONAL

Selectmen DeSorgher announced that he has taken the appointment as Director of Public Education with the Supreme Judicial Court working in the Adams Courthouse in Boston developing educational programs for middle and high school students. This is a part time position, three days 25 hours per week.

Selectmen Fisher and Selectmen Peterson along with Town Administrator Sullivan extended their congratulations.

Mr. DeSorgher announced to the listening audience that Town of Medfield has received two Certificates of Recognition from the MassRecycle Southeast Municipal Recycling Council for Most textile Tons Collected 2014 – Drop-off and Charles River HHW Consortium Comprehensive Access to Household Hazardous Waste Collection.

From Superintendent Feeney: the Transfer Station will be open Sundays in March for the convenience of residents (closed March 27 Easter Sunday). The transfer Station will be open Sundays in April.

The Board extended sympathy to the family of Mary Solari who passed away. Mrs. Solari was a Medfield crossing guard for 48 years retiring in 2014.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Evelyn Clarke