Present: Wayne R. Walker, Heather M. Billings, and John F. Fairbanks

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Walker called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Selectmen's Office at Town Hall. He announced that the meeting was being broadcast live and recorded by Ashburnham Westminster Community Access TV.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

•The Citizens Caucus will be held at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 3rd at the Westminster Elementary School. The purpose of the Citizens Caucus is to ensure that we have at least one person who is interested in all of the elected positions in Town. Anyone interested in finding out which positions are open can contact the Town Clerk's office.

APPROVED WARRANTS

Board members reviewed and approved the following warrants:

February 17, 2014	Accounts Payable #50	\$ 366,114.19
February 24, 2014	Accounts Payable #52	\$ 67,476.96
-	Payroll #51	\$ 184,457.83

FIRE CHIEF SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Steve Hemman, Chairman of the Fire Chief Search Committee, was on hand to update the Board on the Committee's progress. He stated that they started off with fourteen applicants, from that it went down to nine who met the qualifications, and screened them down to six individuals who were interviewed today. They completed the process this afternoon and have three finalists that the Committee is recommending to the Board of Selectmen.

The three finalists are Fred Mitchell from Cumberland, R.I., Kevin Nivala from Westminster, MA, and Edmund Walker from Natick, MA. They have been notified and have accepted to go into the finalist category. The other three applicants have already been notified that they will not be going any further.

Mr. Hemman reviewed the process with the Board and recommended consideration of the following:

- •Establish interview times recommend 1 hour for each interview
- •Decide whether to conduct on site visits or extensive reference calls

•Background checks only covered Massachusetts – Karen Murphy will obtain information on cost of conducting a more extensive background check.

•Interview questions for March 17^{th} – Steve Hemman and Karen Murphy offered to prepare a draft – recommend twelve or thirteen questions – Board will consider whether or not to include one or more essay questions.

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The Board agreed to schedule a meeting on Monday, March 3rd to establish the process and finalize details for conducting finalist interviews.

Mr. Hemman thanked Town Administrator Karen Murphy for all her work that she has done in this process. He also thanked committee members; Sam Albert, Lorraine Emerson, Kevin Roy, Ed Stark, Phil D'Entremont, Bruce Blessington, Mike Gallant, Jeff Boudreau, Don Barry, Jeff Aveni, Pete Normandin, Burt Gendron, Peter Munro, and Susan Yraola. He thanked Executive Assistant Betty Kazan and the Town Clerk's office for their help as well.

Mr. Walker thanked Mr. Hemman and all involved for all their work involved in the process.

RECOGNITION OF FIREFIGHTERS' UNION AFFILIATION

Mr. Walker explained that the Board has been requested by the permanent full-time firefighters to voluntarily recognize the International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO as the exclusive bargaining representative for all permanent full-time firefighters in the rank of firefighter and lieutenant. The firefighters have unanimously accepted the AFL-CIO as their bargaining representative.

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board voluntarily recognize the International Association of Firefighters, AFL-CIO as the exclusive bargaining representative for all permanent full-time firefighters in the rank of firefighter and lieutenant. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

MIT X-POT COLLEGIATE CYCLING RACE

Zach LaBry was on hand to review the proposed MIT Race scheduled for Saturday, March 29th. The start and finish of the race will be on South Street at the School's baseball diamonds. The route will run from South Street, to Dawley Road, Academy Hill Road, and Leominster Street. The roads will be closed for this race but they will be open to local residents. Parking will be in the School's parking lot. Residents will be notified of the race. All Departments have given their okay with the exception of DPW who is meeting tonight to consider approval of the road closures.

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board authorize the race to be held on Saturday, March 29, 2014 pending the DPW Commission approval of the road closure. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

6:31 P.M. ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Fairbanks moved that the Board adjourn. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

John F. Fairbanks, Clerk (Prepared by B. Kazan)