Board of Selectmen
MEETING

Board of Selectmen's Room **April 7, 2015**
3:00p.m.

Board Members Present: Bernard N. King, Jr., Chairman; Douglas A. Taft, Vice-Chairman; Kenneth J. Murphy; Paul E. Hoyt; Robert J. McHatton, Sr.

Student Representative Anthony Champoli was absent.

1. Call to Order

Chairman King called the meeting to order at 3:00 P.M.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Board recited the "Pledge of Allegiance."

3. Budget Workshop Session

The Board began review of the recommendations submitted by the Bridgton Budget Committee as follows:

009 General Government—BAC discussed at length the addition of a new Administrative Assistant position at the town office. BAC voted 3 to 1 against the addition of this position.

At GPCOG's recommendation, the Town of Bridgton employees, on a part-time basis, an employee at $26.00/hour to perform administrative work regarding the CDBG funds. The Consensus of the Board was to approve an Administrative Assistant position for 32 hours at $13.00/hr. with no benefit package. The Administrative Assistant will be tasked with general office duties, back-up for the finance officer, administrative work for the Code Enforcement Officer and administrative work regarding the CDBG funds.

019 Short Term Debt—BAC recommends removing this $2,500 from the budget.

The Consensus of the Board was to support the recommendation of the Budget Committee to remove $2,500.00 from the short term debt account. Town Manager, Bob Peabody, also supported the Budget Committee's recommendation.

022 Library—BAC voted to fund the library as the manager recommends. The committee recommends that the library be held accountable to deliver an annual financial statement to the town including assets, liabilities, and working capital, prior to the beginning of the budget season.

The committee also discussed the $9,000 allocated to the North Bridgton Library last year, and agreed unanimously that the money should be put back into the general fund, and should not be given to the Bridgton Public Library.

The Consensus of the Board was to add an article to the warrant for the library for an additional $9,000.00 ($70,000.00 recommended amount + $9,000.00 which would have been allocated to the North Bridgton Library which closed in December 2014) to be voted on by secret ballot.

223 Police Department—The BAC discussed at length the addition of a patrol officer, and voted 2 to 2 (half for, half against the addition of the new officer). Vanessa Jones, who voted in favor of the addition of a new officer, stated a personal bias due to the fact that her husband is employed by the police department and she felt that adding an officer would increase officer safety. She did not recuse herself from the vote, since the BAC's recommendations are only advisory in nature.

The Consensus of the Board was to not approve the addition of a new patrol officer.

BAC discussed the cost of ammo. Earl Cash said that he knows where he could get a better price on ammo and suggested that "shopping around" would be a good idea. Bill Vincent agreed.

Discussion ensued between Board members and Budget Committee members to make sure that the Department is receiving the best price possible for ammo. A recommendation was to consider a bid process.

251 Ambulance—The committee recommends that the stipend for the ambulance service be reduced by $10,000, to $42,000. Unanimous vote.

Discussion ensued regarding the contracted amount and funding that adjacent Town's receive. It was determined that there is not a current contract between the ambulance service and the Town of Bridgton. The Board tabled further discussion on this issue pending contacting a representative from the Ambulance Service, United Ambulance, to have them attend the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2015.

348 Transfer Station—BAC voted unanimously to deny the request for an additional employee.

The Consensus of the Board was to support the recommendation of the Budget Committee to deny the request for an additional employee.

The committee unanimously agrees that the Town should put the paving of the transfer station parking lot out for competitive bid prior to proceeding.

The Consensus of the Board was to consider setting up a capital improvement account for funding the paving project over a two year period. The first year would be to prep the site for paving. The second year would be to pave the site. Because Jim Kidder, Public Works Director, has experience with paving the Board of Selectmen and Town Manager asked him to look at the site and give an opinion of the best way to accomplish the paving project. Jim wanted the Board to acknowledge that he does not manage the Transfer Station and therefore is only offering an opinion and suggested that the Board discuss the matter further with Robert "Bob" Fitzcharles, Transfer Station Manager. Therefore, the Board would like Bob Fitzcharles to attend the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2015.

353 Cemetery Maintenance and Seasonal Park Attendants—BAC supports these positions as requested, voted 4 to 0.

The Consensus of the Board was to support the recommendation of the Budget Committee for a Cemetery Maintenance and Seasonal Park Attendant.

522 Outside Agencies—The BAC voted unanimously to reduce funding by 20% per line (based on last year's amounts or requested amount, whichever is lower). The committee discussed at length the need for a policy regarding Outside Agencies. The BAC proposes this policy: Outside Agencies will be funded at a 20% reduction per year (based on either last year's amount, or the requested amount, whichever is lower), each year over the next 5 years, down to zero.

The Consensus of the Board was to flat fund the outside agency requests according to what was allocated for last year or what was requested for this year, whichever is lower. The Board acknowledged that a policy should be created for Outside Agencies. It should not be assumed that The Outside Agency will automatically receive funding but they should submit a request annually and a representative should attend a meeting during the budget process to support their request. The request should also include the number of individuals in Bridgton their agency serves as well as any stipends or funding they receive from surrounding Towns.

856 Capital Improvements—The BAC unanimously recommends no funding for fire department items 8-9043, 8-9071, 8-9072, 8-9073, 8-9074, based on the fact that the study is not ready yet.

The Fire Department study has not been submitted by PSSG yet. The Board is reluctant to consider funding of Capital Improvement accounts related to the Fire Department until the study has been received. The Consensus of the Board was to support the recommendation of the Budget Committee to not fund the fire department capital improvement accounts i.e.; 8-9043, 8-9071, 8-9072, 8-9073 and 8-9074 and to flat fund the operating budget based on the fact that the study has not been received for review by the Board of Selectmen.

The BAC voted 3 to 1 to defer the paving and sidewalks on Depot Street until the funds can come out of TIF or CDBG monies.

Discussion ensued between Board members; Anne Krieg – Economic Development Director; and Jim Kidder – Public Works Director, regarding taking money from the paving account, 856-8-9020 consisting of $500,000.00, to pave Depot Street. The Board tabled further discussion until Jim could do further research and report back to the Board. Later during the regular meeting a further consensus of the Board was to fund the paving for Depot Street from CDBG monies totaling $24,575.00.

The line of the TIF area runs parallel on Depot Street with the sidewalks on the opposite side of the TIF area, however, the TIF supports use of funds for sidewalks in areas that may not necessarily be in the TIF district but will benefit the Town overall. The Consensus of the Board was to take $18,200.00 from the TIF fund to construct the sidewalks on Depot Street.

950 Economic Development Director—The committee recommends the removal of the $60,000 from line item 3-2027 designated for a study of the downtown area.

Discussion ensued between Board members; Anne Krieg, Economic Development Director; and Citizens regarding the appropriation of $60,000.00 for a study of the downtown area. The necessity of a study was discussed and that the basis of the "Kent Plan" was to create a study. It was stated that it was not a complete street-scape analysis and was done approximately 10 years ago. Also, it was questioned if the Comprehensive Plan supported the basis for a study. It was also expressed that expansion of the sewer system was as important as the study and needed to be considered. The Consensus of the Board was to table further discussion to the next Board of Selectmen's Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 14, 2015.

The Budget Workshop portion of the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:35p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Georgiann M. Fleck, Deputy Town Manager

Chairman King moved agenda item 9. Forward in the meeting

9. Professional Services Agreement with Tideview Group: Interim Police Chief

Town Manager Peabody presented Mr. Mike Pardue of Tideview Group, and then Town Manager Peabody explained that after consulting with three different companies he was recommending the Town go with Tideview Group to provide interim police chief services. Town Manager Peabody stated that the company would be used from April 11 until the position is filled and explained and gave the background of Mr. Jerry Hinton who will be representing the group in the position. Mr. Pardue reiterated Mr. Hinton's background. Citizens asked what type of position Mr. Hinton would be fulfilling, costs for utilizing the company and coverage when Mr. Hinton was not in Bridgton. Mr. Peabody and Mr. Pardue answered those questions.

Motion was made by Vice Chairman Taft to approve the contract and authorize the Town Manager to sign the approved contract; 2nd by Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

5. Hearings

a. Public Hearings/Informational Hearings

1. Community Development Block Grant Funding Projects for HUD Fiscal Year 2015 (continued from 03.24.2015)

Chairman King opened the public hearing at 5:13 P.M.

Economic and Development Director, Anne Krieg reviewed the review process and the recommendations of the committee. Ms. Krieg stated that the committee recommended the following for public services funding:

Community Center Façade Repairs for $5,000.00
Public Parking Lot on Main Hill for $30,000.00
Highland Lake Beach Bathroom for $85,000.00

Selectman Murphy mentioned funding for the Community Center's bathroom's renovations for a public bathroom.

The Board of Selectmen and the public asked several questions including the cost for the total project of the public parking, the number of parking spots created, the cost of the bathroom construction, the issue of the Bacon-Davis wage scale, whether if projects come in under the costs what happens to the remaining funds and several other questions.

Ms. Krieg then reviewed the following programs that the committee recommended funding:

Bridgton Fuel Collaborative for $5,000.00
Community Kettle Dinners for $2,000.00
Navigator Program for $6,100.00
Backpack Program for $2,000.00
Bridgton Summer Camp for $9,700.00

Ms. Krieg and the Board of Selectmen reviewed each program and asked several questions of Loretta Ferraro of the Navigator Program.

Chairman King closed the public hearing at 6:15 P.M.

6. Action Items Following Public Hearing

a. Possible Action on Community Development Block Grant Funding Projects for HUD Fiscal Year 2015

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Selectman McHatton to fund the Bridgton Fuel Collaborative for $5,000.00. 5 approve/0 oppose

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Selectman McHatton to fund the Community Kettle Dinners for $2,000.00. 5 approve/0 oppose

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Vice Chairman Taft to fund the Bridgton Summer Camp for $9,700.00. 5 approve/0 oppose

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Selectman McHatton to fund the Navigator Program for $6,100.00. 3 approve/2 oppose (Vice Chairman Taft and Chairman King opposed)

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Selectman McHatton to fund the Backpack Program for $5,000.00. 3 approve/2 oppose (Vice Chairman Taft and Chairman King opposed)

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Selectman McHatton to fund the Bridgton Community Center Façade Repairs for $5,000.00. 5 approve/0 oppose

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Vice Chairman Taft to not fund the Community Centers bathroom renovations. 3 approve/2 oppose (Selectman McHatton and Selectman Murphy opposed)

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Selectman Murphy to fund the Highland Beach Bathroom for upto $68,000.00. 5 approve/0 oppose

Motion was made by Selectman McHatton; 2nd by Vice Chairman Taft to fund the Public Parking Lot for $30,000.00. 5 approve/0 oppose

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt; 2nd by Selectman Murphy to fund the Depot Street Paving for $24,575.00. 5 approve/0 oppose

7. Town Hall Ad Hoc Committee

Motion was made by Selectman McHatton to not create the ad hoc committee; 2nd by Vice Chairman Taft. 5 approve/0 oppose

8. Scope of Work for Analysis of Town Hall Building

Ms. Krieg reported that Casco Bay Engineers submitted an estimate to do an analysis for the interior of the Town Hall. The Board of Selectmen reviewed the proposal. Ms. Krieg and the Board of Selectmen then asked several questions and listened to several comments from the public in reference to the Town Hall.

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt to hire Casco Bay Engineering for not more than $16,000.00 adding the construction specification costs to the proposal. Ms. Krieg stated the $5,000.00 may not be enough for adding the construction specification costs. There was no 2nd, motion fails.

Motion was made by Selectman Hoyt to hire Casco Bay Engineering for $11,000.00 for the Scope of Work for Analysis; 2nd by Selectman McHatton. 5 approve/0 oppose

- Mark Lopez informed the Board of Selectmen that he presented a citizens petition to the Town Clerk reading "To the Selectman of the Town of Bridgton we the undersigned being registered voters of the Town of Bridgton request that the Municipal Officers place the following article before the voters for their consideration at secret ballot election "The Board of Selectmen shall not spend funds from any source except for funds that maybe received from as a result of an insurance claim to make repairs to the Town Hall Building until such time as the Board of Selectmen can determine the total cost of making both the interior and exterior repairs to the building and said costs are approved by the voters at secret ballot election."."

Motion was made by Selectman McHatton to start the bid process for Phase One of the approved stabilization and replace the furnace and duct work if necessary; 2nd from Selectman Murphy. 5 approve/0 oppose

9. Professional Services Agreement with Tideview Group: Interim Police Chief
   This item was moved to earlier in the meeting.

10. Adjourn
    Chairman King adjourned the meeting at 7:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn E. Taft
Deputy Town Clerk