

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
February 17, 2016**

**Present:** First Selectman Melissa M. Mack, Tim Reynolds, Joanne Sullivan, Krystal Holmes and Mel Chafetz.

Public Works Director John Cloonan, Highway Foreman Mark Cervione, Captain Rick Brown, Fire Chief Chuck Flynn were also in attendance. First Selectman Mack called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**Approval of the Minutes from the February 3, 2016 Regular Meeting**

Selectman Holmes made the motion to approve the minutes from the February 3, 2016 Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen. First Selectman Mack requested that the approved members of the Technology Committee and the 2016 Technology Calendar be added to the minutes as follows:

Technology Committee Members:

Michael Stevens  
Larry Grigley  
Dan Burnham  
Richard Drinan  
Jason Haines  
Will Hermann  
Rick Niepp  
Eileen O'Sullivan  
Matthew Service  
Keith Woods  
Kathy Shea Mormino  
Dan Beaudoin  
Rebecca Osleger

Technology Committee 2016 Calendar

March 10, 2016  
April 13, 2016  
May 11, 2016  
June 8, 2016  
August 10, 2016  
September 14, 2016  
October 12, 2016  
November 9, 2016  
December 14, 2016

Selectman Chafetz noted that he likes the addition of highlighted areas to the minutes as they are easier to read. Vote 5-0 in favor.

## **Public Comment**

*No comment*

## **Approval of expenditure of Account #1088102-59170 Shared Communication Systems balance of \$186,406.65 and recommend to Board of Finance**

Captain Brown stated the original intent was to buy radio equipment. The reallocation of funds will be a good investment for Suffield's future needs. Benefits of the fiber line down Bridge Street (termination point SVAA) include the following:

- Connection of the Senior Center on the town network.
  - This would bring access to internet services through the town's connection, currently paid for as a separate connection, and would also allow the administration to access Munis and other systems used by other departments in town but not currently available to the Senior Center.
- The ability to connect town phone systems with the respective town buildings when voice over IP system is installed.
  - The town's IT director has indicated that over the next few years the town would look to move to an internet based phone system. To do this a connection to the town network is required at phone locations.
- Ability to utilize the radio tower and equipment at 205 Bridge Street with the town's radio system; the tower was installed at the SVAA's expense.
  - Four years ago the SVAA installed a tower system at their location with the intention of tying it into the overall town radio system. To do this a connection to the town network is needed. Infrastructure improvements within the SVAA facility have also been done, at their cost, to accommodate the additional radio equipment.
- Ability to relocate the Highway Department's radio equipment to another tower site.
  - The current push to move the Highway Department in an effort to redevelop the land on Ff Tyler Place also has to include plan to relocate the current radio equipment on the tower at that site. If the Highway Department moves to a location in or near the industrial park the physical location and height restrictions of towers in that part of town may make building a tower at the highway garage impractical. The ability to put the highway department radio system onto one of the existing towers and tie

it through the town network would allow for a cheaper and more flexible alternative than constructing a new tower in town.

- Connection of the Ambulance building (our current temporary EOC to the town network)
  - Not only would this bring in connection to the radio systems to the EOC it would allow access to Computer Aided Dispatch at the Ambulance building, a resource that would be beneficial on a daily basis and not just during the activation of the EOC.
- The ability to tie in Bridge Street School during construction of the Community Center.

Captain Brown also noted that the current radio system has issues including damage to older equipment and this would get the system up to optimal performance. It would also solve several town problems and future proof town going forward with money that is already there. Selectman Reynolds asked what area it will cover. Public Works Director John Cloonan said the plan is to trench from the Town Hall rear easement to the Town Green existing conduit. The trench will continue from the Library down Bridge Street to the Suffield Volunteer Ambulance building. It will continue from the Suffield Volunteer Ambulance building to the Senior Center. A separate conduit will be placed from the Library to the Bridge Street School. Captain Brown noted the higher position of the tower would improve reception. First Selectman Mack noted we looked at rental of fiber but it was not the best long term solution. First Selectman Mack also voiced concern of owning fiber underground and what happens in an emergency. Chief Flynn noted that underground is the most effective way to protect your product.

Selectman Reynolds made the motion to approve expenditure of account #1088102-59170 shared communication systems balance of \$186,406.65 and recommend to Board of Finance. Vote 5-0 in favor.

**Appointment of Seth Crocker as member on Advisory Commission on Capital Expenditures to fill the remainder of Anthony Roncaioli's term (through 4/30/2016)**

First Selectman Mack noted that Mr. Crocker owns Crocker Construction, a well-regarded construction company in Suffield. The candidate is a Republican and provides a good balance of parties on ACCE.

Selectman Sullivan made the motion to appoint Seth Crocker as member on Advisory Commission on Capital Expenditures to fill the remainder of Anthony Roncaioli's term (through 4/30/2016). Vote 5-0 in favor.

**Appointment of Dale Baker, Gloria Clark, Judith Hanmer, Michele Holcombe, Sue Mayne, Todd Mervosh, Agnes Schulte, Elizabeth Stanley, Anita Wardell, Joyce Zien as members on the Helena Bailey Spencer Tree Fund/Val Gallivan Fund (through February 3, 2017)**

First Selectman Mack noted Gloria Clark (Suffield Garden Club President), Christine Davidson (Town Treasurer) and Melissa Mack (First Selectman) are all ex-officio members. Appointments are for a one-year term. The fund looks to plant trees throughout Suffield and is a wonderful resource for the town.

Selectman Holmes made the motion to appoint Dale Baker, Gloria Clark, Judith Hanmer, Michele Holcombe, Sue Mayne, Todd Mervosh, Agnes Schulte, Elizabeth Stanley, Anita Wardell, and Joyce Zien as members on the Helena Bailey Spencer Tree Fund/Val Gallivan Fund (through February 3, 2017). Vote 5-0 in favor.

**Approve a tax rebate for Core Logic Real Estate Tax Service in the amount of \$2,667.99 due to paying twice at closing**

Selectman Reynolds made the motion to approve a tax rebate for Core Logic Real Estate Tax Service in the amount of \$2,667.99 due to paying twice at closing. Vote 5-0 in favor.

**Approve a tax rebate for K Brothers LLC in the amount of \$3,012.61 due to changes in assessment**

Selectman Reynolds asked for more detail on rebates in future. Selectman Reynolds made the motion to approve a tax rebate for K Brothers LLC in the amount of \$3,012.61 due to changes in assessment. Vote 5-0 in favor.

**Approve the Stop Loss Captive Insurance Resolution as provided by the Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program and recommend to Board of Finance**

First Selectman Mack attended the CROG meeting where they recommended municipalities save costs by sharing services. First Selectman Mack read the resolution for the Stop Loss Captive Insurance Program. First Selectman Mack proposed that we explore whether the Town would experience savings if the Board of Education and the Town switch from private stop loss carriers to the municipal group stop loss insurance program. Suffield has a self-insured health plan. We limit our liability by purchasing stop loss insurance, which covers medical claims greater than a specified cap.

Selectman Sullivan made the motion to approve the Stop Loss Captive Insurance Resolution as provided by the Regional Performance Incentive (RPI) Program and recommend to Board of Finance. Vote 5-0 in favor.

**Selectmen Updates**

## **Town Meeting**

Gas Easement to Eversource Energy for Fflyer Place approved; School Vestibule Security Project approved; Responsible Growth and Transit-Oriented Development Grant for relocation of Highway Department approved; Mr. Sorrow Appointment to Connecticut River Assembly approved.

## **Commission Updates**

Selectman Chafetz reported the school budget reduced to 3.1%; Library Commission reports nothing significant other than the need for furniture.

First Selectman Mack reported ACCE has approximately \$9,000,000 in requests, but only \$3,000,000 in capital projects will be funded. Recommendations for capital expenditures should be coming from the Board of Selectmen under the FY 2016/2017 Town Charter. ACCE will present to Board of Selectmen at next regular meeting.

First Selectman Holmes contacted Eversource regarding the item brought up at 1/20/16 BOS Meeting (traffic safety and recent accident involving Eversource vehicle); waiting for feedback.

First Selectman Mack offered condolences to the Alfano family and gratitude for Charles Alfano Seniors lifelong service to the Suffield community.

## **Public Comment**

*No comment*

Selectman Sullivan moved to adjourn and by unanimous vote the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

The next regular Board of Selectmen Meeting will be Wednesday, March 2, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kim Worthington  
Recording Secretary