

**REGULAR MEETING NORTH SMITHFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**

**FEBRUARY 18, 2014**

**KENDALL-DEAN SCHOOL AUDITORIUM**

**6:45 P.M.**

**OPEN FORUM**

**No one spoke.**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**The meeting began at 7:00 P.M. with the prayer and the pledge to the flag. Council members present were Mr. McGee, Mr. Yazbak, Mr. Zwolenski and Mr. Flaherty. Ms. Alves was unable to leave Boston due to the snow storm. Town Administrator Hamilton and Town Solicitor Lombardi were also in attendance.**

**Moment of Silence**

**Mr. Flaherty asked for a moment of silence for Personnel Board member Thomas Furey and well-known Woonsocket School Department Athletic Director and North Smithfield resident George Nasuti, both of whom passed away this past week.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**The people who needed to be at the meeting were unable to make it so there was no executive session.**

**PUBLIC HEARING RE: PUBLIC FACILITIES ADVISORY TASK FORCE PROPOSALS**

**This task force was created by resolution to recommend three things: the highest and best use of all town-owned facilities, a capital improvement strategy and related timetable and a responsible method of funding suggested improvements. The focus was narrowed to four buildings in need of significant repair and reuse -- Town Hall, the Municipal Annex, Kendall-Dean and the Andrews School. Additional consideration was given to solving the Halliwell School problem and renovations to the high school.**

**February 18, 2014**

**The firm of Robinson Green & Berretta was retained through the bid process. David DeQuattro and Tracey Donnelly of Robinson Green & Beretta were present to provide a presentation on the recommendations.**

**The plan includes consolidating municipal and school offices in Kendall-Dean, turning the entire Municipal Annex into a police department building, razing nine of the eleven buildings at Halliwell School, adding two classrooms and a small addition to the cafeteria at the Middle School and, relocating some of the elementary classrooms and renovating the high school science lab.**

**Mr. DeQuattro noted that the Department of Education does not allow reimbursement for modular structures only for brick and mortar structures.**

**There were questions regarding school enrollment, the construction timetable, the effect on taxes, alternative out-of-district education and the shortage of meeting space.**

**Mr. Michael Rapko asked if the title for Kendall-Dean has been clarified. He felt the Town should get a letter from the School Committee to allow them to move into Kendall-Dean. School Committee member William Connell agreed to bring this to the School Committee.**

**Mr. Rapko also mentioned combining fire and police dispatch but was told this had been looked at many years ago and was found to be not feasible. There was also mention about making the Andrews School a police substation.**

**Planning Board member Arthur Bassett felt an important part of this plan is that it solves the Halliwell School issue. It creates additional savings and eliminates some capital improvement items.**

**Mr. Flaherty noted that the Task Force took into account any suggestions that generated a lot of support and seemed to warrant careful consideration and abandoned those that did not.**

**There was a question about splitting a referendum question into parts, but the Task Force believed that by doing only one part of the plan would not allow another part to be completed.**

**Finance Director Brenda MacDonald provided the cost of the project over a twenty to thirty-year period and explained some of the projected revenue figures.**

**MOTION by Mr. McGee, seconded by Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on an aye vote to continue this public hearing to March 3, 2014.**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

**MOTION by Mr. Yazbak, seconded by Mr. McGee, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to remove the bills.**

**MOTION by Mr. Yazbak, seconded by Mr. McGee, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to approve/accept the following: 1.) Town Council minutes of January 6, 21 and 27, 2014; 2.) Budget Committee minutes of January 6 and 22, 2014; 3.) Juvenile Hearing Board 2013 Annual Report; 4.) Public Facilities Advisory Task Force minutes of December 17, 2013 and January 7, 2014; 5.) Parks & Recreation Commission minutes of January 27, 2014; 6.) North Smithfield Police Department monthly report for January; 7.) North Smithfield Municipal Court monthly report for January; 8.) Resolution opposing opening the Chariho Act for revision from the Town of Charlestown; and 9.) Resolution supporting repeal of master lever voting from the Town of Charlestown.**

### **PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**Mr. Yazbak recused from this discussion as he has a client on the vendor list.**

**MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. McGee, and voted 3 to 0 on a roll call vote to approve payment of the following based upon the recommendations of the Town Administrator and Finance Director: General Fund - \$414,660.09; Sewer - \$5,263.83; Water - \$5,706.38;**

**February 18, 2014**

**School Department - \$1,498,072.00; and Fire Department - \$195,147.00 for a total of \$2,118,849.30.**

#### **WIRELESS FACILITY ON COMSTOCK ROAD WATER TOWER**

**Mr. Lombardi has learned that the town is entitled to fifty percent of the rent, estimated to be \$36,000 (\$18,000). He is recommending the Council sign the front sheet because all that does is allow Global Tower Partners to move forward as it complies with zoning regulations.**

**Since the town is not a party to the agreement, he suggested that the Council not sign that.**

**MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Yazbak, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the Property Owner's Authorization form.**

## **OPEN MEETINGS ACT COMPLAINT**

**MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Yazbak, and voted 4 to 0 on an aye vote to continue this to a later date.**

## **DOWLING VILLAGE LAND PURCHASE AND SETTLEMENT COSTS**

**There was no discussion on this.**

**Mr. Yazbak asked the Town Administrator to send a memo to the Council informing them of the final closing costs.**

## **VEHICLE FOR TOWN ADMINISTRATOR**

**Ms. Hamilton has been driving vehicles that are falling apart and not good in the snow. She asked to be allowed to search for another vehicle.**

**Mr. Yazbak suggested asking the police department to contact some of their vendors to see if they might have a two to four-year old vehicle available.**

## **APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

**There were no appointments to any board.**

## **AWARD OF BID FOR POLICE VEHICLE**

**MOTION by Mr. Yazbak, seconded by Mr. McGee and Mr. Zwolenski, and voted 4 to 0 on a roll call vote to award the bid for an unmarked**

**police vehicle to Imperial Municipal Partners at a cost of \$18,705.75 with the police department to send back a report regarding the need for a second vehicle. Funds will be taken from the Police Detail Account Number L-001-2208-008-1408-1001.**

**MOTION by Mr. Zwolenski, seconded by Mr. Yazbak, and voted 4 to 0 on an aye vote to adjourn at 8:51 P.M.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Debra A. Todd, Town Clerk**