

MINUTES: SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Monday, March 8, 2021 6:00 p.m. via GoToMeeting

In attendance: C. Iino, L. Annino, Jr., E. Blewett (arrived 6:14), R. Regolo, R. Bauer, R. Pleines, M. Couture, W. Petroskey, E. Sirignano, A. Stirna

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. While visitors were invited to comment, there was no public input.
2. FY 21/22 Discussion

Picking up where they left off on March 4, the board continued reviewing the FY 21/22 Selectmen's budget:

- The selectmen are expecting to put in place a service recognition plan for first responders, but developing such a plan will take some months. Iino suggested establishing a sinking fund with a \$12,500 deposit to be used to provide for a \$25,000 life insurance payment in the event of the death of an active first responder 70 years or older before a permanent plan is developed.

After extended discussion, the selectmen added \$40,000 under Public Safety in the expectation that we will have a solid service recognition plan in place in the next fiscal year.

- The budget request from the Fire Marshal has been approved by the Fire Commission and was briefly revisited.
- Blewett noted for clarification that although the increase in the budget line for building official reflects is about 4%, while the proposed increase in hourly rate to \$37/hr is significantly higher. Building Official Pleines requests an hourly rate of \$40/hr. There was discussion. Iino continues to support the increase to \$37/hr, which is median hourly rate for part-time building officials in towns in our population cohort, and making the position a W-2 position, which would entail an additional expense to the town. Pleines noted that his proposed budget is 2% lower than last year, even with a proposed rate increase.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:04 p.m. A Regular Meeting of the Board of Selectmen follows.

Submitted by Elizabeth Doyle Disbrow on 3/10/2021