

Submitted by: TOWN OF PHIPPSBURG Approved by Selectmen:
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
John M. Young MINUTES
Administrator February 20, 2008

Meeting convened at 6:00 p.m. with Selectmen Perkins, Pye, and Douglass in attendance.

I. Review and Sign:

1. Accounts payable and payroll warrants.
2. Meeting minutes.

All items reviewed and signed

II. Meetings and Hearings:

1. Meet with the Town Attorney, Richard Hornbeck, to discuss the Selectmen's rights and responsibilities in regards to the McLanathan Estate and Fire/Rescue Departments (Executive Session).
Selectmen voted (3-0) to enter Executive Session at 6:02 p.m.
Selectmen voted (3-0) to exit executive Session at 7:15 p.m.
2. Meet with the Chief of Police to discuss the status of the Part Time Police Officer position.

Chief Skroski reported that Officer Anderson can no longer work the required 1040 hours funded by the Town. Due to a promotion at his regular job and time commitments with his family he will only be able to work 520 hours. Chief Skroski recommended hiring a second officer to fill the other 520 hours because he did not want to loose Officer Anderson, who does a good job, and it might be easier to find someone to fill 520 hours rather than 1040 hours. If this was done there would be a one time increase of \$2,500 for training, uniforms and equipment – however there would not be an increase in hours or salary. With the Selectman's support Chief Skroski will presenting this recommendation to the Budget Committee next week.

Selectman Douglass stated that there would be an advantage to hiring a second officer. The same number of hours would be covered and it would leave a trained and equipped officer to assist the Chief if one of the officers should resign. He added that Officer Anderson is already trained and has his equipment and uniforms so it would not make sense to replace him with someone who could fill the full 1040 hours.

Selectman Perkins and Selectman Pye also supported having two people fill the part time position.

Chief Skroski reemphasized that he was not increasing his department - he would just be filling the established 1040 hours for the part time officer position.

The Selectmen recommended that Chief Skroski advertise the position as soon as possible so that he could have a prospective candidate to start prior

to the summer. Chief Skroski replied that he would not have the funding for equipment, training, and uniforms until July 1st – however there were funds left for salary. Administrator Young stated that there were available funds left in the Selectmen's Contingency account which could cover these costs

Selectman Perkins asked what the salary range would be for the second officer. Chief Skroski replied that he was only requesting a CPI increase for Officer Anderson, but he may start the new officer at a lower rate – around \$15.00 per hour (Sagadahoc County pays between \$13.00 and \$17.00).

Selectmen voted (3-0) to advertise for a second officer and to use the Selectmen's Contingency account to pay for training, equipment, and uniforms.

Chief Skroski stated that he was able to participate in the same type of cell phone plan as the Fire Department's and this will save at least \$200.00 a year. He thanked Gary Morong, EMA Director, for assisting with this.

Chief Skroski reported that he had several burglaries in Small Point last year which tied in with some recent cases which the Sagadahoc County Sheriffs Dept. was investigating elsewhere. He added that he has worked with the Sagadahoc County Sheriffs Dept. to solve three or four cases in the past year and would like to thank their detectives.

Chief Skroski stated that he would be requesting funding for a TASER (electronic immobilization device). He added that the Sagadahoc County Sheriffs Dept. and the Brunswick Police Dept. use them. It allows officers another option before using deadly force. He mentioned a recent article in the Times Record where the TASER was used instead of deadly force.

III. Unfinished Business

1. Discuss whether to meet on February 27th.

The Town Administrator will be at the Fishermen's Forum during the week of February 25th. The Selectmen will not to meet on the 27th.

2. Discuss dates for March workshops.

Selectmen approved a Budget Workshop on March 12th and a Town Report Workshop on March 26th. These will replace the regular Selectmen's Meetings.

IV. Selectmen/Administrator Comments and Announcements

1. Administrator Young

Administrator Young announced upcoming meetings and events.

V. Adjournment - Selectmen voted (3-0) to adjourn at 7:40 p.m.