

**Town of Farmington**  
*Board of Selectmen – Public Meeting Minutes*  
**Monday, May 11, 2015**  
**Selectmen’s Chambers**  
**356 Main Street**

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**Board Members Present:**

Charlie King, Chairman  
Brian St. Onge, Vice Chairman  
Paula Proulx  
Jim Horgan  
Jerry McCarthy

**Others Present:**

Town Administrator Keith Trefethen  
Police Chief Jay Drury  
Interim Fire Chief James Reinert  
Resident Mary Barron

**1). Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:**

Chairman King called the meeting to order at 6 p.m. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2). Approval of Minutes:** Tabled.

**3). Public Comment:**

Resident Mary Barron came before the board and presented a petition asking the board to review RSA 202-A: 6 and RSA 202-A: 7 regarding Library Trustees. Barron said that presently five of the nine appointed Trustee positions at the Goodwin Library are filled and said the open positions need to be filled. She said the statute also allows for an elected Trustee and presently there are none. She added that since the town provides 90% of the library’s operating budget there should be someone on the Board of Trustees representing the people, who was elected by the people. She also noted that the library contract has not been reviewed in at least 10 years.

The petition asked Selectmen to research the RSA’s, research the maximum number of elected Trustees allowed by law, determine the provisions to have a Trustee elected at the next election and negotiate a current contract with the library.

Barron, who was a Trustee for 12 years, said she was representing a “library brainstorming group” whose goal is resolve issues not to aggravate them or complain. She added that a lot of people want to move forward to resolving the issues recently posted on social media.

Selectman Jerry McCarthy asked who owns the library building. Barron said it is owned by the Farmington Library Association, not by the town. She said that this creates a unique situation because the town does not own or operate the building, but it is funded by taxpayer money. She then asked the board to find out if the town would be entitled to elect more than one Trustee because taxpayers fund most of the library’s budget.

McCarthy expressed skepticism about just one elected Trustee being able to change things. Barron then asked him if he has ever tried to sleep with just one mosquito in the room.

Chairman King said the library contract had undergone a legal review last year, but suggested it may be time to ask more questions, such as what is the maximum amount of appointed and elected Trustees allowed.

Barron said her criteria for choosing a Trustee would include someone who participates in library events and

attends meetings. She added that she would like to see a better mix of Trustees, some appointed and some elected. It's time to fix it she said.

**4). Decision on relationship with a Company for Public Safety Building:**

Chairman King said the board has met with all four of the companies providing responses to the RFP sent out for the Public Safety Building. He asked the members for their thoughts about which company should be awarded the contract.

Consensus of the board was they preferred Groen Builders, Inc. of Rochester, NH because of the construction technique (insulated concrete forms), the content of the RFP and the presentation, that their construction methods are more cost efficient and energy efficient than other construction methods, the expected life span of the building, the security features offered and the price.

**Motion:** (King, second Horgan) to select Groen Builders as the general contractor for the proposed Public Safety Building passed 4-0. (King, Proulx, McCarthy, Horgan-yes, St. Onge abstained).

**5). Any Further Business:**

**A). Parking on Orange Street-**Police Chief Jay Drury returned to the board to report his findings on the parking problems on Orange Street. After visiting the area and discussing the matter with Public Works Director Dale Sprague and some area residents, the Chief said he would recommend that no parking be allowed from the current No Parking sign to Grove Street and one or two signs should be installed to inform drivers of the restriction. After some additional discussion Selectmen decided the issue should be more clearly defined.

**Motion:** (King, second Proulx) to restrict parking on both sides of Orange Street from Union Street to Grove Street passed 5-0.

**B). Annex Building/Storage of Fire Dept. Vehicles-** Chairman King told Fire Chief James Reinert that the board previously voted to tear down the annex building and asked him if that would cause any issues for the department. Chief Reinert said the annex was used mainly for the storage of vehicles that don't need to be housed in a heated area during the winter. He explained that some vehicles that contain water or need to be locked up are being stored in the Public Works barn.

Selectman Horgan suggested there would be more space for vehicle storage in the barn if the Public Works Dept. cleaned up their work space and moved some of the items to another place.

Chief Drury also volunteered the use of the Police Dept. space in the barn until the fall if that would be helpful to the Fire Dept.

Chairman King also noted that Engine One is using a lot of fuel for a vehicle that is out of service and asked Chief Reinert for an explanation. Chief Reinert said there are one ignition key for the diesel fuel vehicles and one key for the other vehicles. He suggested the figures may have been placed in the wrong line item in the report.

**C). Part Time Police Dept. Position-** Chief Drury informed the board that applicant Tom Hebert has passed the background checks for the second part time opening in the dept. and requested permission to continue the hiring process. The Chief also noted there are a lot of applicants for the third opening.

**Motion:** (Horgan, second McCarthy) to authorize the Chief to move forward to hire the applicant for a part time position passed 5-0.

**6). Non-Public Session RSA 91-A: 3 II (d):**

**Motion:** (King, second Horgan) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II (d) passed 5-0 on a roll call vote (King, Proulx, St. Onge, Horgan, McCarthy-yes) at 6:50 p.m.

**Motion:** (King, second Horgan) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 7:15 p.m.

**Motion:** (King, second Horgan) to seal the minutes until the investigative procedure has concluded passed 5-0.

**7). Non-Public Session RSA 91-A: 3 II (b):**

**Motion:** (King, second Horgan) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (b) passed 5-0 on a roll call vote (King, Proulx, St.Onge, McCarthy, Horgan-yes) at 7:20 p.m.

**Motion:** (King, second Horgan) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 10:05 p.m.

**Motion:** (King, second Proulx) to seal the minutes passed 5-0.

**8). Adjournment:**

**Motion:** (St. Onge, second Horgan) to adjourn the meeting passed 5-0 at 10:06 p.m.

Respectively submitted,  
Kathleen Magoon  
Recording Secretary

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Charlie King

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Paula Proulx

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Brian St. Onge

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James Horgan

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Gerry McCarthy