

Nahant Board of Selectmen
Executive Session Meeting Minutes – January 19, 2017

Attendees: Frank Barile, T Taylor, and Jeff Chelgren

Meeting came to Order at 8:35 PM

The Nahant Board of Selectmen met in executive session to discuss real estate and personnel contract negotiation strategies.

Mr. Chelgren began the meeting by identifying that the Board needed to provide policy direction on the following matters: 1. Auction bid limit for 25 Furbush; 2. Personnel evaluations – all 3 unions have objected to process; and 3. Impact bargaining – Health Benefit costs.

Mr. Chelgren started by identifying that he needed policy direction on what minimum bid threshold would be acceptable for the auction of the property at 25 Furbush. After some discussion the Selectmen voted to identify that a bid of \$1 would be acceptable (with an understanding that the Board would prefer to get as much as possible) as long as the successful bidder complies with all of the identified restrictions.

Mr. Chelgren then identified that all three unions have expressed their unwillingness to submit to personnel evaluations at this time. Mr. Chelgren expressed frustration with this situation as all three unions had expressed a verbal willingness, during the past contract negotiations, to participate in the evaluations. All three unions were unwilling to put that in writing, but it was agreed upon verbally that we would proceed starting this year. After some discussion, the Selectmen and the Town Administrator agreed that personnel evaluations would be discontinued until the matter could be taken up again in the next contract negotiations (which start in the Fall of 2017). Mr. Chelgren identified that he would alert Department Heads and release a memo outlining the discontinuance.

Mr. Chelgren finally spoke to the budget and the need to consider impact bargaining savings in the cost of Health Benefits. Mr. Chelgren explained that the FY2018 budget is proving to be extremely tight and that tough compromises had to be made in order to deliver a balanced budget. He went on to explain that some of

these compromises are regrettable, but that the only way to avoid them is to find savings in the current budget. One such opportunity is the Health Benefits. He explained that the Insurance Committee recently met to review the matter and it was evident that approximately \$50,000-\$70,000 worth of savings could be realized by the town if minor modifications were made to the co-payments, emergency room costs, and pharmacy processes. After some discussion it was decided by the Selectmen that this is worth considering but since Mr. Lombard was not present, that this item should be continued to the next meeting (in executive session) in order to have all three members voting on the matter. The Board requested that the Insurance Committee report be recirculated in advance of the meeting so that the Board could review and familiarize themselves with the information.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Jeff Chelgren, Town Administrator

Minutes approved this nd day of February, 2017

Chesley R Taylor