

**Town of Auburn
Board of Selectmen and
Police Commission
November 30, 2015**

Selectmen Present: James Headd, Richard Eaton & Dale Phillips

Police Commissioners Present: David Dion, Ken Robinson and Glenn Shaw

Also Present: Town Administrator William Herman

Mr. Headd called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM.

Non-Public Session:

Mr. Headd recessed the public meeting at 5:03 PM under the provisions of RSA 91-A:2, I (a) to enable the Board of Selectmen and Police Commissioners to discuss strategy and negotiations with respect to collective bargaining with the Auburn Police Union.

Meeting in Non-Public Session with the Selectmen was Town Administrator Herman.

Mr. Headd reconvened the public meeting at 5:15 PM.

Police Commission Consideration of Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement:

David Dion asked the Police Commissioners if they had any comments or questions concerning the tentative three-year agreement with the Auburn Police Union for the period April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2019. There was no further discussion.

Mr. Robinson made a motion for the Police Commission to approve and ratify the tentative agreement with the Auburn Police Union for the period of April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Shaw. A vote was taken, all Police Commissioners were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Board of Selectmen Consideration of Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement:

James Headd asked the Board of Selectmen if they had any comments or questions concerning the tentative three-year agreement with the Auburn Police Union for the period April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2019. There was no further discussion.

Mrs. Phillips made a motion for the Board of Selectmen to approve and ratify the tentative agreement with the Auburn Police Union for the period of April 1, 2016 through March 31, 2019. Seconded by Mr. Eaton. A vote was taken, all Selectmen were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Board of Selectmen Consideration of Collective Bargaining Warrant Article:

Mr. Herman indicated the Board of Selectmen also were required to either recommend or not recommend the warrant article that would fund the first year of the collective bargaining agreement in order to advance it to the Budget Committee and the voters. The warrant article as drafted is as follows:

*To see if the Town will vote to approve the cost items for FY 2016 included in the three-year collective bargaining agreement which resulted from negotiations between the Auburn Board of Selectmen, the Auburn Police Commission and the Auburn Police Union, Local 216 and which represents an estimated increase of \$12,418 over FY 2015 salaries, fringe benefits and other cost items at the current staffing level for the ensuing year; and further to raise and appropriate the sum of Twelve thousand four hundred eighteen dollars (**\$12,418**), such sum representing the additional costs attributable to the increase in salaries, fringe benefits and other cost items in year one of the new agreement over those that would be paid at current staffing levels. Costs items for FY 2017 and FY 2018 will be presented to the voters for their approval in March 2017 and March 2018 in accordance with the terms of the collective bargaining agreement.*

The proposed funding of \$12,418 includes \$5,784 for step increases; \$7,071.46 for adjustments in shift differential; and a reduction of \$437.50 in the cost of providing life insurance versus merit pay, which is currently budgeted.

Mrs. Phillips made a motion to for the Board of Selectmen to recommend the warrant article requesting \$12,418 in funding for the collective bargaining agreement with the Auburn Police Union. Seconded by Mr. Eaton. A vote was taken, all Selectmen were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Other Business

Town Hall Parking Lot Lights:

Mr. Herman noted they have been experiencing problems with the parking lot lights at the Town Hall. They are regularly changing bulbs and/or ballasts, and now the sensors on four of the lights that are supposed to be one from dusk to dawn appear to be defective. He had asked Mr. Shaw of Auburn Electric for recommendations on how to make improvements that would be more effective. Mr. Shaw advised the Selectmen he has been looking at replacing the current light bulb & ballast unit with an LED fixture. He indicated the LED units are warrantied for two years and 50,000 hours. He also

noted the individual units only use 14 watts of power versus the 175 watts the current units require, so the Town would save money on the cost of electricity, in addition to having a more directed light onto the parking lot area.

Mr. Dion indicated he has just gone through a similar process at his Manchester business location, and he felt the LED lights were the way to go in terms of longer term cost savings.

Mr. Shaw indicated he has priced the LED units at approximately \$300 - \$350 per unit and that with labor to install, the Town was looking at approximately \$400 - \$500 per unit installed. Mr. Eaton asked how many lights do we have, and Mr. Herman indicated there were eight. Mr. Eaton asked about funding for the project, and Mr. Herman suggested the Board could utilize the Building Improvement Fund as there were not funds specifically budgeted for this type of work.

Mr. Shaw also noted the two front lights at the stairs which have been failing. He has verified the lights have power and the bulbs have not burned out, so he believed the sensors in those lights have to be replaced. He will look at the potential of replacement lights here as well should the sensors prove not to be the issue.

The Board members all expressed support for getting adequate lights in place as quickly as possible. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Dion also indicated they felt this was the right direction for the Town to move in.

Mrs. Phillips made a motion to authorize Auburn Electric to outfit the Town Hall parking lot lights with LED units and to repair the two front lights on the front steps. Seconded by Mr. Eaton. A vote was taken, all Selectmen were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Eaton asked about withdrawing the funds from the Building Fund, and Mr. Herman said we would have to schedule a public hearing as part of a future Board meeting to make that happen, but it would be good to indicate now the Board's intent to do so moving forward.

Mr. Eaton made a motion to schedule a public hearing for the Selectmen to fund the improvements for the parking lot lights and front stair lights from the Town Building Improvement Fund. Seconded by Mrs. Phillips. A vote was taken, all Selectmen were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Hills Road Speed Limit Sign:

Mrs. Phillips noted the Board had previously discussed a verbal request received to not post the 35 MPH speed limit sign on Hills Road, but had not made any particular decision. Mr. Dion noted the Police Department has operated the radar trailer on Hills Road, but he could not remember what the results were. Mr. Herman indicated they

had done that prior to the 35 MPH sign being posted, and he believed it showed that close to 85% of the traffic traveled at 35 MPH or less. The Selectmen and Police Commissioners both noted there was an overall Town ordinance establishing the speed limit at 35 MPH, in addition to an overriding state statute, so whether it was posted or not, it would be an enforceable speed limit. There was no objections expressed to taking the sign down.

Mrs. Phillips made a motion to request that the Road Agent remove the 35 MPH sign from Hills Road. Seconded by Mr. Eaton. A vote was taken, all Selectmen were in favor, the motion carried unanimously.

Adjourn

Mr. Eaton moved to adjourn; Mrs. Phillips seconded the motion. All were in favor, the motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 5:27 PM.