

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING
MARCH 12, 2013
6:00 PM**

PRESENT: Kevin Lyden, Elbert Burr, Robert Ross, Lewis Buckley (late arrival),
Robyn McKenney(late arrival)

CALL TO ORDER: K. Lyden called the meeting to order at 6:02 P.M.

1. AGENDA

A) Historic Documents Preservation Grant

M/S/C (Burr/Ross) to approve - Resolution “Resolved: That Kevin T. Lyden, First Selectman, is empowered to execute and deliver in the name and on behalf of this municipality a contract with the Connecticut State Library for an Historic Documents Preservation Grant.”

Vote: Approved unanimous.

(see attached)

B) Review Town Government Budget

Public Comment: None

Department 100 Selectman’s Budget: Memberships up slightly.

Department 105 Salaries: K. Lyden proposed a 2% increase for all salaries.

Len Giambra spoke on behalf of the library and a new position they want created for children’s programs. A handout was given to the Board of Selectman for review.

L. Buckley questioned the use of the library by residents of Salem compared to the use of library of Bozrah residents.

K. Lyden stated the operating budget does not reflect utilities; the library utilities are included with utilities budget line (Dept. 140).

K. Lyden stated when graphs are presented, the Board needs to know what they are comparing.

R. Ross stated the charts do not reflect the true population that uses the library and its services. He felt the charts should have reflected a population under 5,000 or the first chart should have included Bozrah. R. Ross questioned if there were grants available for children’s programs.

L. Buckley stated if temporary grants are available for certain needs; the grants would help offset the expense of the programs. He asked if adding the children’s librarian is a key part of program building or part of a larger puzzle.

E. Burr asked if there were any figures to present that had only school aged children for the two towns.

Len Giambra stated he thought resources from the school library could be used over the summer months.

K. Lyden stated to Len the school budget is being presented this Thursday night at the BOF meeting and that might be a good time to ask that question concerning the school library use. Facilities in town are looking for ways to share resources.

L. Buckley stated the library board needs to change the presentation and it should reflect exactly what the library board is looking for.

Elizabeth Reagan spoke on the benefit of the library and its service to the residents of Salem.

Department 126 Town Council – no increase.

Department 134 Town Office Operation – small increase due to cleaning supplies and copier expense.

Department 135 Insurance – increased.

Department 138 – increased.

Department 140 Utilities – increased.

Department 152 Town Services – increased due to cost of the Farmer’s Market. There is income from the lease of the field and the revenue from the Farmer’s Market.

Discussion took place on the availability of services for the Salem Seniors.

Department 157 Regional Services –no increase. Discussion took place concerning the East Lyme Youth Services.

Department 310 Public Works - no increase.

Department 410 Transfer Station - increased due to contract.

Department 640 Zoning Board of Appeals -approved by BOF.

Department 710 Municipal Insurance - decreased.

Department 810 -no increase.

Department 105 Salaries - Discussion took place on the increase for the First Selectman’s salary. Discussion took place on the position request from the library for a children’s librarian. The past 3 years the library has asked for an increase. R. Ross stated he felt the position would not be accepted by the BOF with the presentation that was given at this meeting. R. McKenney thought they should have started with a smaller amount of hours for the position. L. Buckley asked how he should go back to the library board and speak with them about the subject. K. Lyden stated with this position the increase is 2% to the library salaries. It was suggested to L. Buckley to inform the Library Board to revisit their proposed increase at the Town’s Public Hearing on the Budget.

A reminder was made by R. Ross to K. Lyden the Selectmen had been approved with a motion concerning the proposed salary for the First Selectman that needs to be put in the line item. K. Lyden stated he would put it in but he was going to decline the increase for himself.

Salaries have a 2% increase.

Discussion took place on the Town Planner position and salary. The salary will stay in with a 2% increase.

EMT and On-Call program is increased.

Summer help increased.

M/S/C (Ross/Burr) The Board of Selectmen endorses the Selectmen's 2013-2014 proposed budget as presented on March 12, 2013 in the amount of \$2,472,246 for Departments 100, 105, 126, 134, 135, 138, 140, 152, 157, 310, 410, 710 and 810.

Vote: approved unanimous.

Adjournment

M/S/C (Ross/Burr) to adjourn at 8:00 P.M.

Vote: Approved Unanimous

Respectfully Submitted

Diane Weston

Recording Secretary