

Selectmen Minutes Town of Newburgh

DATE: 5-15 -2017
Time 6:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

ROLL CALL: Renee O`Donald, Brian Carlisle, Stanley (Skip) Smith
 Cindy Grant

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Fire Chief Position – Glen Williamson: The selectman were presented with a letter from the Newburgh fire fighters. Selectman Renee O`Donald read aloud: “Institute Glen Williamson as active chief effective immediately and considered a permanent positon as Chief of Newburgh Fire Department. Glen Williamson has a right to take someone as a witness to any and all meetings with selectman and manager. (Renee: I don` t know if that is legal or not.) For an executive session liaison and go between Glen Williamson and the town manager Cindy Grant to ease any tension and act as a witness”. Selectman Renee O`Donald doesn` t agree with any of these points. But would like to talk to Glen Williamson. Scott Reglin said these three points are nonnegotiable. Glen Williamson was e-mailed the job description. The position is: The Chief works directly with the town manager. Glen Williamson said he puts more hours in than the three of you (selectman). And a lot of times I put more hours in than the town manager Cindy Grant does. Renee O`Donald will rephrase the question to: What is your commitment to the job description. Glen Williamson never had a problem with doing his job according to the job description. He had a problem with the town manager Cindy Grant with her managing job. Just as it` s written, the fire department Chief is an employee of the town. Typically as an employee you have a boss. Glen Williamson said the chain of command is not correct. EXAMPLE: Glen Williamson would have to speak with the town manager Cindy Grant first, before the selectman. Cindy should speak with Glen before the firefighters. Selectman Renee O`Donald wants to discuss the job. We are getting off track. There is no communication between Glen Williamson and the Town Manager Cindy Grant. Selectman Stanley Smith says there` s not much to add. The problem is between Glen Williamson and the town manager Cindy Grant. If this is going to be a problem continuously, one of them has to go. And it` s not going to be the town manager. Public ask why. How are we going to get rid of her? Selectman says why would we? Galen Hamilton, cause she doesn` t do anything now. Selectman Stanley Smith wants to move on. Selectman Brian Carlisle does not take well to ultimatums, doesn` t seem like it is a workable situation. There is an ordinance in place that we need to follow. Selectman Renee O`Donald says no to all three points on the letter from the fire fighters. At that point all the fire fighters walked out and quit. Legally you cannot have a liaison in an executive session. Selectman Renee O`Donald said “we have already contacted surrounding towns for mutual aid.” Surrounding towns are aware of the Newburgh Fire Department situation and are willing to help out when needed. Glen Williamson has been abusing the purchase policy, by summiting bills over \$500 without prior approval. The Town manager has asked for commercial inspection for our trucks for insurance purposes. Glen Williamson said the trucks are exempt they don` t need one. The town manager Cindy Grant went ahead and got the inspections.

2. Discuss Town Meeting items – Selectmen’s Letter, Warrant, Tabled Mil Rate, with changes and adjustments the mill rate is projected at 15.80. Administration break down is Town Office, Selectman, Planning Board, Code Assessor etc.
3. Cindy Debeck asked the selectman to address (?) Town and Fire recommendations at the next selectman meeting on June 5th 2017
4. Linda Hamilton has asked the Selectman to find someone to give out burn permits on Friday, Saturday and Sunday, as they are calling her house. Selectman Stanley Smith says to have them call him as he is assistant Warden to the Town Manager. Selectman Renee O’Donald says, “you can get them online” She would also like to dedicate someone to the Town report.
5. Renee makes motion to Recess until Thursday at 4 PM to address the warrants.3-0

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Per MRSA #1 section 405-6-a - Personnel matter

AJOURN: