

**TOWN OF OLD LYME
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Meeting Date: Monday 27 March 2023 - 3:00 PM

Location: Old Lyme Town Hall – Mezzanine Conference Room

Call to Order by First Selectman Tim Griswold at 3:04

1. Authorize the First Selectman to Execute the Design and Development of Construction Contract with A I Engineers:

Edie Twining told the Selectmen that the A I Engineers contract in the amount of \$148,500 is ready for signature. She said the Halls Road Committee is also applying for a Recreational Trails grant in the amount of \$28,000. Although this grant is not approved, the grant source could be helpful for the construction part of the Bow Bridge project. First Selectman Griswold said the Board of Finance approved an appropriation of \$19,500 which will augment the American Rescue Plan funding of \$135,500, so there will be a contingency amount of \$6,000.

Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion to authorize the First Selectman to sign the A I Engineers contract in the amount of \$148,500 and Selectman Ward seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion passed.

2. Discussion of Town of Old Lyme Budget and Recommendations to the Board of Finance:

First Selectman Griswold welcomed Michael McCarthy, Deputy Chief of the Old Lyme Fire Dept., and David Roberge, Emergency Management Director. First Selectman Griswold asked Mr. McCarthy if the Fire Department would agree to splitting the purchase of 40 new LED flashlights costing a total of \$8,000 over FY 2024 and FY 2025 at \$4,000 each? Mr. McCarthy said that would be fine.

First Selectman Griswold asked Mr. McCarthy if the Fire Department would agree to not replacing the Viking stove in the Cross La. Firehouse in FY 2024? Mr. McCarthy said that is fine, but he suggested speaking with the Ambulance Assoc. also.

First Selectman Griswold asked Mr. McCarthy if postponing the renovation of the “Chief’s Quarters” at the Cross Lane Firehouse at a cost of \$20,000 could be postponed to FY 2025? Mr. McCarthy said that is fine, but he again suggested speaking with the Ambulance Assoc.

First Selectman Griswold asked Mr. McCarthy to comment on the replacement of three electric panels in the Cross La. firehouse: one panel to power the turnout gear washer dryer set at a cost of \$10,000 and two larger panels that power the building and Cross Lane Park. Mr. McCarthy said Michael Swaney, electrician, supplied the estimates. Mr. McCarthy also said the two large panels are very obsolete and must be replaced.

Selectman Ward made a motion to recommend to the Board of Finance that the turnout gear washer dryer panel be replaced this fiscal year at a cost not to exceed \$10,000 and that one or two additional quotes be obtained. There being no discussion, the motion passed.

Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion that the Board of Finance approve an amount not to exceed \$45,000 to replace the two large electric panels in the Cross Lane Firehouse during FY 2024 and that two additional quotes be obtained for this work. Motion passed.

Mr. Roberge reviewed a spreadsheet he prepared concerning the purchase of portable and mobile radios for emergency personnel and four control stations for the P 25 Radio System, using Millstone funding and Town funding. The original five-year purchase plan involved using \$60,000 per year of Millstone money and \$60,000 per year of Town funding. However, Mr. Roberge was advised by Mike Caplet, our Regional Coordinator for DEMHS, that Millstone is open to the concept of funding \$224,336 in FY 2024, so Mr. Roberge will prepare a spreadsheet showing this payment plan.

Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion that Mr. Roberge prepare two spreadsheets: one showing the five-year purchase program with Millstone contributing \$60,000 per year and the Town of Old Lyme contributing \$60,000 per year and another showing Millstone contributing \$25,000 in FY 2023 and \$224,336 in FY 2024, and the Town of Old Lyme contributing \$60,000 in each of the five years.. This plan should also show the \$224,336 in revenue for FY 2024. There being no further discussion, the motion passed.

Mr. Roberge then discussed the possible addition to the Boughton Road Firehouse to accommodate a 1,430 square foot addition that would serve as the Town's Emergency Operations Center and as meeting space for the Fire Department. He said Senator Murphy's office has advised him that a \$708,750 Federal grant has been tentatively approved and that it requires a 25% Town match (\$236,250). Mr. Roberge has secured a preliminary cost estimate of \$800,000 to construct the addition and he estimates furniture, fixtures and equipment will cost \$120,000 and that architectural and design work will cost \$100,000, for a total cost of \$1,020,000.

Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion to recommend the Board of Finance adds \$100,000 to the FY 2024 Capital Budget to fund engineering and design work for the addition and Selectman Ward seconded the motion. The question arose whether the grant would reimburse 75% of what is spent on engineering and design but, because there is no answer at this time, it was recommended there be no grant income assumption. Motion passed.

MS. Jeri Baker spoke to the Board about the Senior Center Expansion budget, as revised by Point One Architects. The March estimate is \$5,544,541, including \$388,560 for the fire suppressant system. If a portion of the fire suppressant system were deleted, she said there would be a \$145,000 cost reduction. Also, the two towns have already paid architectural fees of \$281,000, so that will lower the overall cost, as well. The Towns will need to decide how and when to schedule their Senior Center Expansion budget votes. Hopefully, there will be one or more grants that will reduce the overall cost of the project.

Based on the spreadsheet provided, Selectman Ward made a motion to recommend to the Board of Finance the consideration of \$5,263,541 to fund the Lymes Senior Center expansion project and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion. After discussion, Selectwoman Shoemaker made a motion and Selectman Ward seconded the motion to modify the motion to include the phrase "pending the approval of the Senior Center Building Committee". Motion passed. Selectman Ward made a

motion to approve the original motion, as amended, and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion. Motion passed.

After discussion, Selectman Ward made a motion to recommend the Board of Finance that the capital request from the Florence Griswold Museum be as follows: No funding in FY 2024 and that the Town will review the request as part of the budget preparation for FY 2025.

After discussion, First Selectman Griswold made a motion to recommend the Board of Finance funds the following Police capital items and Selectman Wars seconded the motion:

Selectwoman Shoemaker expressed reservations about the purchase of the rifles and Selectman Ward stated the rifles would only be used if approved by supervisory State Police at Troop F. He said most all neighboring municipal departments and the State Police have been issued rifles to protect the public and to protect our police officials Motion passed unanimously.

It was noted that under Transfers Out, the Bus Barn is budgeted at \$37,000 (an increase of \$35,000). The balance in the Bus Barn account is \$10,136 and First Selectman Griswold said this increase is requested to make current improvements to the facility and to build up the account balance for future, more costly improvements.

3. Adjournment:

Selectman Ward made a motion and Selectwoman Shoemaker seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:34 p.m. The motion was approved.

Timothy Griswold

Recording Secretary