

BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
EXECUTIVE SESSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
*Thursday, January 18, 2018*  
*Groveland Town Hall*  
*183 Main St, Groveland, MA 01834*

Present: Chair Mike Wood, Vice Chair Lisa Dube-Carpenter, Selectmen Bill Dunn, Ed Watson, and Bill O'Neil

Also Present: Finance Director, Denise Dembkoski, Attorney Brian Maser from KP Law

Chairman Wood called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Selectwoman Carpenter made a motion to roll call into Executive Session, in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, s. 21 (a)(2), for the purpose of conducting a strategy session in preparation for negotiating with non-union personnel (Fire Chief);

Selectman O'Neil seconded and the Board approved the motion on a roll call vote. Dunn – Yes, Dube-Carpenter – Yes, Watson – Yes, O'Neil – Yes, Wood – Yes

Attorney Maser gave the board some advice on their upcoming meeting with the Fire Chief and presented some negotiation strategies as it relates to the executive session.

The Chair asked if the town could offer a settlement to the Chief with regards to the health insurance overpayment. Attorney Maser affirmed that the Board could vote to extend an offer to waive the \$24,952.31 in exchange for the Chief's resignation. In addition, he would propose a mutual agreement with neutral reference language and a non-disparaging clause.

Selectman O'Neil made a motion to offer a settlement to Robert Lay that the town would waive the \$24,952.31 if the Chief resigned under a mutual agreement with a neutral reference language and a non-disparaging clause. Selectman Watson seconded the motion. Chairman Wood called for a roll call on the vote. Dunn – Yes, Dube-Carpenter – Yes, Watson – Yes, O'Neil – Yes, Wood – Yes

Attorney Maser took the settlement offer to Chief Lay.

Attorney Maser returned and informed the Board that the Chief declined the offer and provided a counter offer for settlement amount of \$95,000.

Selectman Dunn made a motion to reject the counter offer and stand firm in the Board's motion to offer a settlement to Robert Lay that the town would waive the \$24,952.31 if the Chief resigned under a mutual agreement with a neutral reference language and a non-disparaging clause. Seconded by Selectwoman Carpenter. Chairman Wood called for a roll call on the vote. Dunn – Yes, Dube-Carpenter – Yes, Watson – Yes, O'Neil – Yes, Wood – Yes

Attorney Maser again took the offer to the Chief. He returned and said the Chief would think about it and would let the Board know or he will proceed with the scheduled Executive Session.

Not hearing from the Chief, Selectman O'Neil made a motion to adjourn the first Executive Session. Seconded by Selectman Dunn. Affirmative by all on a roll call vote.

Respectfully Submitted by: Denise M. Dembkoski

\*\*\* Unanimously Approved on February 20, 2018 \*\*\*