

## Arrowsic Selectmen's Meeting

April 11, 2016

Present: Sukey Heard, Bill Savedoff, Michele Gaillard, Mary McDonald, Chris Cummings  
Roger Heard, Jeff Miller

AFD Long Range Planning Committee: Malcolm Persen, Art Dresser, Jeremy Blaiklock, Michael Kreindler, Jack Witham, Karen Mignone, Jim Flannery

### **Treasurer's Report and Warrant:**

Warrant #19 (\$48,289.24) was reviewed, approved, and signed.

### **Minutes:**

Minutes for 3/14/16 were approved as amended. Minutes for 3/28/16 were approved.

### **Arrowsic Long Range Plan Committee Presentation:**

The ad hoc Committee, which was formed following last year's town meeting, had a mandate from the Selectmen to recommend a plan for the Arrowsic Fire Department with regards to equipment needs, staffing and volunteer requirements, and estimated resources needed including budgetary.

The committee's presentation started with a review of their process including extensive data collection from varied sources, interviews with area fire chiefs, and a survey of Arrowsic residents. From that the committee synthesized their knowledge and developed a mission statement that quantified the scope and services of a proposed department that would meet the needs of the community for the future. Their envisioned department continues to be primarily volunteer-based, and provides first response services to Arrowsic and mutual aid to neighboring communities. Based on their understanding of the proposed department, they then considered a range of options, especially in terms of capital expenditures for major equipment and related cost estimates. Their recommended equipment option was to continue as a three truck department, replacing the mini pumper with an equivalent truck in 2 years, replacing the brush truck in 5 years, and replacing the tanker in 15 years. This recommendation requires immediate increased contributions to the AFD Capital Fund in order to have sufficient money on hand to purchase the trucks without financing. Other recommendations included increased oversight and/or assistance to facilitate personnel management, record keeping and property/equipment maintenance, and providing leadership with an increased focus on volunteer recruitment and community support. The presentation was followed by Q & A and discussion. Fire Chief Chris Cummings provided insight based on his experience on the Bath FD and as chief in Arrowsic. He felt that the brush truck has more life in it and will not need to be replaced for another 10 years instead of 5. His cost estimate for a mini pumper is much higher, in the \$250,000-\$275,000 range, which he estimates is increasing by \$15,000 each year. He said that another relevant cost that should be included is the cost to outfit the truck which is normally an additional 10%.

It appeared that Chris was generally opposed to the recommendation of the committee that the scope of AFD services should be commensurate with the size of the Town. He advocated that even as a small department, AFD needs to meet professional firefighting standards and specifications, like NFPA, and should not place limits on what services the department can provide, like entry-qualified personnel.

The Selectmen thanked the Committee for their hard work and excellent presentation and discussed next steps for communicating their recommendations and presenting a warrant article for town vote.

**Planning for Town Meeting:**

The Selectmen scheduled two work sessions, on April 18 at 6:00 pm to discuss Long Range Planning Committee recommendations and determine wording for warrant article, and April 30 at 4:00 pm to write the warrant.

**Arrowsic.org Email Address:**

The email protocols cannot be finalized until Michele successfully integrates her Arrowsic address with her Bowdoin address. The Selectmen discussed whether the archive was redundant and will check in with webmaster, Paul Kalkstein.

**Property Revaluation RFP:**

Sukey received very extensive and informative revaluation documentation from Mike Young, the town administrator from Phippsburg, that will be helpful as we put together the RFP for our project. The Selectmen discussed the warrant article for the completion of the fund and the timing of the RFP and implementation of the work. Revaluations are generally very sensitive projects and the Selectmen want to make the process as transparent as possible.

**Broadband Warrant Article:**

The Selectmen discussed the previous request from the Arrowsic-Georgetown Broadband Committee (A-GBC) to have a warrant article that will indicate support and allow discussion of the issues at the Town Meeting.

**Arrow Subsidy:**

The Selectmen discussed an email sent by Nancy Brown Stump on behalf of the group that has taken over the Arrow. Their request was to be included for funding on the warrant with other non-profit organization donations but our policy is that those organizations must be certified 501c3's. The Selectmen decided to include a separate warrant article this year to provide funds in support of copying, postage, etc. but schedule a meeting in the new fiscal year to discuss the model going forward.

**Old Business:**

Sukey related her meeting with Georgetown Animal Control Officer, Sarah Mancini, who has expressed an interest in replacing Jeremy Blaiklock who is retiring this year. Sarah is experienced, well trained, and importantly, right next door!

The Selectmen had solicited an opinion from the Roads Committee on whether they have any concerns or issues regarding putting the sand lot up for sale. Jim Stump indicated that they do not.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Gaillard