

The BOS mentioned COLA increases for town employees. It was suggested that the COLAs could be 1%, 1.5% (the Social Security increase), or 1.7%, which is the amount the FRCOG is granting. They also noted that the Town Coordinator and the Tax Collector are getting paid below grade.

Upcoming Selectboard agendas include meeting with MTRSD Supt. Michael Buoniconti on April 21 and Tax Collector Elizabeth Nichols on April 28.

A motion to adjourn was made by Jeff and seconded by Jan. The vote was unanimous.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Gloria Fisher with assistance from Jan Carr

Minutes of the Meeting of the Heath Finance Committee
April 14, 2015

Time: 7:02

Place: Assessors' Office, Sawyer Hall

Present: Jan Carr, Gloria Fisher, and Chair Don Freeman, and at 7:20 Kara Leistyna, Sheila Litchfield, Brian De Vriese and Select Board meeting attendees

Absent: Ned Wolf, Jeff Simmons

Copies of the following documents were given to members:

- ATM Draft Warrant
- Compactor Project Costs Spreadsheet
- FY 16 Budget Spreadsheet

Members read the minutes of the March 31 meeting. Jan made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Gloria seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7:07 Dave Howland entered the meeting to discuss the WiredWest budget and warrant article.

At 7:20 members adjourned to join the Selectboard meeting in progress to continue the discussion about WiredWest. Bob Vingo shared what he had learned at the WiredWest meeting on April 11. The business plan has been delayed again. Heath town resident Heather Rowe has agreed to review the business plan. Although the WiredWest plan is favored, it was noted that there is not enough information available to make an informed decision about the business model. A capital plan has been devised and those present discussed the bond issue and the fact that Heath may have to pay \$35,000.00 for a bond counsel. As of April 11, the cost for WiredWest is approximately \$109 million. The Selectboard discussed the possibility of postponing the vote on WiredWest to a Special Town Meeting.

7:30 Jeff Simmons entered the meeting.

The Selectboard opened the discussion of the Municipal Safety Complex. Attendees Kathy Inman, Gary Singley, and Heidi Griswold asked a number of questions and expressed their concerns about the cost. Don estimated that the combined cost of WiredWest and the safety complex could add \$2/1,000 to the tax rate. The first payment for the safety complex would be in FY17 and for the WiredWest project loan payments would start to be due in year 3 or 4. It was noted that the town had been saving money in three different stabilization funds, which could help with needed purchases in the future. Don Freeman noted that both these large projects are needs, not wants. Jeff Simmons suggested that a Long-Range Capital Needs Committee be formed.