

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, March 9, 2015

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Robert Freeman, and Franklin Riley, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 3/2/2015. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Workshop held on 3/2/2015. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Accounts Payable Voucher was submitted for the week ending 2/28/2015 in the amount of \$68,617.39. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the voucher. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 3/7/2015 in the amount of \$37,364.89. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the voucher. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a request from the Library Trustees requesting that \$2,091.52 be moved from the part-time wage line of their budget to the Library Expenses line to cover additional fuel and electrical expenses incurred. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from the Estate of Wendell S. Thompson requesting a reduction in the tax due from a timber cut completed on the property located on Map 112, Lot 1. The Assessor recommends denying the request due to the non-response from multiple requests for the mill slips to support the reduced stumpage values. Morgan made a motion to deny the request. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the week ending 3/7/2015.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received requesting use of the gym on 4/12/2015 for Dick's Fundraiser. The schedule was verified by Peter Waugh, Recreation Director, and the applicable deposit has been received. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan read a letter addressed to Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, from the NH DOT regarding the Road Safety Audit for the Intersections of Routes 28 and 171. The letter states that engineering has not started and the project likely will not occur due to the lack of federal funding.

A letter addressed to property owners who have open Intents to Cut reminding them to close out their Reports of Cut within 60-days of completion or by 5/15/2015 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the letter. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A letter addressed to the NH DOT in response to their proposed street light discontinuance was presented for signatures. The letter requests that 20 of the existing 41 lights remain lit at various intersections along Route 16. Morgan made a motion to sign the letter. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan announced that Harriman, Police Chief Eldridge and Lieutenant Duchesne will be attending a meeting in Portsmouth on Friday, 3/13/2015 to discuss the proposed street light discontinuance. Freeman stated that the Fire Chiefs are willing to attend as well.

Morgan read an email received from Assessor Todd Haywood regarding amendments being made to House Bill 547 which will impact the depreciation and valuation of telecommunication poles and conduits. Morgan made a motion to send a letter to State Representatives voicing concern for the proposed legislation stating that a determination of value is already pending in a court appeal by Fairpoint Communications. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Raffle Permit Application was received for Dick's Fundraiser to be held on 4/12/2015. Morgan made a motion to grant the request. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Cal Ripken Baseball requesting use of the gym March through May for baseball practice using only tennis balls or wiffle balls. The schedule was verified by Peter Waugh, Recreation Director, and the applicable deposit has been received. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan asked Chester "Ski" Kwiatkowski if there was any interest from Planning Board members to serve as Ossipee's Representative to the Lakes Region Planning Commission. "Ski" answered that the Planning Board meeting is scheduled for next Tuesday and he will ask.

A memo addressed to all Department Heads, Board Chairmen and Committee Chairmen requesting that all correspondence for the Board of Selectmen be directed to the attention of the Town Administrator starting 3/10/2015, was presented for signatures. Morgan stated this request to be in an effort to streamline the Selectmen's agenda and maintain communication between all departments, the Town Administrator and Selectmen. Morgan made a motion to sign the memo. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Programming updates were received from Time Warner Cable.

Old Business:

Whittier Covered Bridge – Harriman reported that he has been corresponding with Stan Graton from 3G Construction, Hoyle, Tanner & Associates and the NH DOT regarding the change order that was submitted in January for the additional deterioration found. Harriman stated that the NH DOT is waiting on financing approval to fund the change order for the 80/20 match. Harriman questioned if he should authorize the work or wait for the funding approval. Morgan stated that as long as it does not hold up progress on the Bridge, we should wait to proceed until the funding is approved. A progress meeting at the Bridge is scheduled for 3/19/2015. Riley confirmed his attendance.

Public Input:

"Ski" questioned if the Payroll Voucher total included payroll for the Water & Sewer Department. Morgan confirmed stating that even though the payroll expenses are reimbursed, the Board has to approve the expenditure as a batch total. Morgan added that the reimbursement comes in as revenue to offset the expense.

State Representative Ed Comeau spoke on the details of House Bill 547 and informed the Board that it is scheduled to be heard this Wednesday. Comeau agrees that there has not been enough time to review the impact of the amendments proposed to the Bill. State Representative Lino Avellani was also present and agreed to start discussion in opposition to the amendments. Morgan expressed further concern on the impact for the valuation of utility poles owned by Eversource (formerly PSNH) and NH Electric Co-Op.

Morgan announced that Elections are Tuesday, 3/10/2015 and Town Meeting is Wednesday, 3/11/2015 at 6:30 PM and encouraged all to attend. Morgan spoke briefly on the amendments to the Zoning Ordinance which will help bring business into the Town and attract commercial development. Morgan added that the overall budget proposed, if passed, is \$105,000 less raised by taxation than last year.

Riley announced that an error made in the newspaper reflects that the polls open at 8:00 AM when they actually do not open until 10:00 AM.

Being no further input, Morgan made a motion to adjourn. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

Robert C. Freeman

Franklin R. Riley

To be approved 3/16/2015