

**Selectmen's Meeting**  
**Monday, September 25, 2017**

These minutes were recorded by Ellen White, Town Administrator.

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.

Morgan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance by Roll Call:**

Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, and Robert Freeman. Selectman Sandra Martin was absent due to a work commitment.

**Public Input:**

Carol Lyons introduced her and her mother as long-term taxpayers and questioned why the donated parcel of land for a Town Beach was not accepted or presented as an offer to the other Selectmen. Morgan responded that he was appointed by the other Selectmen to be the liaison to work on the beach purchase of which negotiations began in the spring. The donated parcel was offered after the agreement was already in place to purchase the campground and beach parcels. He added that the proposed donated parcel was only a 90' section and would not allow for parking due to wetlands issues. Lyons questioned a threat of litigation that was presented if the Sheehans did not sign the purchase and sales agreement. Morgan responded that an agreement had already been made and he requested that they honor that. Lyons asked when Selectman Freeman learned of the donated parcel. Freeman responded that he heard about it during the site visit that took place on 9/13/2017. Morgan questioned if Lyons is a year-round resident. She responded that she is a resident of Ossipee from April-October. Morgan asked if she agrees that other Ossipee taxpayers should have access to the lake. Lyons responded that they have Duncan Lake and can also swim at Dan Hole Pond. Morgan responded that the Town does not have a beach on Dan Hole Pond. He then added that this may be the last opportunity without having to go into a neighborhood, tear down two or three homes to create a beach.

Further discussion took place on the impact on the tax rate and the budget. Morgan estimated that it will cost the taxpayers approximately \$0.11/thousand for the purchase. He also added that the Town's surplus is a healthy \$1.147 million and there is no long-term debt. Lyons contested that people are already struggling to pay their property taxes and the Town can't afford to provide sidewalks in Town. Condict Billings, Trustee of Trust Funds, stated that there is a Capital Reserve Fund for the sidewalks. Morgan added that the Town has been trying for several years but has been unable to get the appropriate approvals from the State since Main Street is a State highway.

Dennis Legendre commented that he is a lifelong resident and the Town made its biggest mistake by not purchasing the beach on Hodsdon Shore Road decades ago. He stated that he thinks it is a great investment for the Town.

Morgan further discussed the beach area where it is proposed to remove the 15 campsites to allow for adequate parking. Additional discussion took place on the revenue generated from the campground, boat slips and moorings.

Lyons questioned if it is a conflict of interest where one of the Selectmen works at Wards Boat Shop and the presumption is that a boat launch would be made available for new boat testing. Morgan clarified that he is

merely a salesperson at Wards and there is no pecuniary benefit or conflict. Legendre added that boats do not have to be in the water to be tested.

**Meeting Minutes:**

Morgan made a motion to accept the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 9/18/2017. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to accept the minutes from the Selectmen's Work Session held on 9/18/2017. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The minutes from the Ossipee Economic Development Committee Meeting held on 9/18/2017 were submitted for review.

**Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:**

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 9/23/2017 in the amount of \$41,330.84. The Accounts Payable Voucher total for the week ending 9/16/2017 was in the amount of \$99,714.01. The Water & Sewer Accounts Payable Voucher total for the week ending 9/16/2017 was in the amount of \$5,658.86. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the check vouchers. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan commented that the Board reviews each invoice after it has been through the appropriate Department Heads and then the Finance Office.

**Review of Red Folder:**

An Intent to Cut Timber was received from Ossipee Aggregates for the property located on Map 279, Lot 20. The intent is to cut 12 acres of the 15 acre parcel and the logger listed is Greenleaf Products, Inc. The taxes are paid and there is no cemetery noted. Morgan made motion to approve the intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Cut Timber was received from Ossipee Aggregates for the property located on Map 259, Lot 19. The intent is to cut 30 acres of the 49 acre parcel and the logger listed is Greenleaf Products, Inc. The taxes are paid and there is no cemetery noted. Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Cut Timber was received from Ossipee Aggregates for the properties located on Map 274, Lots 9 & 12, and Map 266, Lot 7. The intent is to cut 100 acres from the combined total of 1,475 acres and the logger listed is Greenleaf Products, Inc. The taxes are paid and there is no cemetery noted. Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received Notice of Decisions from the Zoning Board of Adjustment acknowledging the following:

- Case #17-6-Variance – Denied
- Case #17-8-Variance – Granted
- Case #17-7-Variance – Granted

The Highway Department Work Logs were received for the weeks ending 9/16/2017 and 9/23/2017.

The Board received a memo from Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, reviewing a request from Heckman's Flooring to tear up the existing tile and underlayment on the gym floor in order to properly warranty the new floor. The additional cost to do so is estimated at \$3,750 and will include the installation of new ½" plywood. Discussion took place on what lies beneath the existing floor but it was ultimately agreed that the price is worthwhile. Morgan made a motion to authorize the additional \$3,750. Freeman seconded.

A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan requested the work begin as soon as possible to not delay the upcoming Town Meeting.

The Board received an update from the Lakes Region Planning Commission on the regional electricity purchasing cooperative including an updated timeline.

The Board received a letter from the Ossipee Lake Alliance requesting consideration of a weekend public hearing to allow non-resident Ossipee taxpayers the ability to provide their input on the Town Beach purchase. Morgan stated that he is unsure when the public hearings will be held but everyone will be allowed the opportunity to speak on the matter. Morgan is hopeful that if Ossipee Lake Alliance truly is in support of promoting recreational opportunities, they will support this venture.

The Board received an invitation to attend the Greater Ossipee Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting & Dinner Presentation of the Business Person of the Year to be held on 10/18/2017 from 5:00-9:00 PM. No attendance was confirmed.

The Board received programming updates from Charter Communications.

The Board received the Road Safety Audit Application information that was forwarded by Commissioner Bob Gillette. Morgan stated that Gillette's request is to use this opportunity to flag the intersection of Routes 28 & 171 but this has already been completed.

Wetlands Permit Applications were submitted for review for the properties located at 70 Deer Cove Road and 44 Danville Road.

The Petition for Special Town Meeting to allow the voters to decide whether to purchase property on Ossipee Lake to be used as a Town Beach was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the petition. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

#### **Water & Sewer Red Folder:**

A Request for the Reimbursement of Payroll Expenses in the amount of \$3,484.02 for the week ending 9/23/2017 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the request. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Water & Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$40.00 for September Service Charges was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

#### **Old Business:**

Intersection of Routes 28 & 171 – NH DOT Improvements – Nothing new to report.

Morse Pit Reclamation – Planning Board Request of 8/7/17 – Morgan stated this matter has been turned back to the Town Attorney to seek remedy to fully reclaim as the court ordered.

Whittier Covered Bridge – Harriman reported that they received the abutter acknowledgement they were waiting for and the request for bids will be going out this winter. The project is moving along but at a slow pace.

Harriman reported that the water line replacement at Ossipee Mountain Road is in progress; the water line under the pond is complete and the temporary hookups are being done today.

Harriman reported the directional drilling under Route 16 is scheduled for 10/10/2017 to repair the leak detected.

Harriman also reported the meter replacement will begin tomorrow starting with the larger lines first.

Harriman stated he is in receipt of the report from Eastern Pipe on the sewer line video camera work which is very detailed and informative.

The Free Fall Cleanup Day is on schedule for Saturday, 10/7/2017.

**New Business:**

Nothing new to report.

This concluded the business portion of the meeting and Morgan re-opened the meeting to Public Input.

**Public Input #2:**

Dallas Emery questioned where the funds for the water system improvements are coming from. Morgan responded that there are two funds for the repair of the water and sewer system that will be utilized in addition to money available in the operating budget. Morgan noted that the meter system replacement is being done in increments. Morgan commented that there is no intention to raise the rates at this time.

Ed Comeau, State Representative, reported on the County Delegation Meeting held earlier in the day. The audit will take place in the next few weeks along with a study on the elderly population in an effort to prepare for future costs. Department of Labor violations have been reduced lessening the original fine of \$48,000 significantly. The budget is moving forward in a positive direction. The video of this meeting is available to view on [governmentoversite.com](http://governmentoversite.com).

Morgan stated that he learned that the County paid \$40,000-50,000 in mitigation fees to the State when they built the new Nursing Home which seems preposterous considering it was erected in the middle of a field.

Morgan noted the decrease in the Town tax rate over the past several years:

2014 \$6.63

2015 \$6.33

2016 \$6.29

Although the tax rate has to be set, he estimates preliminary calculations to be around \$6.13.

Morgan stated that the Board of Selectmen have secured the opportunity for a Town Beach on Ossipee Lake and it is up to the voters to decide if they want it.

**Non-Public Session:**

Not applicable.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, October 2, 2017 at 4:15 PM.

**Adjournment:**

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

Adjourned at 5:06 PM.

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Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

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Robert C. Freeman

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ABSENT  
Sandra P. Martin

To be approved 10/2/2017