

**Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, March 5, 2018**

These minutes were recorded by Ellen White, Town Administrator. The meeting was held in the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium at Town Hall.

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, Robert Freeman, and Sandra Martin.

Public Input:

Ash Fischbein asked for clarification on the Selectmen's pay. Morgan responded that they make \$5,000 per year and the Chairman receives an additional \$200.00 per year.

Meeting Minutes:

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 2/26/2018. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Work Session held on 2/26/2018. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan stated that the draft minutes from the Public Hearing on Keno held on 2/26/2018 are available for review in the Selectmen's Office.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:

The Payroll and Benefits Voucher was submitted for the week ending 3/3/2018 in the amount of \$145,675.93. The Accounts Payable Voucher was submitted for the week ending 2/24/2018 in the amount of \$48,685.61. The Water & Sewer Accounts Payable Voucher submitted for the week ending 2/24/2018 was in the amount of \$9,440.32. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the check vouchers. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan stated that the Board reviews each invoice before it is approved in the weekly manifest totals.

Review of Red Folder:

The Board received a memo from Todd Haywood, Assessor, regarding the exemption request received from the Agape Community Church. Haywood explains that the organization does not qualify under the religious or charitable exemption and their request for exemption should be denied. Morgan stated that the Board has recommended to abate the tax for the portion of the building being used as a food pantry and chapel and will continue to do so with an appropriate request for abatement filed. White stated that the filing deadline was March 1 and she was unsure whether a request had been filed.

The contract with White Mountain Survey for the sidewalk design was presented for signatures. Morgan stated the cost for the design is estimated to be \$6,500 and normally would go out to bid, but since White Mountain Survey has done the vast majority of the work on this project already, it only makes sense to proceed with having them complete the work needed. Morgan made a motion to sign the contract. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Excavation Tax Warrant in the amount of \$54.00 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Outdoor Event Application was received from Mother Earth's Creations, LLC for their Native American Powwow being held in July, August, and September. Morgan made a motion to forward the request onto the various departments for their recommendation. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Excavate was received from Downey Shea for the property located on Map 243, Lot 2. The intent is to excavate 10,000 cubic yards of earth and the taxes are paid. Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Cut Timber was received from Joseph and Jacob Missaghi for the properties located on Map 110, Lots 34, 35, and 36, and Map 101, Lot 7. The intent is to cut 6 acres from the combined total of 7.2 acres and the logger listed is Richard Buswell. The taxes are paid and there is no cemetery noted. Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from the Ossipee Aquifer Advisory Committee requesting use of the Freight House for a community meeting on 3/29/2018 from 7:00-8:30 PM. The schedule has been verified by Craig Brady, Recreation Director. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Jessi O'Blenes requesting use of the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium on 4/21/2018 for a birthday party. The schedule has been verified by Craig Brady, Recreation Director. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan discussed the use of the gym by a non-resident to hold dog training classes and scheduling conflicts that have become more frequent. Morgan made a motion to no longer allow the for-profit business to use the facility. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. White was asked to send a letter to notify the business of the decision.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Michelle Rouleau for the property located on Map 73, Lot 21. The Assessor recommends a pro-rated reduction in assessment of \$66,044 resulting in a refund/abatement of \$1,371.00 due to the building being demolished by a fire. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from the Ossipee Bluffs Association Inc. for the property located on Map 52, Lot 13. The Assessor recommends a reduction in assessment of \$3,500 resulting in a refund/abatement of \$75.00 due to a generator feature that has been assessed to each association member. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Roy Barron for the property located on Map 254, Lot 39. The Assessor recommends a reduction in assessment of \$164,000 resulting in a refund/abatement of \$3,567.00 due to corrections made to the estimated finish; there is only a capped foundation presently. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Application for Veteran's Credit was presented for review. The Assessor has determined that the applicant meets all requirements for the credit and recommends its approval. Morgan made a motion to grant the credit. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a memo from Contract Assessor Todd Haywood reviewing the results from the Equalization Study completed by the Department of Revenue Administrator. Haywood notes that although the weighted mean and median ratio are well within the guidelines, the coefficient of dispersion is very close to the limit established and the price related differential is outside the range. Haywood recommends the Board consider completing a Town-wide revaluation in 2019 to bring the assessments into closer uniformity. Morgan requested that White set up a meeting with Haywood to discuss this further. Morgan stated that the Town raises \$25,000 each year to put in the Revaluation Capital Reserve Fund and questioned how the process will be affected by doing the revaluation one year sooner than planned.

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the week ending 3/3/2018.

The Recycling Center Daily Cash Log was received for the month of February. The total collected was in the amount of \$3,276.15.

The Board received a copy of a wetlands permit application from the State of NH DOT for the work being completed on the bridges along Route 16.

Water & Sewer Red Folder:

A Payroll Reimbursement Request for the week ending 3/3/2018 in the amount of \$3,159.79 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Water & Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$1,650.00 for septic hauler fees was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Water & Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$177.80 for service charges was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Water & Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$100.00 for service charge fees was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Kevin and Dorothy Nicolazzo for the property located on Map 96, Lot 22. The request in the amount of \$58.90 is due to an unusual overage of water usage. Wayne "Bo" Eldridge, Water & Sewer Supervisor, stated that he has checked the meter reading and it appears accurate and there is also no other sign of problem or leak detection. Morgan stated that unless it is proven to be at the fault of the supplier, no abatement should be granted. Morgan made a motion to deny the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Old Business:

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

Sidewalks – Morgan stated that the contract with White Mountain Survey was signed earlier in the meeting. He questioned which properties will be affected and require a written easement. Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, responded that he will begin working on that process but he estimates only two properties from the Town Hall to the Library.

Whittier Covered Bridge – Harriman reported that he will be attending a meeting with Hoyle, Tanner & Associates and the abutters on Tuesday at 10:00 AM regarding the required easements and river work to be completed. Discussion took place on potential parking areas on Nudd Road and Whittier Covered Bridge Road. Morgan noted the location to be a hotspot for kayak and canoe access in the past and also is a great fishing spot, so sufficient parking should be made available.

NH DOT – Rumble Strips on Route 16 – White reported that she was in contact with Ronald Grandmaisson from NH DOT and the rumble strips are on schedule for this spring/summer to be reinstalled on Route 16. NH DOT just put the contract out to bid and will be awarding the work shortly.

New Business:

None presented.

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

Public Input #2:

Ash Fischbein questioned if there is a location for the public to view the plans for the Whittier Covered Bridge. Harriman responded that there is a copy available in the Public Works Department and the final design for the final phase will be available soon.

Fischbein questioned if the size of the Town's right-of-way is the same on both Nudd Road and Covered Bridge Road. Harriman responded that he assumes it is as it was originally a State road. Fischbein stated his support in allowing sufficient parking to access the bridge and as an abutter, welcomed a future conversation for allowing additional access for parking.

Dan Fischbein stated that a member of the Tamworth Planning Board reported that the Whittier Covered Bridge will be reopened as one-way access. Morgan stated that it is a Town road and that determination has not been made. He then discussed intersection improvements that are proposed for the Route 16 & 41 intersection and the impact that will have on the traffic flow.

White reported that the Town Reports will be available on Tuesday at 3:00 PM.

Morgan reviewed the upcoming meetings/events including: Candidate's Night, tonight at 6:30 PM in the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium at Town Hall, Town Elections, Tuesday, 3/13/2018 from 10:00 AM-7:00 PM, and Town Meeting, Wednesday, 3/14/2018 at 6:30 PM.

Non-Public Session:

Not applicable.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, March 12, 2018 at 4:15 PM.

Adjournment:

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

Adjourned at 4:50 PM.

Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

Robert C. Freeman

Sandra P. Martin

To be approved 3/12/2018