

**Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, May 21, 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 4:16 PM.

Morgan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance by Roll Call:**

Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Sandra Martin, and Martha Eldridge.

**Public Input:**

John Laganas discussed an issue he had with the ambulance service provider stating they were not able to administer a pain medication that was needed in order to transport him to the hospital. A paramedic was called several times but was not available, and instead he had to be transported to Huggins Hospital as the closest hospital that could offer him relief. Morgan explained that the Town entered into a multi-year contract along with several other towns, and the ambulance service chosen provides advanced level EMT coverage because the cost to have a paramedic level for 24/7 coverage was not feasible. Further discussion ensued. Laganas recommended that the Selectmen advertise the level of coverage that the Town ambulance service provides in the newspaper because there are many like him who were not aware that they may not be able to receive the level of care needed.

Marie McConarty discussed her concern for the removal of the fees at the Transfer Station because it would open up the opportunity for several businesses to discard items such as excessive amounts of cardboard, furniture and tires at no charge, yet the Town would have to pick up the additional cost to dispose of them. Morgan stated that they are still in the process of determining whether the revenue that would be lost by removing the fees is sustainable without creating a significant tax increase. He noted that the Transfer Station is already not self-funding as it only produces approximately \$70,000 per year in revenue but has expenditures of approximately \$460,000. He continued the argument that taxpayers are paying for a certain level of service in their property tax and should not be charged twice, using the example of not receiving a bill for police or fire calls. McConarty noted her concern for how it will impact on the contractor side as well. Discussion ensued.

**Meeting Minutes:**

Morgan made a motion to seal the minutes from the non-public session held earlier today and also on 5/21/2018 regarding payment arrangements made with taxpayers who are delinquent on their property taxes. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 5/14/2018. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Work Session & Non-Public Session held on 5/14/2018. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A revised copy of the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 5/7/2018 were presented for signatures. White provided a memo stating that the award of the painting contract to Ernie Hayford was inadvertently

omitted from the minutes approved on 5/14/2018. Morgan made a motion to approve the revised minutes. Eldridge seconded. Martin abstained (absent). Majority vote carried.

**Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:**

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 5/19/2018 in the amount of \$42,812.74. The Accounts Payable Voucher was submitted for the week ending 5/14/2018 in the amount of \$52,689.56. The Water & Sewer Accounts Payable Voucher submitted for the week ending 5/14/2018 was in the amount of \$20,986.45. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the check vouchers. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Review of Red Folder:**

An Application for Restoration of Involuntarily Merged Lots was received from the Cheryl L. Wilson Living Trust for the property located at 125 Fogg's Ridge Road (Map 275, Lot 5). Morgan stated that the Selectmen met with Ms. Wilson in the work session earlier to discuss the two lots that were involuntarily merged during the town-wide remapping project in 2010. A deed and survey were provided as supporting evidence. Morgan made a motion to approve the restoration of the lots to their pre-merger status. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request to the Trustees of Trust Funds for the withdrawal of \$41,376.23 from the Water Capital Reserve Fund for the reimbursement of expenses paid to Ti-Sales and New England Backflow, Inc. for the meter replacement was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Cut Timber was received from John and Angela Nicholson for the property located at 339 Ossipee Mountain Road (Map 62, Lot 6). The intent is to cut the 2.2 acre parcel and the logger listed is Cameron Kenny. The taxes are paid and there is a cemetery noted. Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received from Alan Browning, Sr. for the camper located at 700 Route 16 (Map 130, Lot 12, Sub Lot 69). The request in the amount of \$138.00 is due because the camper was registered but a copy was not provided until after the tax bills were issued. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received from Paul Radzikowski for the camper located at 330 Newman Drew Road (Map 16, Lot 15, Sub Lot 32). The request in the amount of \$196.00 is due because the camper was registered but a copy was not provided until after the tax bills were issued. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from David L. Babson, Jr. for the property located on Browns Ridge Road (Map 278, Lot 4). The request in the amount of \$1,354.00 is due because the parcel of land was incorrectly merged with an abutting property. A supplemental warrant will be issued for the correct amount of tax due. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from the NH Housing Finance Authority for the property located at 10 Whiting Road (Map 254, Lot 21). The request in the amount of \$1,320.00 is due because the property is exempt from taxation pursuant to RSA 204-C:49. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Supplemental Warrant in the amount of \$459.00 for the property located on Browns Ridge Road (Map 278, Lot 4) was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from James and Janice Tully for the property located at 130 Chickville Road (Map 239, Lot 5). The request in the amount of \$1,000.00 is due because the property owner was approved for the service-connected disability credit but it was not applied to the property prior to the tax bill being issued. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Laura Cammett (aka Laura Paige) for the property located at 485 Route 16 (Map 266, Lot 15). The Assessor recommends a reduction in value of \$48,100 resulting in a refund of \$1,046.18 to account for deferred maintenance affecting the condition of the building. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received from Chris and Lisa Martorana for the camper located at 1 Terrace Pines Road (Map 104, Lot 1400H, Sub Lot 12). The request in the amount of \$110.00 is due because the camper was registered but a copy was not provided until after the tax bills were issued. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Gordon & Stephen Knight, c/o Jean Knight for the property located on Granite Road (Map 248, Lot 43). The Assessor recommends a reduction in value of \$10,300 resulting in a refund of \$224.03 to account for its unlikeliness to be developed due to its shape and size. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Duane and Pammy Berry for the property located at 168 Dorrs Corner Road (Map 227, Lot 21). The Assessor recommends an increase in value of \$500.00 due to corrections made to the house during the site assessment, and since an appraisal was not provided to justify any value reduction, he recommends the request be denied. Morgan made a motion to deny the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received from Joe and Charlene Medeiros for the camper located at 700 Route 16 (Map 130, Lot 12, Sub Lot 41). The request in the amount of \$7.00 is due because the camper was registered and also removed along with attachments prior to 4/1/2018. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received from Tom Haas for the camper located at 115 Newman Drew Road (Map 17, Lot 1, Sub Lot C18). The request in the amount of \$168.00 is due because the camper was registered but a copy was not provided until after the tax bills were issued. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Timber Tax Warrant in the amount of \$381.71 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Timber Tax Warrant in the amount of \$602.48 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Timber Tax Warrant in the amount of \$1,724.94 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Cut Timber was received from the Coldan Farm Irrevocable Realty Trust for the property located at 90 Walker Hill Road (Map 252, Lot 21). The intent is to cut the 2.7 acre parcel and the logger listed is Tim Nolin. 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 Request made to the State of NH for the reimbursement of State Fire Warden training was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a memo from Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, who recommends the Town purchase calcium chloride from All States Asphalt, Inc. for the 2018 season at \$0.98/gallon. The total amount budgeted for this line item is \$35,000. Harriman stated that All States Asphalt, Inc. provides storage tanks and a distributor to the Town at no charge. Morgan questioned how many companies provide this product. Harriman responded that he is only aware of one other, but the Town has been utilizing All States Asphalt, Inc. long before he started working for the Town. Morgan made a motion to approve the purchase of calcium chloride through All States Asphalt, Inc. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Ossipee Concerned Citizens Fair Committee requesting use of the Freight House on Mondays up to 7/4/2018 from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM for meetings of the Fair Committee. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the week ending 5/19/2018.

The Consent Calendar Agenda was received from the meeting of the Governor and Executive Council held on 5/16/2018.

The Board received a Notice of Decision from the Planning Board acknowledging a final subdivision approval that was granted to Maxfield Property Holdings, Inc. for the property located at 1230 Route 16 (Map 101, Lot 1).

The Board received a Notice of Decision from the Planning Board acknowledging a final site plan review that was granted to Ossipee Mountain Estates Cooperative for the property located at 7 Mountain View Road (Map 54, Lot 2).

A Request for Evidence of Community Support requested by the White Horse Addiction Center, Inc. was presented for signatures. Morgan stated that White Horse is applying for a grant that requires a letter of support from the Governing Board of the Town. Morgan made a motion to sign the request as Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The updated community census data was received from NH Employment Security. This information has been included on the Town's website.

**Water & Sewer Red Folder:**

A Payroll Reimbursement Request for the week ending 5/19/2018 in the amount of \$3,733.54 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received notification from the NH DES Drinking Water and Groundwater Bureau that the leak detection survey in Ossipee will take place from 7/28/2018-7/30/2018. Wayne “Bo” Eldridge, Water & Sewer Supervisor, stated that the leak detection survey is at no cost to the Town and the entire system will be surveyed this year.

A Water & Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$100.00 for the haulers annual permit was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Water & Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$108.47 for service charges was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

### **New Business:**

Morgan stated that the request received from Rick St. Jean seeking the open seat on the Planning Board is still open. Conduct Billings, Planning Board Chairman, stated that there was a tied vote on the recommendation. Morgan stated that St. Jean already occupies the alternate position and an appointment will only be until the next election in March. Billings did not have any further comment. Eldridge made a motion to appoint Rick St. Jean as a full member to the Planning Board. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan reported that the increase in the School District tax of \$1.33/thousand results in a total payment increase due by the Town of Ossipee of over \$900,000. He stated that the Board of Selectmen has worked hard to reduce the Town tax rate by \$0.68/thousand in the past four years, and such a dramatic increase is a result of non-participation. Morgan stated that the projected payment due in July is just shy of \$1.6 million. Discussion took place on the School District budget and many questions that have prompted legislative changes.

### **Old Business:**

Sidewalks - Morgan announced that a work session was held earlier with Harriman, Bill Eldridge, Highway Foreman, Ash Fischbein and Matt Trahan from the Ossipee Economic Council, and a few residents, to review the sidewalk plan. Harriman will be going back to White Mountain Survey with a few questions and minor amendments. Once the updated plan is available it will be posted in the Town Hall for the public to view. Morgan stated that the sidewalk construction will take place before snowfall this year.

Intersection of Routes 28 & 171 – Nothing new to report. Harriman stated that he will be meeting with NH DOT mid-June and will request an update at that time.

Whittier Covered Bridge – Harriman stated that NH DOT has processed a check in the amount of \$26,000 for the recent request for reimbursement of expenses paid.

Sumner Brook Fish Hatchery – White stated that Steve McConarty, Zoning Enforcement Officer, spoke with an interested contractor today and he will be submitting a proposal. She also stated that the notice requesting proposals has been re-published on the website with a deadline of 6/8/2018 in hope for at least three proposals for comparison.

White Pond Boat Ramp – Nothing new to report.

Transfer Station Fees – Discussed earlier in the meeting.

Harriman reported that the paving of Chickville Road has been completed and paving will commence on Circuit Road and Granite Road by the end of the week. Harriman stated that he is in the process of requesting quotes for the line striping. Comments were made on the condition of Chickville Road and the type of guardrails the Town is having installed as a nice improvement to the Town.

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

**Public Input #2:**

Fischbein questioned if there has been consideration of a high school in Ossipee. Morgan responded that he signed a petition for exploratory study but it is a very prolonged and defined by statute process to withdraw from the district. There is belief that it would not be cost effective especially since the new school has been built. The amount of time and energy and need for 4-5 economically alike towns would be required. Morgan stated that Moultonborough pulled out of the district several years ago but it took a lot of preparation to do so. Further discussion took place on the education tax and its impact on the smaller towns within the district that do not have the assessment value to offset the cost. Fischbein stated that the impact could be slowed by increasing the commercial tax base but it could never outpace the increasing cost of education. Morgan commended State Representative Ed Comeau for his efforts in amending the legislation to change the funding formula. Comeau stated that although the Bill he proposed failed, his efforts will continue. Comeau stated that a committee sets the budget separately of the School Board meetings and he has yet to record or understand their process in doing so. Comeau also confirmed that the School Board meetings are rotated to all schools within the District. He also stated that if the public is not present, there is an assumption that there are no issues. The recent Deliberative Session had approximately 40 members in attendance that consisted of primarily educators and board members. Discussion ensued.

Eldridge stated that she met with the guidance office at Kingswood Regional High School last Friday to select the recipients of the Lyford Merrow Scholarship and volunteered to present the scholarship awards at the awards ceremony. Morgan made a motion for Eldridge to present the Lyford Merrow Scholarship Awards. Martin seconded. Eldridge abstained. Majority vote carried.

Comeau and Morgan discussed government spending at the State level and the challenges that are faced at the local level to provide essential services, yet control the spending growth at a slower rate than the increase in valuation.

**Non-Public Session:**

Not applicable.

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

**Adjournment:**

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

Adjourned at 5:20 PM.

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Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

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Sandra P. Martin

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Martha B. Eldridge

To be approved 6/4/2018