

**Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, August 27, 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, Sandra Martin, and Martha Eldridge.

**Public Input:**

Maria Moulton, Librarian, reported that all is going well at the Library.

Bill Eldridge, Highway Foreman, reported that the two police cruisers to be auctioned have been delivered to the Highway Garage and are ready to be put out for bidding. White requested the mileage for each vehicle and stated she will advertise for sealed bids.

**Meeting Minutes:**

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 8/20/2018. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Non-Public Sessions & Work Session held on 8/20/2018. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:**

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 8/25/2018 in the amount of \$44,987.31. The Accounts Payable Voucher was submitted for the week ending 8/20/2018 in the amount of \$12,010.16. The Water & Sewer Accounts Payable Voucher submitted for the week ending 8/25/2018 was in the amount of \$5,649.60. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the check vouchers. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan stated that the invoices go through a multi-tier review process where they are reviewed and coded by the Department Head, turned into Finance, then each invoice is reviewed and approved for payment by the Selectmen before they are input into the accounting system, and then the batch totals are approved in a weekly manifest.

**Review of Red Folder:**

Morgan read a letter received from Police Chief James Eldridge announcing his retirement effective 10/1/2018. Morgan stated that he had the opportunity to work with Eldridge on the Police Department and noted him to be a stellar employee who has worked well above and beyond the job requirements and has served this community well. Morgan stated that the Board has been aware of Eldridge's intentions for several months but were allowing him time to plan his retirement before any formal announcements were made. Morgan made a motion to accept the letter of retirement. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan requested the job opening be posted in-house for 5-days per the Town policy.

A Land Use Change Tax form was submitted by Richard Collyer and Ramona Murray for the property located on Gile Road (Map 119, Lot 5). The form is for a partial release of 3.95 acres from Current Use Assessment. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the form. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Land Use Change Tax Warrant in the amount of \$3,670.00 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Erica Ames requesting use of the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium on 9/29/2018 for a birthday party. The schedule has been verified by Craig Brady, Recreation Director, and applicable deposit has been received. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A letter written to the Ossipee Garden Club acknowledging the beautiful condition of the roadside gardens the Garden Club is responsible for maintaining was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the letter. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Cut Wood was submitted by Ossipee Aggregates for the properties located at 70 and 150 Browns Ridge Road (Map 267, Lots 4 and 8). The intent is to cut 125 acres of the combined 173 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. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a response from Garrett Graaskamp of NH Fish and Game, regarding the Selectmen's request to allow swimming at Conner Pond, and also to acknowledge neighbors concern of trash removal and lack of sanitary facilities. Morgan read the letter which references Administrative Rules as the cited reason for not allowing swimming at any boat access facility maintained by NH Fish and Game. Francis Burke commented that he spoke with one of the prior owners who acknowledged there was never any issue with people using the property to swim, and it was part of a verbal agreement at the time of sale that people would continue to be allowed to use the property for swimming. Morgan stated that it is easier for uniform rules to be applied to all facilities but it does not make it right or fair, especially with this location being exceedingly different in the aspect that no motorized watercraft are allowed.

Morgan read a second letter addressed to NH Fish and Game Executive Director Glenn Normandeau from Senator Jeb Bradley written in support of allowing swimming at Conner Pond. The letter states that the launch and water belong to everyone and no one should be denied access to public bodies of water.

A License to Sell Pistols and Revolvers requested from Christopher Sirois, of Sirotac LLC, 495 Route 16, Floor 2, was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the license. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a memo from Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, reviewing the proposals received for the hauling of MSW and Demo materials from the Transfer Station (copy attached to these minutes). Harriman recommends awarding the contract to North Conway Incinerator for the next 3-year period. Morgan made a motion to award the contract to North Conway Incinerator. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a notice from Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, acknowledging the testing of the Accu Vote Machine will take place on 9/4/2018 at 1:00 PM in the Town Clerk's Office in preparation for the State Primary Election to be held on 9/11/2018.

The Board received a Notice of Decision from the Planning Board acknowledging case #18-2-SUBD – Subdivision approval for Van E. Hertel, Sr., for the property located at 95 Blake Hill Road (Map 223, Lot 3).

The Board received a copy of correspondence sent from the Planning Board to Attorney Richard Sager requesting action be taken on the Morse Pit per the Reclamation Plan signed by the Planning Board on 2/7/2007.

The Consent Calendar Agenda was received from the meeting of the Governor and Executive Council held on 9/5/2018.

The Board received a thank you note from Kingswood Auto Sales stating it has been a pleasure doing business in Ossipee.

**Water & Sewer Red Folder:**

A Payroll Reimbursement Request for the week ending 8/25/2018 in the amount of \$3,644.57 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 \$188.92 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 \$190.90 for service charges was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Old Business:**

Morgan announced receipt of the plans from the NH DOT project for the replacement of the twin bridges on Route 16. The plans are available to view in the Selectmen's Office.

Brush Clearing at the Windows on the Ossipee Mountains Site – White reported that Conservation Commission Chairman Joe Deighan questioned what will happen next since no bids were received to complete the work needed. Morgan made a motion to re-advertise the request for proposals with a new due date at the end of September. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Duncan Lake Beach – Morgan stated that the Town is waiting for approval from NH DES to add sand to the beach.

**New Business:**

Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, presented the volumes of Town books that were restored this year. Skehan read the following statement as part of the grant requirements: "This preservation project has been made possible through funds received from the sale of the Moose New Hampshire Conservation Plate and administered by the New Hampshire State Library, a division of the New Hampshire Department of Natural and Cultural Resources. This grant, entitled "Ossipee 1877-1929 Town Minutes Conservation & Microfilming – Phase 3" included three volumes of Town Meeting Books. Two volumes were strong enough to be rebound, however, the third volume needed to be encapsulated and placed into two record binders." Skehan informed the Board that Phase IV has been applied for and approved, and funding will be requested in a Warrant Article in 2019. She stated that the records are available on a disk. Morgan questioned how many records remain to be restored. Skehan responded that all the Tax Collector records will need to be done as well which will require Town funds to complete.

Martin discussed the article in last week's Carroll County Independent about the Town's plan to "dump" the Sumner Brook Fish Hatchery stating it does not represent the work that has been done and there was no

background research completed to make the article compelling. Morgan added that discussions have taken place with the current tenants over the past several months leading up to the negotiation of a lease extension. He stated that the decision made by the Selectmen to get out of the rental business was done because they have not been able to determine what public benefit it has to the taxpayers and is no way an act of animosity toward the tenants who run the fish hatchery. Morgan discussed several issues that have occurred over the past few years including two chimney fires which prompted a building inspection for safety concerns, then a review of the existing lease and history of the town taking over the property. The question of why the Town obtained the property remains. Martin stated that the tenants have invested a lot of time and money into the operation of the hatchery and the continuation of a lease every three years is very unpredictable. Morgan stated the State has first refusal per the deed and the Board is working with the Town Attorney and easement holders to determine the future of the property. Morgan is hopeful that a warrant article can be pulled together for next Town Meeting to sell the fish hatchery portion of the parcel to the tenants so they can enjoy the benefit of ownership. He stated that a realtor has been retained to determine the fair market value of the property.

Morgan stated that another point made in the article purports that decisions are being made behind the scenes. He stated that the Selectmen hold work sessions that are noticed on the agenda, and are open to the public. Other towns complete the same business in the beginning of their meetings where they review bills, red folder items, meet with Department Heads, etc. He added that the Town is aware of and honors RSA 91-A. He closed by saying the article headline did not portray what is actually happening with the Sumner Brook property at all.

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

**Public Input #2:**

Morgan announced the Budget Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, 9/5/2018 at 6:30 PM at the Freight House Annex.

Morgan also announced the meeting of the School District's Finance Committee next Thursday, 9/6/2018 at the Starlight Dining Room at Kingswood's Tech Center.

**Non-Public Session:**

Morgan polled the Board for a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (c) for a tax matter at 4:57 PM. Roll call vote was taken. Martin answered yes, Eldridge answered yes, and Morgan answered yes. Morgan made a motion to adjourn the non-public session at 4:59 PM. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan reopened the public session at 5:00 PM.

Morgan made a motion to seal the minutes from the non-public session as it was to discuss a taxpayer's financial situation and make arrangement to pay their property taxes. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan announced that the leak detection was completed on the Town's water system and there were no major leaks detected.

Morgan stated the Board reviewed the revenues in work session earlier and is happy to report that the receipts are in line with their projections. He also stated that everything is coming into place in preparation for the setting of the tax rate.

White stated there is no Selectmen's Meeting next Monday due to the Labor Day holiday.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, September 10, 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 5:03 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 9/10/2018