

**Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, October 29, 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.

**School's Out! Garden Fresh Cooking Club:**

Morgan opened the meeting to members from the School's Out! Program. Jen Berkowitz, Program Director, introduced several students from the Garden Fresh Cooking Club that is offered during the School's Out! afterschool program and presented homemade cookies made by the club. Each student in attendance stated what their favorite club is that is offered by the School's Out! Program. The Board thanked them for the cookies. Morgan stated that the program is predominately funded by the town and through grants. Due to minimized grant funding, additional funding request from the Town may be presented this budget year.

**NH DOT Update (Intersection of Routes 28 & 171):**

Morgan acknowledged Ramsie Taylor's parents, Kristin and Dave Taylor, in the audience as well as several others including State Representatives Comeau, Marsh, and Nelson, Senator Bradley. Mike Dugas and Peter Stamnos from NH DOT introduced themselves and also acknowledged NH DOS Commissioner William Cass. Stamnos reviewed the improvements made since the emergency meeting held on 10/4/2018 including the removal of the passing zone and related signage on Route 28, installation of transverse rumble strips on the Route 171 approaches, LED lamps in the overhead flashing beacon, stop sign beacon alerts, and temporary speed feedback trailers until permanent ones are available to install in late November-early December. He stated that NH DOT and NH DOS met internally to discuss a signalized or 4-way stop solution at the intersection and they are still in agreement that a roundabout is the safest solution because in order to change the character of the road, the speed must be reduced and in order to negotiate the curve of the roundabout, traffic from all four directions must slow down. Dugas reviewed statistics of accidents related to signalized intersections and noted that traffic often speeds up to meet a changing light, red lights are still run and they are responsible for approximately 2,600 fatal accidents across the country. Roundabouts have been utilized by NH DOT for the past 10-15 years and they are the safest form of intersection with no documented fatalities in NH. Dugas also discussed the design improvements that have been made to roundabouts since their inception to continue to slow traffic but allow for more space for tractor trailers to negotiate through. Martin questioned if the construction timing has moved up. Dugas responded that due to design and permitting restrictions, advertising will take place in the fall of 2019 for construction in 2020. Several in the audience voiced their concern for additional accidents that may occur in the interim and demanded a traffic light be installed as a temporary measure. Morgan reiterated that it is frustrating to learn that though this project has been in the works for two years, immediate abutters have not been contacted regarding eminent domain and required easements. Dugas responded the challenges the NH DOT faces with federal funding requirements including environmental review and other processes that are necessary to comply with.

Morgan reviewed his involvement with the intersection over the past 35-years and supported the installation of a roundabout as the only way to slow traffic from all directions to eliminate the high-speed T-bone accidents from occurring. He stated the Board's original position was that a traffic light was the only solution however, they have since been convinced that a roundabout will be effective but reiterated the need for expediting the project.

Dave Taylor agrees, but still requests a traffic light and rumble strips on Route 28 as the measures that have been put in place did not stop a roll-over accident that occurred at the intersection over this past weekend. He discussed many issues with the temporary measures including the lack of visibility of the speed limit sign at night and lack of police presence. Commissioner Cass discussed the issues with installing rumble strips on Route 28 and a traffic light. Several identified and unidentified members in the audience discussed the rumble strips and traffic light solutions. Discussion took place on reducing the speed limit from 55 mph to 45 mph on both Route 28 approaches to the intersection, motorcycle travel concerns with the rumble strips in place, increased signage alerting motorists of a dangerous intersection ahead, and landscape and visibility concerns.

Cass stated that the roundabout is the solution they will be proceeding with and he understands the concern for the timing of construction. They will begin the dialogue to get the process expedited. Morgan stated that the State owns one corner of the intersection. Attorney Richard Sager, who was present at the emergency meeting, was in favor for his corner of the intersection, and Representative Marsh is on the Huggins Hospital Board of Directors for that corner of the intersection, which leaves just one corner for the State to work out.

Additional discussion ensued on statistical data and alternative solutions. Morgan requested a consensus from the public in attendance for a traffic light or roundabout. Majority was in support of the roundabout. Morgan requested a letter be drafted embracing the roundabout and requesting that the NH DOT and NH DOS work with State Officials to expedite the construction. Morgan thanked all for attending.

Representative Comeau added that it is not too late to deem the intersection a construction work zone. Cass responded that it will not work in the winter as a construction zone would not be compatible with winter maintenance.

#### **Public Input:**

Kevin Miller stated he was a participant in the property auction and discussed three properties that he is assisting the former owner with getting back. He discussed the process by which excess proceeds are distributed and questioned if the process can be simplified. Morgan responded that there is a process mandated by State RSA and the Town contracted with a licensed auctioneer to handle the transactions from start to finish. Morgan reviewed the policy the Selectmen have adopted which allows payment arrangements on a property owner's primary residence, but not on vacant land or second homes. Morgan referred Miller to speak with Richard Sager's office regarding the closing settlement.

Morgan stated that they will deviate from the order of the agenda and start with the budget review:

#### **Budget Review:**

Selectmen's Office – Morgan stated the budget request is in the amount of \$741,825, up from \$732,273 primarily due to increases in health insurance, a 2% cost of living wage adjustment including applicable

taxes, and assessing fees. Morgan made a motion to recommend the budget request in the amount of \$741,825. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Conservation Commission – The budget request is in the amount of \$12,032, up from \$11,800 due to a 2% cost of living wage adjustment including applicable taxes. Morgan made a motion to recommend the budget request in the amount of \$12,032. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Planning Board –Condict Billings, Chairman, presented the budget request in the amount of \$36,378, up from \$35,634, due to a 2% cost of living wage adjustment including applicable taxes, and increase in the postage line. Morgan made a motion to recommend the request in the amount of \$36,378. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Zoning Board of Adjustment – The budget request is in the amount of \$17,553, up from \$13,489 due to an increase in hours for the Board Secretary, a 2% cost of living wage adjustment including applicable taxes, and increase in postage and advertising line items; both of which are offset by revenues. Morgan made a motion to recommend the request in the amount of \$17,553. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Trustees of the Trust Funds – The budget request is in the amount of \$7,062, up from \$6,862. Billings explained that the supplies line has been increased for the purchase of a new computer/software. Morgan made a motion to recommend the request in the amount of \$7,062. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Police Department – Chief Joe Duchesne presented the budget request in the amount of \$1,240,278, up from \$1,156,014. Duchesne reviewed the increase in part-time salaries is for two part-time officers to provide shift coverage during leave time and to cover the prosecutor duties which will free up a full-time position. The increase in overtime is also to account for shift coverage. Duchesne explained the increase in the computer budget is to finalize the connection of the dispatch system to the superhub in Boston. He has also added funds to start replacing some of the gym equipment and to provide additional supervisory training for all officers. Morgan made a motion to recommend the request in the amount of \$1,240,278. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Police Department Special Duty – The budget request is level-funded in the amount of \$25,000. Morgan made a motion to recommend the request in the amount of \$25,000. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Dog Officer – The budget request is level-funded in the amount of \$16,998. Joanne Gayer, Dog Officer, requested an increase in the wages line of the budget to \$12,600 from \$12,000 stating that she dealt with 185 calls and several investigations over the past year. Morgan responded that the wages were increased significantly for the 2018 budget. Morgan made a motion to level-fund the request in the amount of \$16,998. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan requested that Gayer set up a time to discuss the wage increase further.

Fire Precincts – Carl Huddleston, Chief (West Ossipee Fire Precinct), presented the precinct budget in the amount of \$358,300, down from \$373,603. Huddleston reviewed reductions in vehicle maintenance and insurance due to replacement with brand new vehicles with factory warranties. He also discussed the sprinkler system which should be complete over the next three years. The current system requires a \$150,000 tank to be installed. The mini-pumper to be replaced will be done through

a lease-purchase for three years. This budget was discussed for informational purposes and will be passed on to the Budget Committee for recommendation.

**Meeting Minutes:**

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 10/22/2018. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Work Session held on 10/22/2018. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:**

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 10/27/2018 in the amount of \$46,165.59. The Accounts Payable Voucher was submitted for the week ending 10/22/2018 in the amount of \$14,626.04. The Water & Sewer Accounts Payable Voucher submitted for the week ending 10/22/2018 was in the amount of \$3,609.35. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the check vouchers. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan stated that all invoices are reviewed before they are approved in the weekly manifest totals.

**Review of Red Folder:**

The Municipal Sidewalk Agreement for the Main Street Sidewalk Project was presented from the NH DOT. Morgan made a motion to sign two copies of the agreement. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a memo from Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, notifying them that a test of the AccuVote Machine will take place at 11:00 AM in the Tax Office on 10/30/2018.

An Intent to Cut Wood or Timber was received from the Homestead Trust II for the properties located on Map 135, Lots 24 & 25 (116 & 114 Old Granite Road), and Map 267, Lot 3 (Rear Old Granite Road). The intent is to cut 56 acres from the combined total of 56 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 and sign the intent. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from the Friends of Chickville Church requesting use of the Chickville Meeting House on 12/16/2018 and 5/19/2019 for their Christmas and Memorial Day Services. The schedule has been verified by Craig Brady, Recreation Director, and applicable deposit has been waived. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a letter from the NH DRED regarding an intent to cut that was filed for the Heath Pond Bog Natural Area. The letter explains the actual logging will take place in Effingham and no harvesting is to take place in Ossipee. A Report of Cut will be filed noting a "0" volume to close out the operation in Ossipee.

An Intent to Excavate was received from Jeff Kelley for the property located on Map 91, Lot 37 (118 Moultonville Road). The intent is to excavate 1,000 cubic yards of earth and no fee is required. Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Miss Karoly's Dance Team requesting use of the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium on 1/18/2019 for an elementary-age winter dance. 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 Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Miss Karoly's Dance Team requesting use of the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium on 2/1/2019 and 2/2/2019 for an indoor yard sale. 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 Petition and Pole License was received from Eversource for the installation of two new poles on Frost Road. Morgan made a motion to approve the license. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a flyer from the White Horse Thrift Store which has a coat closet available housing warm clothing for those in need.

The Board received a proposal from the Dog Park Committee which includes various information and estimated pricing. Morgan stated that he would like to table this for further review.

The 2018 Equalization Municipal Assessment Data Certificate from the NH DRA was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the certificate. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan announced the results of the Tax-Deeded Property Auction held on 10/20/2018. He stated that 10 properties were sold for a total of \$343,100, including a portion of excess proceeds which will be returned to the prior owners.

The Board received a memo from Brewster Vittum, Transfer Station Supervisor, with the year-to-date revenues from the Transfer Station as follows:

Scale	\$ 69,227.75
Recyclables	<u>\$ 34,724.61</u>
Total	\$103,952.36

The Board received a copy of a check from Northeast Resource Recovery Association in the amount of \$1,887.72 for baled fiber and scrap metal recycling.

Programming updates were received from Charter Communications.

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the week ending 10/27/2018.

**Water & Sewer Red Folder:**

A Payroll Reimbursement Request for the week ending 10/27/2018 in the amount of \$2,616.30 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Old Business:**

Proposal Results – Heating Oil, Diesel, Gasoline & Propane Supply – Harriman provided a memo reviewing the results of the proposals received and recommends awarding the contracts as follows:

Heating Oil – CN Brown at \$2.609/gal.

Diesel Fuel – CN Brown at \$2.749/gal.

Propane – Suburban Propane at \$1.65/gal.

Gasoline – CN Brown at rack + \$0.22/gal.

Morgan made a motion to award the fuel oil, diesel, gasoline and propane contracts as recommended by Harriman. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Sidewalks – Harriman stated that the crosswalks still need approval but with the Maintenance Agreement in place, he can now proceed with obtaining bids for work to commence in the spring.

Whittier Covered Bridge – Harriman stated that he was unable to discuss the project at the meeting he attended with NH DOT last Thursday but will be having a phone conversation with NH DOT this week. He stated that the Federal fiscal year begins October 1.

Condict Billings, Trustee of Trust Funds, reviewed the Bridge Repair and/or Replacement Fund which currently contains \$304 with \$20,000 to be transferred in at the end of the year. He stated the intended purpose is for bridge repair and replacement, not for culverts. Discussion ensued.

Billings also discussed combining two separate Solid Waste and Solid Waste Facility funds. Morgan responded that NH DRA specified there be two separate funds which is why there are two. White questioned if the funds are tied up in a CD. Billings confirmed but stated that they would only lose 6-months of interest if the money needs to be withdrawn. Billings stated that the two funds have a combined total of \$67,000. Morgan discussed using the funds to complete improvement projects at the Transfer Station. Harriman stated that they have been looking into building a structure over the corrugated cardboard for several years but have experienced difficulty obtaining contractors to bid projects.

**New Business:**

None presented.

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

**Public Input #2:**

Kevin Miller questioned the status of the White Pond Boat Ramp. White responded that it is still unclear whose responsibility it is to maintain. Miller stated the road and boat ramp are in rough shape and also discussed the road salt entering the pond. Harriman responded that road salt is not used on White Pond Road. White added that Executive Councilor Joe Kenney is following up on the boat ramp concerns at the State level.

Ed Comeau stated that legislation is needed to require NH Fish and Game to amend the boat access facility rules and regulations that currently restrict swimming at their facilities.

Additional discussion took place on legislation for political signs. The signs that are placed at intersections are very distracting to motorists.

**Non-Public Session:**

Not applicable.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, November 5, 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 6:35 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 11/5/2018