

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, March 31, 2014

Chairman Richard Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Robert Freeman and Frank Riley, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes.

Freeman made a motion to approve the minutes from the 3/24/2014 Selectmen's Meeting. Riley seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Timber Tax Warrant was received in the amount of \$219.01. Morgan made a motion to sign the warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Timber Tax Warrant was received in the amount of \$262.87. Morgan made a motion to sign the warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Cut was received from Pitchfork Holdings for the property located on Map 124, Lot 7. The intent is to cut 3 acres of the 19 acre parcel and the logger listed is Ronald Evans. All requirements being met Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Form 941: Employer's Quarterly Federal Tax Return was presented for signature. Morgan stated the total amount of deposits for the quarter to be \$121,537.63. Morgan made a motion to sign the return. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a memo from Peter Waugh, Recreation Director, along with the renewal contract from Blow Brothers for the chemical toilets. Waugh stated that the price did not change from last year. Morgan made a motion to sign the contract. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, stated he had been contacted by a resident from Harper's Ferry Road who requested that the chemical toilet be put in at that location sooner to accommodate the opening of fishing season. Riley answered that according to the contract, it is to be installed on 5/16/2014. Morgan added that trout season opens the fourth Saturday in April. This was deemed to be sufficient.

A letter addressed to John Mingori notifying him of his appointment to Library Trustee was re-presented for signatures after an error was found at the prior meeting. Morgan made a motion to sign the letter. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A letter addressed to Peter Zavas notifying him of his appointment to be Selectmen's Representative to the Planning Board was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the letter. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a letter from the Conservation Commission recommending the reappointment of Ralph Buchanan and Ron Adams to the Commission. The letter also informed the Board of two vacancies due to resignations received from Corey Copp and Jean Hansen. Morgan made a motion to re-appoint Buchanan and Adams to the Conservation Commission. Riley seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan asked White to write a letter to each of the recipients.

The Board received a letter from Dottie Kwiatkowski requesting she be considered to fill the vacant Library Trustee position. Morgan asked Maria Moulton, Librarian, if she had received any requests. She stated that she had not. Morgan made a motion to appoint Dottie Kwiatkowski to Library Trustee.

Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan asked White to write a letter to Kwiatkowski informing her of the appointment.

The Board received a letter forwarded from Jim Fitzpatrick, from Jim McElroy of the Watershed Management Plan, requesting Ossipee's participation in a lake quality analysis project. Morgan questioned why the information was received in time for Freedom to put it on their Warrant but Ossipee is just now receiving the request. Jim Fitzpatrick stated he received the information on the analysis the same day the petition warrant articles were due and he did not have time to submit the request for the \$2,000 portion to cover Ossipee. Fitzpatrick recommended the amount come from the Invasive Species Trust Fund as the results would be beneficial to the milfoil treatment. Riley questioned what would happen with the results of the data and what the data would actually consist of. Morgan stated that he would like to have those handling the species control comment on the analysis. Additional discussion took place on the purpose of the Capital Reserve fund and whether it could be used to fund such a project. Morgan tabled the issue for future discussion when more information is made available.

The Board received a letter of appreciation from the Town of Effingham thanking them for providing emergency medical support during their transition period between ambulance providers.

The Board received an email from Lakes Region Planning Commission informing them of upcoming events.

The Board received a memo from the Conservation Commission stating they have no concerns about the proposed Emerson Road easement. Morgan announced that they also received notification from the Planning Board that they also have no concerns. Discussion took place and it was agreed to post notice of two public hearings to be held 4/14/2014 and 4/28/2014.

Riley announced that he and Selectman Freeman attended the ambulance meeting hosted by CarePlus Ambulance last Thursday. He stated that there will be future meetings with the surrounding towns to discuss regional ambulance coverage and that representatives have been requested from each Fire Precinct. White stated that Chief Riley and Chief Huddleston had responded as representatives for their respective precincts. Freeman stated that Chief Brownell would be representative for Center Ossipee Fire. Riley stated that one Selectman should also be representative for the study in non-committal voting capacity. Freeman made a motion to appoint Morgan as Selectman's Representative. Riley seconded. Morgan abstained. Majority vote carried. Morgan expressed his support of the formation of the committee. Riley suggested that the Commissioners also conduct a parallel study for providing their own coverage. Further discussion did not take place.

Mike Sweeney from Ossipee Valley Masonic Temple came in for his appointment with the Board to discuss the exemption and abatement status of the property located on Route 25. Sweeney stated that he had been producing paperwork to the Assessor going back to November and felt that there had been no progress being made. He added that he is receiving reminder notices of tax due. Morgan responded that there are two issues; one, the processing of the abatement for the tax bill generated after the exemption was removed in 2013 and, two, the application for exemption status for the 2014 tax year. Morgan added that the exemption had been removed in 2013 because the annual paperwork had not been filed even after an extension had been given. He asked White to set up an appointment between Sweeney and Assessor Todd Haywood.

Harriman announced that Earth Day is on Tuesday, 4/22/2014 and recommended Saturday, 4/26/2014 as the date to honor it at the Transfer Station. Riley stated that the Recreation Department's brochure states Earth Day will be held on 4/19/2014. Discussion took place on whether it should be held on Saturday and Sunday. Harriman suggested hosting an additional date toward the end of summer instead. Morgan made a motion to hold Earth Day on 4/26/2014. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

This concluded the business portion of the meeting and Morgan opened the meeting to public input.

“Ski” Kwiatkowski asked if the meeting attended in Freedom was on combining the ambulance service with surrounding towns. Morgan confirmed.

“Ski” stated that the local VFW holds their meetings one Sunday a month at OCC at the same time as the Ladies Auxiliary. He stated that often their discussions are intermingled due to the open space and asked if the Board would be opposed to the VFW holding their meetings at the Freight House. Morgan stated that his only concern is that the Freight House is smaller than the dining room at OCC in respect to their District and State meeting attendance. “Ski” answered that he did not think it would be an issue. Morgan stated that there would be no opposition from the Board. “Ski” stated he would present the idea to the VFW. “Ski” asked if the VFW sign and flag could be moved to the Freight House building. Morgan answered that it could be discussed when the meeting arrangements are made.

“Ski” asked if there was a listing of Town-owned properties. White answered that Corey Ryder, Assessing Clerk, could compile a list from the assessing program.

Freeman questioned the status of the 1 Jude Boulevard property. Harriman answered that he received quotes in the \$10,000-12,000 range last year to clean up the debris and would check with the bidders for updated pricing. He further stated that he also would research renting an excavator and containers to complete the clean up in-house as an alternative solution. He added that this solution would use money from the Highway Department budget and dumping could be done through the Transfer Station.

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

Adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Richard H. Morgan

Robert C. Freeman

Franklin R. Riley

To be approved 4/7/2014