

Selectmen's Meeting Monday, September 9, 2019

These minutes were recorded by Angela Rizzitano, Secretary. The meeting was held in the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium at Town Hall.

Call to Order:

Chairman Martin called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.
Martin opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance by Roll Call:

Present were Selectmen Sandra Martin, Martha Eldridge and Susan Simpson.

Department Head Reporting:

Police Department – Joe Duchesne, Police Chief, reported they have been busy. The monthly statistics for August are as follows. There were 2,171 total calls to dispatch. There were 15 arrests and 164 motor vehicle stops. Town Clerk Kellie Skehan proceeded with the swearing in of the new patrolman, William French.

Highway Department – William Eldridge, Highway Foreman read his work log. He advised they have checked roads, worked on the sidewalks and also did some mowing on Ossipee Mountain Road. They also brought truck 4 to Rochester Truck to look into a code being received. Truck 6 and truck 1 were brought for inspection stickers. They also graded Granite Road and Duncan Lake Road.

Selectman Eldridge announced Brad Harriman has resigned as our Public Works Director effective immediately.

Recreation Department – Craig Brady, Recreation Director, reported the start of fall sports. Soccer and Field Hockey have begun. Brady advised that instead of a Halloween event they will be doing a Fall Festival this year on November 9, 2019. Also he advised that on the Monday before Thanksgiving they will be having a sky watch in the evening to look at some stars and galaxies. The Wednesday before Thanksgiving there will be a magic show in the gym at 10am. The Recreation Department is working on increasing the playground and adding a pavilion at Constitution Park for Town Meeting.

Selectmen's Office - Town Administrator Ellen White reported that letters to property owners have been sent regarding the new revaluation assessments. If anyone would like to schedule an appointment to discuss the new preliminary values with the assessor please call the Selectmen's Office. Heating, Oil, and Propane bidding requirements have been completed and the RFP's went out. We will be collecting bids until September 27, 2019 for the Selectmen to open on September 30, 2019. They are in the newspaper this week. White advised that she attended the meeting on August 28, 2019 with Reed and Reed regarding the Route 16 Bridge repair. The Lovell River Bridge will have a lane diversion. The Bear Camp River Bridge will have a lane closure and that will begin next fall. White also advised that the time clock software is up and running.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector – Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, reported that she sent out reminders to property owners for July taxes and any back taxes owed. She has received about \$55,000 since those letters went out. Also she has received about \$15,000 from the kiosk. She advised that the letters are working.

Transfer Station – Brewster Vittum, Transfer Station Supervisor, advised that they had 5 bales of recycled material. He also announced the next Free Clean-Up Day will be held October 5, 2019.

Water & Sewer Department – Wayne Eldridge, Water & Sewer Supervisor, presented his August report. He also advised they had 4 emergency call outs, read meters, flushed 1 hydrant, marked dig safes and investigated water leaks. They flushed 70,000 gallons from the lagoons. He also advised that progress at Camp David has been going well.

Zoning Enforcement/Government Buildings – Steve McConarty, Zoning Enforcement Officer, reported that he has been busy with Westward Shores permits as the FEMA compliance deadline is approaching on October 20, 2019. There are approximately 250 units that need to be raised. General permits for remodeling, decks and housing are on the rise as well.

Public Input:

Joyce White expressed concern over the width of Ossipee Mountain Road. She advised that buses and emergency vehicles have difficulty getting through and asked if the road crew could widen the road from 355 Ossipee Mountain Road to the bridge. Martin advised that the Town will take it under advisement.

Ruth Clough had a complaint regarding her deceased mother's tax bill and elderly tax exemption. She asked what the protocol was for a deceased taxpayer. She asked if the funeral home sends the town a death certificate. Martin advised that it is the responsibility of the property owner's heir of the estate to give the town a copy of the death certificate. Clough asked how it was discovered that the elderly exemption was still in effect and needed to be removed. Ellen White advised that when the assessing department reconciles the taxes due for the year before the final warrant is issued, they review the exemptions and credits. Discussion ensued. Martin then read the letter sent to Ruth Clough regarding the denial of the abatement request. Clough thanked the Board for their time.

Sergeant Swift made an announcement regarding speeding complaints on Newman Drew Road. He advised that the speed limit is 35 MPH and will be strictly enforced.

Meeting Minutes:

Martin made a motion to seal the minutes from the Non-Public Session held pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II (c) for a tax matter. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 8/26/2019. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Work Session and Non-Public Session held on 8/26/2019. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:

The Payroll Check Voucher total was submitted for the week ending 8/31/2019 in the amount of \$150,845.90. The General Fund payment is \$918,185.09. Eldridge made a motion to approve. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Payroll Reimbursement Request issued to the Water & Sewer Department for the payroll week ending 8/31/2019 was submitted in the amount of \$3,583.99. Eldridge made a motion to sign the request. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Payroll Check Voucher total was submitted for the week ending 9/07/2019 in the amount of \$40,048.38. The Accounts Payable total for the week ending 9/07/2019 was \$24,210.31. Eldridge made a motion to approve. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Payroll Reimbursement Request issued to the Water & Sewer Department for the payroll week ending 9/07/2019 was submitted in the amount of \$3,832.06. Eldridge made a motion to sign the request. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Water & Sewer Red Folder:

A Water & Sewer Warrant was presented for signatures for \$12,636.00 with penalties after October 10, 2019 for all sums not paid by this date. Eldridge made a motion to approve. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Water & Sewer Warrant was presented for signatures for \$172.83 with penalties after October 11, 2019 for all sums not paid by this date. Eldridge made a motion to approve. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Review of Red Folder:

The Board received the minutes for the Regional Ambulance Meeting held at the Madison Town Hall on August 26, 2019.

The Ossipee Planning Board held a meeting on 9/3/2019. The Board met with Andrew Morse to finalize his commitment for reclamation to the Morse Pit and is asking for the release of the bond money held by the Town Attorney.

The State of New Hampshire sent the Board a letter in an effort to encourage the town to speak up regarding transportation projects planned from 2021-2030 throughout the State of New Hampshire. This will be filed in the Selectmen's Office.

A Request for a Water and Sewer Abatement was received for the property located at 11 Arrowhead Drive (Map 099, Lot 016) for property owner John Menz. The request is in the amount of \$84.87. The customer returned the part. Eldridge made a motion to grant the abatement. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a letter from the Planning Board dated September 4, 2019 regarding Vice-Chairman Peter Zavas. At the Planning Board meeting held on September 3, 2019 the Planning Board discussed the lack of attendance from Mr. Zavas. It was decided that the Planning Board would ask the Selectmen to write a letter to Mr. Zavas asking for his resignation to remove him as Vice-Chairman. Martin made a motion to write the letter. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a letter from Charter Communications regarding a change in rates. This will be filed in the Selectmen's Office.

The Transfer Station Work Log was received for the weeks ending 8/17/2019, 9/1/2019, and 9/7/2019. Simpson advised that they are filed in the Selectmen's Office and also on the Ossipee web page.

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the weeks ending 8/31/2019 and 9/7/2019. Simpson advised it is on file in the Selectmen's Office and on the Ossipee web page.

Public Notice, Town of Ossipee Vacancy. The Town of Ossipee has one vacancy on the Budget Committee. Anyone interested in serving as a Budget Committee member may submit their request in writing to the attention of the Budget Committee, Town of Ossipee, P.O. Box 67, Center Ossipee, NH. 03814 or by phone at 603-539-4181.

A Request for a Town Clerk/Tax Collector Abatement was received for the property located at 13 Pine Lane Road (Map 005, Lot 062) for property owner 13 Pine Lane Road LLC. The request is in the amount of \$22.67. This is for interest only. Simpson made a motion to grant the abatement. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from OEDC Towns to Trails for a Steering Committee Meeting on September 19, 2019 and October 3, 2019 at 6 PM at the Freight House. Simpson made a motion to approve. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

State of New Hampshire Executive Council Meeting agenda was received. This will be on file in the Selectmen's Office.

The Board received the Recycling Center Daily Cash Log for the month of August with a total of \$10,666.62 collected.

Old Business:

Martin asked William Eldridge how the sidewalk project was coming. He advised that the dirt work was completed. Martin asked that the mailboxes would be taken care of as well. Discussion ensued. Eldridge advised that he would look into it further.

The Board received a letter from the Conservation Commission requesting the Zoning Enforcement Officer to investigate the property on 60 Long Sand Road because the deed states there should be no permanent structures and the owner is requesting a permit from NHDES to construct a retaining wall. Martin made a motion for the Zoning Officer to investigate. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Martin commented that it has been brought to her attention that the dog park is currently in deplorable condition. Martin read the proposal given to the Board by the Dog Park Committee which states that they would be in charge of routine weekly cleanups and maintenance. Martin advised that she would

be in favor of removing the dog park if conditions don't improve. Eldridge agreed. Ellen White asked for permission to contact the Dog Park Committee to discuss this with them. Martin granted the request.

Martin advised that the 2nd Bridge replacement on Route 16 furthest North has been pushed back a week for closure. It will start 9/27/2019 at 6PM and be completed 10/01/2019.

Martin advised that the budget process is about to begin. She encouraged the people of the Town of Ossipee to review the budget listing on the website.

Eldridge encouraged everyone to attend the Budget Meetings.

New Business:

Simpson advised that the trees cut on Ossipee Mountain Road has greatly increased visibility and made that area safer. She commented on the great job done in getting those trees removed.

Second Public Input:

None Presented

Non-Public Session:

Not applicable.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, September 16, 2019 at 4:15 PM.

Adjournment:

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

Adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Sandra P. Martin, Chairman

Martha B. Eldridge

Susan J. Simpson

To be approved 9/16/2019