

Selectmen's Meeting Monday, December 16, 2019

These minutes were recorded by Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator. The meeting was held in the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium at Town Hall.

Call to Order:

Selectman 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 that Patrolman Brian Baker has completed his physical test at the Police Academy. He has been accepted and will begin in the middle of January. Chairman Martin asked Duchesne about the self-defense class mentioned in a previous meeting. Duchesne advised that they are putting that together and will advise the details.

Recreation Department – Craig Brady, Recreation Director, reported that Saturday, December 14, 2019, they had Breakfast with Santa and the Community Christmas Celebration. He also advised that registration for after school programs is still open for another week.

Selectmen's Office – Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator reported that budgets were reviewed. They also discussed the Superintendent of the Works new hire as well as normal Town related discussion.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector – Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, advised that the Town Clerk's Office has received about \$19,500.00 in revenue. The Town has received 1 million dollars in taxes. She advised they have received about \$249,000.00 through the mail. Skehan advised she received a check for \$1,174,000.00. She also advised that the County has been paid \$900,000.00.

Transfer Station – Brewster Vittum, Transfer Station Supervisor, advised that they had 7 bales of recycling. Vittum also advised they have a truck load of cardboard ready to be picked up. He is just waiting for confirmation from the trucker. Selectman Martin asked how the birds have been. Vittum advised that they haven't had any problems.

Zoning Enforcement/Government Buildings – Steve McConarty, Zoning Enforcement Officer, reported he has been busy with residential permits including 2 new houses and multiple foundations. McConarty advised that O'Reilly's has the green light to open.

Public Input:

None presented

Meeting Minutes:

Martin made a motion to seal the minutes from the Non-Public Session held pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (b) for a Personnel Matter on 12/16/2019. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Work Session, Finance Meeting and Non-Public Session held on 12/09/2019. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 12/09/2019. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:

The Payroll Check Voucher total was submitted for the week ending 12/14/2019 with a pay date of 12/17/2019 in the amount of \$39,835.89. Accounts Payable for the week ending 12/04/2019 is \$1,090,468.50. Water & Sewer Accounts Payable is \$5,298.01. 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 12/14/2019 with a pay date of 12/17/2019 was submitted in the amount of \$3,351.26. Eldridge made a motion to sign the request. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Water & Sewer Red Folder:

None Presented

Review of Red Folder:

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 6 John Terrace for property owner John Pacheco (Map 117, Lot 018). The request is in the amount of \$2.00. The reason for the abatement is that due to assessment change, an abatement is necessary. Eldridge made a motion to approve this abatement. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 5 John Terrace for property owner Christopher Emilio (Map 117, Lot 015). The request is in the amount of \$3.00. The reason for the abatement is that due to assessment change, an abatement is necessary. Eldridge made a motion to approve this abatement. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at John Terrace for property owner Michelle Jacqueline Ashby-Moore (Map 117, Lot 005). The request is in the amount of \$1.00. The reason for the abatement is that due to assessment change, an abatement is necessary. Eldridge made a motion to approve this abatement. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 4 Puritan Lane for property owner Hope Nason (Map 054, Lot 002, Sub 002). The request is in the amount of \$3.00. The reason for the abatement is that due to assessment change, an abatement is necessary. Eldridge made a motion to approve this abatement. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 330 Newman Drew Road for property owner Susan Chefley (Map 016, Lot 015, Sub 022). The request is in the amount of \$28.00. The reason for the abatement is that due to assessment change, an abatement is necessary. Eldridge made a motion to approve this abatement. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 330 Newman Drew Road for property owner John Carroll (Map 016, Lot 015, Sub 006). The request is in the amount of \$24.00.

The reason for the abatement is that due to assessment change, an abatement is necessary. Eldridge made a motion to approve this abatement. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a Notice to attend the Ambulance Meeting at Freedom Town Hall on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 6:00 PM.

The Board read a Public Notice advising that there may be more than one Selectman at the Budget Committee Meeting this week.

Selectman Eldridge read an invite for all Town Employees to attend the annual Christmas potluck luncheon on December 24, 2019 at 12:00 PM.

The Board received 4 Notices of Decisions from the Planning Board. These are on file in the Selectmen's Office as well as on the Town website in the Planning Board minutes.

A Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Map 057, Lot 002 was presented for Winifred G Mitchell. The logger is Perley Ryder. This is a Supplemental Intent. There are no cemeteries on the property and the taxes are paid. Simpson made a motion to approve this Intent to Cut. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for State Project NH Route 16. The logger is John Brown & Sons Inc. There are no cemeteries on the property and the taxes are paid. Simpson made a motion to approve this Intent to Cut. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Transfer Station Work Log was received for the week ending December 14, 2019. It will be on file in the Selectmen's Office.

The Board received the Highway Weekly Report for the week ending December 13, 2019. It will be on file in the Selectmen's Office.

The Board received a letter from Todd Haywood of Granite Hill Municipal Services regarding the Preliminary results of the New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration's annual equalization study. Chairman Martin read the letter. Martin made a motion to sign. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a confirmation letter from North Conway Water Precinct in regards to a septage agreement. Martin made a motion to sign the agreement. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a letter from the Lakes Region Humane Society regarding the 2020 Town Contract. Martin made a motion to sign. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Old Business:

None Presented

New Business:

Selectman Simpson advised that the Dump stickers will decrease in price as of January 1, 2020 to \$5.00. Selectman Eldridge advised that they have hired Tony Eldridge as the Superintendent of the Works. He will start December 30, 2019.

Second Public Input:

Frank Burke revisited his recent request for information on how long the Town has been working on the Whittier Covered Bridge Project and what has it cost the Town to date. Selectman Martin advised that this will take some time to sort out but believes it has been about 12 years since the project began but she will confirm and research this request. Discussion ensued.

Rick Cousins asked for justification regarding the Superintendent of the Works hiring as he feels he was more qualified. Martin advised that since it was a Non-Public decision, she cannot by law discuss the matter. She advised that a letter will be sent out this week to the other applicants.

Non-Public Session:

None

The next meeting will take place on Monday, December 23, 2019

Adjournment:

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

Adjourned at 4:45 PM.

Sandra P. Martin, Chairman

Martha B. Eldridge

Susan J. Simpson

To be approved 12/23/2019