

Selectmen's Meeting

Monday, February 24, 2020

These minutes were recorded by Angela Rizzitano, Secretary. Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator, was also in attendance. 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 and Susan Simpson. Martha Eldridge was not in attendance.

Department Head Reporting:

Highway Department – William Eldridge, Highway Supervisor, read the highway weekly work log. They checked all routes. Plowed, sanded and salted as needed. Tony J. Eldridge, Superintendent of the Works, advised they are no longer using Viking Sides as consistent wiring issues on the trucks have been a continued problem and they will be using a new vendor for that going forward. He advised that he went out with W. Eldridge to let people in town know about the policy for plowing across the roads of the town. He advised they have been getting the old equipment ready to be auctioned. He is working with Matt Sawyer Jr. regarding the Whittier Covered Bridge Project and he is also working on a better time keeping method with W. Eldridge, M. Sawyer Jr. and Karen Anthony.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector – Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, advised that the Town Clerk's Office received approximately \$13,000.00 in revenue. The Tax Collector received approximately \$35,000.00. Skehan advised that Candidates Night will be on March 2, 2020 and the Town Elections will be on March 10, 2020.

Transfer Station – Brewster Vittum, Transfer Station Supervisor, advised that they did their normal recycling. He also advised that he is waiting on a quote for 29,000 pounds of aluminum cans.

Government Buildings- Tony J. Eldridge, reported that the generators have been serviced. He also received quotes for the security cameras project. He advised that the custodian will now be mopping twice a week as part of her duties. He advised that the Main Street building will need to be painted in the spring. T.J. Eldridge also announced a Community Concert Event on March 20, 2020 with musical guests Jackie Lee as well as The Coldsteel Ramblers. Free admission but donations are appreciated to benefit the Kingswood Girls Hockey team. Refreshments also served with donation courtesy of the Kingswood Girls Hockey team.

Water & Sewer Department – Wayne Eldridge, Water & Sewer Supervisor, reported that he has been thawing frozen service lines. Also he is getting ready for Camp David to open back up. He also advised that has been doing extra water sampling with Concord.

Announcement:

Chairman Martin read a statement from the Board regarding the budget status of the Town. She discussed the unassigned fund balance and asked Jonathan Smith, Vice Chairman of the Budget

Committee, to explain what the unassigned fund balance is. Smith advised that the unassigned fund balance is funds from taxes not yet received and there will be a cash flow shortage this year discovered by Finance and Benefits Administrator, Karen Anthony. After subsequent meetings with the Budget Committee, the Selectmen will be suggesting cutting some warrant articles at Town Meeting on March 11, 2020, including cuts at the Highway department, Transfer Station, Police Department and the Library. Martin went through each item to be cut. Discussion ensued.

Public Input:

Rick Morgan spoke about back taxes and suggested a cash flow management issue. Morgan spoke about unused year end budget. Smith advised that the cuts will not be operating budgets but with warrant articles. Discussion ensued.

Daniel Blake asked if sand was being cut from the budget and mentioned that he doesn't think there is enough sand being used on the Ossipee Mountain Road. He mentioned a recent accident on Chapel Road with a school bus and suggested lack of sand being an issue. William Eldridge advised that the fire chief advised that the road was not a factor in that accident.

Matt Trahan of the Economic Development Council advised that the EDC has identified grant funding for sidewalks and streetlights. He asked the Board to authorize the EDC to apply for this grant. Chairman Martin granted the request and advised that she will discuss with the Town Administrator next week. She also advised that the Board will draft a letter after budget season.

Dallas Emery asked for clarification on the warrant articles. He expressed concern and questioned if the warrant articles were voted in by the taxpayers, then the money should be there for that use. Chairman Martin explained the tax anticipation note. Discussion ensued.

Rick Morgan reiterated that he believes the issue is a tax flow problem and Selectman Martin advised that the town is trying to be fiscally responsible. Discussion ensued.

Maria Moulton asked about the Solar Pilot Program. Martin advised that the public hearing will be held on March 3, 2020 in the Bub Avery Gymnasium with a Selectmen's meeting immediately following to discuss and vote on. Maria asked if the town will have adequate time to review the program before it is voted on. Jonathan Smith advised that the program is an agreement between the Town and the solar company for payment in lieu of taxes rather than paying the full assessed value on the property. Individual solar projects would still have to go through the Planning and Zoning Boards. Discussion ensued.

Dallas Emery asked about our agreement with Eversource and advised that he wanted to switch to NH Co-Op but they said he was unable to due to our agreement. Martin advised him to speak with Matt Sawyer Jr. next week.

Emery also asked about the town employee handbook. Martin advised that Angela Rizzitano, Secretary, could get him a copy.

Meeting Minutes:

Martin made a motion to seal the minutes from the Non-Public Session held pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) for a Personnel matter. Simpson seconded.

Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Work Session and Non-Public session held on 2/10/2020. Simpson seconded.

Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Work Session held on 2/14/2020. Simpson seconded.

Martin made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 2/10/2020. Simpson seconded.

Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:

The Payroll Check Voucher total was submitted for the week ending 2/15/2020 with a pay date of 2/18/2020 in the amount of \$45,906.37. Accounts Payable for the week ending 2/10/2020 is \$137,937.71. Total General Fund payment was \$183,844.08. Water & Sewer Accounts Payable is \$4,427.15. Martin made a motion to approve. Simpson seconded.

A Payroll Reimbursement Request issued to the Water & Sewer Department for the payroll week ending 2/15/2020 with a pay date of 2/18/2020 was submitted in the amount of \$3,302.94. Martin made a motion to sign the request. Simpson seconded.

The Payroll Check Voucher total was submitted for the week ending 2/22/2020 with a pay date of 2/25/2020 in the amount of \$50,348.64. Accounts Payable for the week ending 2/24/2020 is \$50,033.57. Total General Fund payment was \$100,382.21. Water & Sewer Accounts Payable is \$6,826.64. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

A Payroll Reimbursement Request issued to the Water & Sewer Department for the payroll week ending 2/22/2020 with a pay date of 2/25/2020 was submitted in the amount of \$4,413.36. Simpson made a motion to sign the request. Martin seconded.

Water & Sewer Red Folder:

A Water & Sewer Warrant was presented for signatures for \$353.67 with penalties after March 31, 2020 for all sums not paid by this date. Martin made a motion to sign this Warrant. Simpson seconded.

A Water & Sewer Warrant was presented for signatures for \$38.67 with penalties after March 30, 2020 for all sums not paid by this date. Martin made a motion to sign this Warrant. Simpson seconded.

Review of Red Folder:

The Transfer Station Work Log was received for February 9, 2020 through February 22, 2020. It will be on file in the Selectmen's Office.

The Highway Department Weekly Work Log was received for February 18, 2020 through February 21, 2020. It will be on file in the Selectmen's Office.

The Board received several Notice of Decisions. Martin advised that they are on file in the Planning Board minutes.

Chairman Martin advised that the Town will no longer hold the rabies clinic due to liability reasons.

The Board has a request to the Trustees of the Trust Funds for a withdrawal from the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund to issue a check to the Town of Ossipee for \$96,600.00 for reimbursement of expenses paid to NH Peterbilt. Simpson made a motion to sign the request. Martin seconded.

The Board has a request to the Trustees of the Trust Funds for a withdrawal from the Bridge Repair and/or Replacement Expendable Trust Fund to issue a check to the Town of Ossipee for \$10,350.00 for reimbursement of expenses paid to American Crane. Simpson made a motion to sign the request. Martin seconded.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 80 Weetamoe Road for property owner Jason Dumke and Sarah Dumke (Map 066, Lot 031, Sub 001). The request is in the amount of \$4,088.00. The reason for the abatement is that the deed was transferred in September 2019 but it was just recently received in the assessing office. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 110 Nichols Road for property owner Eric Gillis and Gina Gillis (Map 029, Lot 001, Sub 256). The request is in the amount of \$190.00. The reason for the abatement is that the camper was registered for the 2019 tax season. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

The Board received a Raffle Permit Application from Mother Earths Creation's LLC. Place of drawing will be at 2145 Route 16, West Ossipee. Drawing will be July 4th & 5th, August 8th & 9th, September 12th & 13th. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

The Board received a Supplemental Warrant for Mary Boisse of 80 Weetamoe Road for \$4,088.00. This property was sold in September 2019 but the deed was just received so the property owner needs to be billed for the taxes. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

A Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Map 117, Lot 031 was presented for Elizabeth Gillette Trustee. The logger is Peter Farrell. There is no cemetery on the property and the taxes are paid. Simpson made a motion to approve this Intent to Cut. Martin seconded.

A Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Map 11, Lot 011 and Map 13, Lot 2 was presented for The Nature Conservancy. The logger is Tim Nolan. There is no cemetery on the property and the taxes are paid. Simpson made a motion to approve this Intent to Cut. Martin seconded.

The Board received a Current Use Application for William and Linda Abdu. Property address is 30 Effingham Road. Map 248, Lot 18. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

The Board received a Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for William and Linda Abdu. Property address is 30 Effingham Road. Map 248, Lot 18. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

The Board received a Current Use Application for William and Linda Abdu. Property address is 29 Circuit Road. Map 248, Lot 25. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

The Board received a Summary of Forest Stewardship Plan for William and Linda Abdu. Property address is 29 Circuit Road. Map 248, Lot 25. Simpson made a motion to approve. Martin seconded.

Old Business:

None Presented

New Business:

Chairman Martin advised that "Meet the Candidates Night" is March 2, 2020 after the Selectmen's Meeting. Also Martin advised that the Solar Pilot Revenue Public Hearing will be held on March 3, 2020 at 5:00 PM in the Bub Avery Gymnasium.

Second Public Input:

Dallas Emery referred to a questioned asked by Ash Fischbein at a previous meeting regarding whose decision it was to go against the school payment schedule resulting in the recent court case between the School District and the Town of Ossipee. Martin advised it was recommended by the Board of Selectmen. Discussion ensued.

Non-Public Session:

None

The next meeting will take place on Monday, March 2, 2020.

Adjournment:

Being no further input, Martin made a motion to adjourn. Simpson seconded.

Adjourned at 5:24 PM.

Sandra P. Martin, Chairman

Martha B. Eldridge

Susan J. Simpson

To be approved 3/2/2020