

Selectmen's Meeting Monday, April 20, 2020

These minutes were recorded by Angela Rizzitano, Secretary. Also present were Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator, T.J. Eldridge, Public Works Director, Brewster Vittum, Transfer Station Supervisor and Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector. The meeting was held in the conference room upstairs at Town Hall.

Call to Order:

Chairman Martha Eldridge called the meeting to order at 12:30 PM.

Attendance by Roll Call:

Present were Selectmen Martha Eldridge, Susan Simpson and Jonathan Smith.

Public Input:

None

Meeting Minutes:

M. Eldridge made a motion to seal the minutes from the Non-Public Session 1 held pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) for a personnel matter. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

M. Eldridge made a motion to seal the minutes from the Non-Public Session 2 held pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (e) for a legal matter. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Discussion:

Selectmen Jonathan Smith began the meeting by advising that the previous decision to furlough employees has been rescinded based on a court case from 1992.

Chairman M. Eldridge advised that she received a phone call from Roy Barron, Cemetery Trustee, regarding cemetery employee Chris Nason. Mr. Nason is currently unable to work and asked if the Board would approve of his son taking over that responsibility until he is able to return to work. The Board advised yes.

Barron also asked about access to the Freight House. There was confusion as to what he meant by access as he has a key to that facility. Sawyer Jr. will get clarification from Barron as to exactly what is needed.

Selectman Simpson discussed that as a Board she believes that maintaining 6 feet apart, using hand sanitizer and even wearing masks at Selectmen Meetings would be a good idea. Discussion ensued.

T.J. Eldridge, Public Works Director, discussed driveway permits, easements and diverting water off a Town right of way. He advised that a drain running off a town road has diverted water into a property owner's driveway. Selectmen Smith advised that the owner will have to sign a release before any work is done to correct the issue as it will be on their property. Discussion ensued.

Selectman Simpson took a moment to commend the Fire Fighters and Action Ambulance for their quick response to the multiple fire calls over the weekend. Simpson also inquired about sending a letter to Rick Morgan regarding his hard work during the ambulance contract negotiations. The board agreed to send a letter thanking him.

Selectman Simpson made a comment about the children from OCC seen playing near the gazebo in Town. She advised that she noticed the staff and children weren't social distancing or wearing masks. Smith advised that it would be difficult to have young children in a day care setting be able to social distance. Chairman M. Eldridge suggested we call and talk to OCC regarding the concerns.

Selectman Simpson also recommended that a thank you letter be sent to Ossipee Tailor Shop for their generous donation of masks for the Town employees.

Selectman Smith suggests that going forward, if it is possible, the Board should allow public input through the Go to Meeting outlet. Ed Comeau advised there is a chat feature on Go to Meeting or Government Oversight during live streams as well. Discussion ensued.

Selectman Smith asked the Tax Collector if it were possible to do quarterly taxes payments instead of twice a year. Skehan advised that she would look into this request and advise when she has more information. Discussion ensued.

Selectman Smith also advised that the Town should reach out to the School District regarding bond payments and see if they can be restructured in any way. Discussion ensued.

Selectman Smith advised that the Board will have the Building Inspector/Zoning Enforcement Officer, Steve McConarty redraft the Zoning Ordinance so the Board can review it for next year.

The Board reviewed the Recycling Center Fees with Brewster Vittum and T.J. Eldridge. Some increases to services have been made. Construction debris will increase to \$200.00/ton. Increases as follows but not limited to. Appliances will increase to \$15.00. Propane will be \$5.00. Small Furniture will be \$10.00. Couches will be \$15.00. Tires will be \$3.00. Brush and yard waste will be .02/Pound for commercial. Also dump stickers will be increased to \$20.00 for 2 years. Vittum suggests sending Green Mountain Furniture a letter advising them of the increases. Vittum advised that the scales will reopen this week as well. Also recycling of cardboard and aluminum cans have started back up as well. Smith suggested looking into getting a credit card machine for the Transfer Station to minimize contact. Discussion ensued.

Selectman Smith discussed eventually establishing a revolving or a reserve fund for the Transfer Station to be used to improve the facility. Discussion ensued.

T.J. Eldridge also advised that the Town has an agreement with the Pizza Barn for disposal of their trash and he would like to waive that fee as we are not charging other businesses. Smith asked if there is a policy in place and asked for clarification. Discussion ensued.

Chairman M. Eldridge made a motion to accept the review of the Transfer Station Fees including the increases. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. It will be available in the Selectmen's Office and at the Transfer Station.

Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator, advised that fire permits can be obtained by following the link to the State at www.Ossipee.org. He advised that it may take a few days to process.

At 1:12 PM, Chairman M. Eldridge made a motion to go into a non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) and RSA 91-A:3, II (e). Simpson seconded. Roll call was taken. Simpson advised yes. Smith advised yes and M. Eldridge advised yes.

At 2:27 PM, the Selectmen's meeting reconvened.

Chairman M. Eldridge read a letter from Lisa Snowman, Homeless Intervention Specialist, regarding Welfare Director, Sam Martin. The letter advised that Snowman reached out to Martin and asked for help in assisting a client receive 7 more nights at a hotel. Martin obliged without hesitation. Snowman advised that she was thankful Martin was able to assist.

Old Business:

None Presented

New Business:

Selectman Smith advised that he thinks it is a good idea to work on an unreserved fund balance policy. Discussion ensued.

Second Public Input:

None presented

Non-Public Session:

None presented

The next meeting will take place on Monday, April 27, 2020.

Adjournment:

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

Adjourned at 2:50 PM.

Martha B. Eldridge, Chairman

Susan J. Simpson

Jonathan H. Smith

To be approved 4/27 /2020