

## **Selectmen's Meeting Monday, June 1, 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 M. Eldridge called the meeting to order at 4:17 PM.  
M. Eldridge opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **Attendance by Roll Call:**

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

### **Public Input:**

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked about the Whittier Covered Bridge Project. Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator, advised that the current Town costs for this project is \$214,436.00. The Town has received Federal and State Grants totaling over \$900,000.00. The Town is now waiting for a Right of Way easement. Both Sawyer Jr. and T.J. Eldridge, Public Works Director, are optimistic for Phase 3 in the coming year.

Steer asked about Dunkin Lake and if the Town is maintaining that beach. Sawyer Jr. advised that the Town is not maintaining that beach but it is not prohibited to be used either. Selectmen Smith suggests that the Town should at least take the trash from Dunkin Lake Beach to the Transfer Station periodically. Discussion ensued.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

M. Eldridge 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. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

### **Water & Sewer Red Folder:**

None Presented

### **Review of Red Folder:**

T.J. Eldridge, Public Works Director, provided the Board with an equipment update. He advised that the new loader has been received and it is working great. He also advised that the old grader has a blown transmission. He is looking into possibly leasing one. Selectman Smith clarified that the Town would take ownership of the grader at the end of the lease. T. J. Eldridge advised that all the other equipment is good.

Matt Sawyer Jr. advised that the Town is eligible to apply for money with the Cares Act Relief Grant. There is potentially up to \$105,325.00 available. M. Eldridge made a motion to pursue these funds. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Matt Sawyer Jr. discussed concerns from citizens regarding Mill Pond and it being over utilized in their opinion. He advised that there are 2 signs currently posted regarding the hours of public access that are conflicting each other. Selectmen Smith advised that there needs to be a clear sign stating

the hours. Chairman M. Eldridge made a motion to change the Mill Pond water access sign to read: One hour after dark to one hour prior to daylight and to strike out 9-5 on one of the signs. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Matt Sawyer Jr. discussed the unassigned fund balance. He advised the 2019 Audit is complete and the unassigned fund balance is \$805,000.00. He advised that the DRA gives a minimum and a maximum and our unassigned fund balance is dangerously low.

Chairman M. Eldridge advised that the Board met with Police, Fire and Old Home Week officials and decided that the Fourth of July parade and fireworks will be cancelled this year due to Covid-19.

M. Eldridge asked about the sign that was ordered to support the graduates of the Town of Ossipee. Sawyer Jr. advised that it has been ordered and it will be placed in front of the Town Hall to support those graduates. He advised that people are encouraged to wear green and white for the Kingswood graduates or blue and white for the Ossipee Central graduates in supports of our students.

Matt Sawyer Jr. advised that the sealed bid auction has closed as of June 1, 2020 at 8 AM. They will be opened at the next Selectmen's meeting on June 8, 2020.

Matt Sawyer Jr. advised that the Archers Pit clean-up, organized by Misty Ryder, has been a success and he thanked all those who assisted in the clean-up efforts.

Matt Sawyer Jr. advised that he applied for a \$5,000.00 grant for the Transfer Station that has been granted. He also advised that the new Baylor is due in next week.

**Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:**

The Payroll Check Voucher total was submitted for the week ending 5/30/2020 with a pay date of 6/2/2020 in the amount of \$149,980.85. Accounts Payable for the week ending 5/25/2020 is \$21,922.25. Water & Sewer Accounts Payable is \$6,321.14. M. 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 5/30/2020 with a pay date of 6/2/2020 was submitted in the amount of \$3,845.63. M. Eldridge made a motion to sign the request. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Review of Red Folder continued:**

The Board received a letter from Karen Barron asking to be appointed to Cemetery Trustee. M. Eldridge made a motion to appoint K. Barron as Cemetery Trustee. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received the Preliminary GWRSD payment schedule for 2020-202.

The Board received a purchase order for a new Police cruiser, Warrant Article 12. Total cost is \$40,263.42. M. Eldridge made a motion to approve. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a purchase order for Old Home Weeks fireworks 2020, Warrant Article 27, to be encumbered for next year. M. Eldridge made a motion to approve. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 54 Deer Cove Road for property owner Brendan and Brian O'Neill Trustee (Map 044, Lot 083). The request is in the amount of \$285.15. The reason for the abatement is that the property owners believe the assessment exceeds market value and that the measurements on the tax card was incorrect. Simpson made a motion to approve this abatement. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 540 Route 25 East for property owner Johnsons Fuel Service Inc. (Map 047, Lot 047). The request is in the amount of \$7,493.00. The reason for the abatement is that the property sold last November and the deed was just received. Johnson Fuel Service needs to be abated since they are no longer the owners. Simpson made a motion to approve this abatement. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 130 Route 16B for property owner Daniel J. Kurzawa (Map 087, Lot 043). The request is in the amount of \$644.14. The reason for the abatement is that the property owners believe the assessment exceeds market value. Simpson made a motion to approve this abatement. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 4 Spur Road for property owner James Cirillo, Trustee (Map 034, Lot 013). The request is in the amount of \$233.22. The reason for the abatement is that the property owners believe the assessment exceeds market value. Simpson made a motion to approve this abatement. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 46 Old Mill Road for property owner Remigijus Dargis and Akvile Dargiene (Map 010, Lot 030). The request is in the amount of \$2,336.32. The reason for the abatement is that the property owners believe the assessment exceeds market value. Simpson made a motion to approve this abatement. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located at 32 Cassie Cove Road for property owner Gordon R. Taylor and Linda A. Taylor (Map 046, Lot 016). The request is in the amount of \$1,751.04. The reason for the abatement is that the property owners believe the assessment exceeds market value. Simpson made a motion to approve this abatement. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a Yield Tax Levy Warrant for \$7.24 for Tax Map 126 lot 018. Simpson made motion to approve. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a Yield Tax Levy Warrant for \$698.48 for Tax Map 264 lot 008. Simpson made motion to approve. Smith seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a Supplemental Warrant for Jensi Real Estate Trust of 540 Route 25 East in the amount of \$7,493.00. The reason for the warrant is that the property sold in November and the deed was just received so the property owners need to receive a tax bill. Smith made a motion to sign this Warrant. Simpson seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Old Business:**

None Presented

**New Business:**

None Presented

**Second Public Input:**

Daymond Steer of the Conway Daily Sun asked if the Town anticipates the completion of the Whittier Covered Bridge to be this year or next year. T.J. Eldridge advised that due to COVID-19 the completion would possibly be next year.

Steer asked if there is any way to get Unassigned Fund Balance out of the danger zone. Sawyer Jr. advised that it will increase this year since we aren't using most warrants. Discussion ensued.

Steer also asked about what factors were considered in cancelling the July Fourth Parade and Fireworks. Chairman M. Eldridge advised that the concerns are that in order to control the crowds and keep them following guidelines, Ossipee Police would need to hire more officers as well as the concern over use and sanitation of portable restroom facilities. So for public health and safety it has been cancelled. Discussion ensued.

**Non-Public Session:**

None

The next meeting will take place on Monday, June 8, 2020.

**Adjournment:**

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

Adjourned at 4:50 PM.

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Martha B. Eldridge, Chairman

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Susan J. Simpson

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Jonathan H. Smith

To be approved 6/8/2020