

Selectmen's Work Session Monday, April 19, 2021

The following meeting was held in the upstairs conference room at Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Martha Eldridge, Susan Simpson and Jonathan Smith. Matt Sawyer Jr., Town Administrator was also present, and recorded the minutes. Public Works Director TJ Eldridge was also present.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM

Discussion:

The Board reviewed and signed documents in the red folder, splitting them up to read and vote on at the Public Session.

At 3:00 PM, the group was joined by Treasurer Karen Deighan, Tax Collector Kellie Skehan, and Finance Director Andrea Picard for the Finance Meeting. There was a discussion of Town Finances including estimated bank balances, upcoming large payments due, and outstanding real estate taxes.

There was a general agreement that the Town didn't need to borrow from the TAN yet, and would wait as long as possible, but possible as soon as May. There was also a consensus that the group would like to pay it back as quickly as possible this year to minimize interest cost, unlike 2020 where uncertainty prevented the Town from doing that.

Tax Collector Kellie Skehan reported that around 90 of the original 116 on the 2018 Tax Deeding List were still unpaid, but the overall unpaid tax balance was under \$800,000 for all years, where it had been over \$1.1 million in the recent past. There was a question from Picard about the timing of the first half 2021 tax bills, and Skehan responded that the Selectmen determine the timing, not the Tax Collector.

At around 3:30 PM, the Finance Meeting concluded. The Board continued reviewing the accounts payable and other documents in the folder with light conversation. It was discussed that a house on Chickville Rd has been accumulating significant household trash, and Sawyer was instructed to send them a warning letter.

At 4:00 PM Smith motioned to recess until 4:15 PM in the gym. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Jonathan H. Smith, Chairman

Susan J. Simpson, Selectman

Martha B. Eldridge, Selectman