

Selectmen's Meeting
Wednesday, September 3, 2014

Chairman Richard Morgan called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Robert Freeman, and Franklin Riley, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. Also present was Chief James Eldridge.

Morgan announced the purpose of the meeting to review and act upon the proposed ordinance for Prohibition of the Possession or Sale of Synthetic Cannabinoids. Morgan asked the other Board members if they had a chance to review the ordinance. Riley and Freeman confirmed.

Eldridge questioned if the penalty of \$500 per day was appropriate. Morgan confirmed and added that it could be increased to \$1,000 if needed.

Eldridge stated that the main cause of recent break ins and battery thefts have been linked to users of the synthetic cannabinoids. He added that it is causing crime in Ossipee and surrounding towns.

Discussion took place on theft of metals and recyclables that are being redeemed for cash to purchase the synthetic cannabinoids at a local business. Eldridge stated that the people who are being arrested for committing the crimes are acknowledging that they are using the money to purchase the synthetic cannabinoids.

Morgan made a motion to adopt the Ordinance for Prohibition of the Possession or Sale of Synthetic Cannabinoids. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

White questioned when the local business would be notified of the Ordinance. Eldridge answered that it would happen immediately and sales would cease immediately per the Ordinance.

Eldridge informed the Board that Officer Ripley will be completing training offered by DEA in Tilton next week.

Morgan discussed the status of the drug account. Eldridge stated that it will increase with pleas collected. Morgan stated that funding is essential to help assist with drug enforcement in the community.

Discussion took place on weak prosecution by the County Attorney's Office.

Eldridge was dismissed at 10:40 AM.

Morgan announced that he had been served with court documents from Northern New England Telephone/Fairpoint for an appeal they filed in Superior Court. He expressed his concern that they were not made aware of an abatement filing. White added that she had just learned that Hannaford has an outstanding abatement as well. Morgan asked White to set up a meeting with the Assessor to discuss the open issues. Further discussion took place on the assessment process. Morgan stated that the Assessor should be assessing fairly and accurately and the values must be defensible. Riley stated that all value negotiations should go through the Selectmen.

Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, came in to discuss the staffing at the Transfer Station. He stated that Bub will be filling in to cover a vacation. Harriman reported that all staff is working well together in the absence of the Supervisor.

Harriman informed the Board that the 450' section of Hodsdon Shore Road to be repaired was found to be only a base coat. With funds available in the budget, he will be ordering an extra 100-ton of paving material to complete the repair of the 450' section. Brief discussion took place on the paving being completed on Routes 25 and 16.

Being no further input, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55 AM.

Richard H. Morgan

Robert C. Freeman

Franklin R. Riley

To be approved 9/8/2014