

**Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, May 4, 2015**

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Franklin Riley and Robert Freeman, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting #1 held on 4/27/2015 at 2:30 PM. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 4/27/2015. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 5/2/2015 in the amount of \$137,124.03. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the voucher. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Accounts Payable Voucher was submitted for the week ending 4/25/2015 in the amount of \$55,956.84. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the voucher. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan stated that the Selectmen reviewed each invoice prior to approving the batch totals.

A letter of commitment acknowledging the Town's participation in the 2015 Lakes Region Planning Commission's Household Hazardous Product Collection Program was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the letter. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Ralph D. Floria of the Floria Revocable Trust of 1998 for the property located on Map 37, Lot 19. The taxpayer accepted the Board's counteroffer of \$381,300 presented on 11/17/2014, to settle the BTLA Tax Appeal. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received for the properties owned by ADS Realty Trust located on Map 27, Lot 2 and Map 28, Lot 3. Kellie Skehan, Tax Collector, requested the abatement in the amount of \$29.34 because the taxpayer paid the 2014 taxes prior to going to lien, but the payment was delayed by the Post Office by almost two weeks. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Timothy Mackey and Joan McNeil for the property located on Map 29, Lot 1, Sub Lot E25. The taxable camper was removed in 2013, verified removed by the Assessor in 2014, but never removed from the tax roll. The abatement request is for \$134.96 for tax year 2013 and \$240.87 for tax year 2014. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Notice of Intent to Excavate was received from Bradley Leighton of the 2012 Foresight Realty Trust Holdings for the property located on Map 239, Lot 1. The Intent is to excavate a total of 1,350 cubic yards and a bond has been posted. Morgan made a motion to approve the Intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan requested that a copy be forwarded to the Planning Board.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Rivers Edge & Skelly's requesting use of the YMCA Ballfield for men's softball from April – August. Peter Waugh, Recreation Director, verified the schedule and the applicable deposit has been received. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A letter addressed to Corporal Justin Swift expressing appreciation for a job well done assisting a motor vehicle accident on 3/31/2015, was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the letter. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A letter addressed to Jennifer Berkowitz, Director of the Schools Out! Program, congratulating her as this year's recipient of the Thad Mandsager Award, was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the letter. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A grant amendment package for the new Local Emergency Operations Plan (LEOP) Project was presented for signatures. White stated that the Town was previously approved a grant in the amount of \$2,500 but the State of NH Homeland Security and Emergency Management made some changes to the format of the LEOP update that would require an additional \$1,500 in funds. White stated that in order to move forward with the new format for the LEOP update, a request was made to increase the grant limitation to \$4,000. The Town of Ossipee Board of Selectmen, in a unanimous vote, accepted the terms of the Emergency Management Performance Grant (EMPG) as presented in the amount of \$4,000 for the purchase of a LEOP Project Update. Furthermore, the Board acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$4,000, in which the Town will be responsible for a 50% match (\$2,000)."

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the week ending 5/2/2015.

The Recycling Center Daily Cash Log was received for the month of April. The total amount collected was \$3,316.95.

The Board received notification from Time Warner Cable that their agreement to merge with Comcast has been terminated.

The Board received notification that a workshop on septic systems is to be held on Tuesday, 5/12/2015 from 6-8 PM at Runnells Hall in Tamworth.

The Board received notification from the Attorney General's Office of upcoming training seminars for Trustees of Trust Funds, Cemetery Trustees and Library Trustees.

The Board received the finalized report of valuation from the State of NH Department of Revenue Administration. The report states the 2014 Total Equalized Valuation is in the amount of \$648,094,520.

The Board received a copy of a letter from the Lakes Region Planning Commission addressed to Rick St. Jean welcoming him as a Commissioner to the Lakes Region Planning Commission.

The Board received a letter from Brent Day of William A. Day Jr. & Sons, Inc. introducing him and what services the company provides.

Old Business:

Whittier Covered Bridge – Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, reported that the siding is ready and will be hauled to the site this week. Morgan announced that the Warrant Article in question last week is date specific for completion of Phase 2 on or before 12/15/2015. White will contact the NH DRA for guidance on making amendments, if necessary.

New Business:

Morgan announced that they would open the bids received for the masonry repair and copper flashing of the Library Roof. The bids received are as follows:

Masonry repair:	Pro Point Restoration LLC	\$24,600
	J & S Masonry	\$12,900
	Jay Hounsell	\$ 8,320
Copper flashing:	Jay Hounsell	\$14,065
	Gary Lapointe, Shed Water Systems	\$36,350
For both:	Jay Hounsell	\$18,645

Morgan made a motion to have Harriman review the bids and make a recommendation to the Board at next week's meeting. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan announced that the Dog Officer will be resigning at the end of May and asked White to post the job opening this week.

Morgan clarified that Ossipee has never done a sobriety check point; they have only assisted Wakefield in the past few years. He stated that it is likely that it won't be done this year if Wakefield is opting out. Morgan added that Ossipee will be conducting DWI patrols, but not the sobriety checkpoint.

This concluded the business portion of the meeting and Morgan opened the meeting to public input.

Public Input:

Carol Holyoake, Reporter for the Carroll County Independent, asked for information on the Dog Officer position. White will provide a copy of the job description and rate of pay to her.

Holyoake questioned how the recycling revenue compares to prior years. Harriman answered that commodities pricing has dropped significantly and metal recycling has been on a steady decline. Harriman stated that a full load of aluminum cans went out today which should produce between \$17,000- \$20,000 in revenue. He also stated that he will often hold materials until the pricing comes up to get the most recycling revenue possible.

Holyoake questioned if the community is supportive of recycling. Harriman answered that most are very good about separating but encourages ideas for a more supportive approach.

Ed Comeau, State Representative, stated that the Delegation met today but did not appoint a Treasurer. Deputy Treasurer Chip Albee will fill in until an appointment is made until the next election. Comeau stated that the Mountain View Community's Union Contract was adopted. He also stated that budget revenues are less than expected. Discussion took place on the unassigned fund balance and the impact of the County's finances on the tax rate. Comeau stated that the County is headed in the right direction and positive change in the atmosphere at the Delegation meetings is being noticed. Morgan stated that if there is a significant shortfall, the taxpayers need to know as soon as possible. Comeau stated that it is too early to determine what will happen with the tax rate and that audits need to be completed.

Comeau stated that Wakefield may reconsider their decision on the sobriety checkpoint. Morgan stated that Ossipee has been assisting Wakefield for years.

Comeau asked if a request for further information was made to Planet Aid. Morgan responded that it was not necessary; there is plenty of information available online. Comeau questioned how many Planet Aid bins are located on Town property. White answered that there is one at the Transfer Station and one at the OCC building.

Comeau stated that the next House session is this Wednesday and spoke on SB106 which will create legislation for the State labs to create a list of chemicals to be banned connected to synthetic cannabinoids. Comeau stated that they are trying to control chemistry and people are finding plenty of ways to get high. Discussion ensued on prohibition and drug use. Comeau stated that he is going to propose education to the public and store owners. Morgan spoke in support of a balance in enforcement, education, and rehabilitation. He stated that the removal of the D.A.R.E. program from schools was the worst thing that could have been done. Comeau questioned there to be no current drug education in school. Morgan confirmed.

Harriman reported that he spoke with the NH DOT about the sidewalks and the Town would have to complete the engineering requalification process to move forward without repayment. Harriman stated that he will get the information from White Mountain Survey & Engineering up to the current status to provide to a new engineer if need be. Morgan questioned how they can force a change mid-way through the project. Harriman answered that it is based on federal requirements. Condict Billings reported that there is \$80,000 in the account. Harriman stated that the 600' section of sidewalk they completed a few years back cost approximately \$34,000. Morgan questioned when the sidewalks would be completed if we proceed with the State. Harriman answered that it should be done in 2016. Morgan questioned how much the Town has invested in the project so far. Harriman answered with approximately \$20,000 which may have to be paid back if the Town decides to do the sidewalks on their own. Riley discussed easements required and Harriman stated there to be potential challenges with the State right-of-way. Morgan requested that Harriman provide a cost comparison of what it would cost to continue with the State versus the Town completing the sidewalks for next week.

John Reckenbaud commented that the younger generation have nothing to look forward to and relates the drug addiction problem to poor family structure. He suggests that rather than fixing the problem through symptoms of the problem, they seek ways to cure. Morgan thanked him for his comments. Morgan added that drug addiction crosses all boundaries and the heroin epidemic was fueled by doctors over prescribing medications.

Holyoake asked what the amount of the DRA Equalized Value was. Morgan responded with \$648,094,520 which includes the utilities and railroad values.

Holyoake questioned what impact the County funding issues will have on the tax rate. Morgan answered that the Town sets their rate in the fall and is then notified of how much to pay to the County. Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, stated last year's amount due to the County to be over \$700,000. Morgan stated that the tax rate is also comprised of State Education, local school and Fire Precincts. Morgan stated that this year's Town overall budget was down \$115,000 but others may increase which would impact the tax rate.

Billings questioned what the Equalization Ratio is. White responded with 107.2%. Morgan commented that the values will change this year as a result of the statistical revaluation in progress.

Morgan polled the Board for a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) at 5:02 PM. Roll call vote was taken. Morgan answered yes, Freeman answered yes, and Riley answered yes. Morgan made a motion to adjourn the non-public session at 5:17 PM. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Public session reconvened at 5:17 PM.

Morgan announced that they voted in an earlier meeting to contract with Rick Sager to host a tax sale later in the summer.

White announced that the new Town website went live last Thursday and they will continue to add more information to it. Comeau commented that Wakefield has been using Virtual Town Hall for a few years and is a good contact for help with the new site.

Being no further input, Morgan made a motion to adjourn. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Adjourned at 5:20 PM.

Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

Franklin R. Riley

Robert C. Freeman

To be approved 5/11/2015