

Selectmen's Work Session Monday, February 6, 2023

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

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 12:45 PM

Discussion:

Public Works Director TJ Eldridge presented a memo recommending enacting a winter parking ban ordinance which would restrict parking in Town parking lots from 12:00 AM midnight to 7:00 AM November first to April 1st. Eldridge explained that safety and maintenance concerns caused when people leave their vehicles overnight in these lots, causing the Town the inability to properly remove the snow and ice. Smith motioned to approve a new overnight parking ban from 12:00 AM-7:00 AM, for the dates of November 1st until April 1st, effective immediately. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Sawyer asked the Board to look at the budget sheets provided. He explained that there is a petition warrant article which has been submitted by the Economic Council for \$5,000 to go towards new signs to drive business to downtown Center Ossipee. Smith motioned to approve the article. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0. There was a brief discussion regarding the facets of DOT approval regarding location and sign parameters.

At 12:52 PM Smith motioned to enter three nonpublic sessions; sessions 1 under RSA 91-A:3, II(a), session 2 under 91-A:3, II(b) and the third session under 91-A:3, II(e). Simpson seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Smith – YES

Eldridge - YES

Simpson – YES

At 3:03 PM Smith motioned to reenter the public session at. Simpson seconded, and the vote passed 3-0. Smith motioned to seal the minutes to nonpublic sessions 1, 2 and 3. Simpson seconded, and the vote passed 3-0.

Roland Millette, Karon Baron and Misty Ryder entered the meeting, representing Ossipee Concerned Citizens. There was a brief discussion regarding OCC's interest in hosting a recurring BINGO game as a fundraiser, and potentially using the gym at Town Hall. Sawyer said he had talked to Recreation Director Justin Chaffee, and there is no appropriate time slot available at the same time every week. Additionally, OCC said they would likely have a lot of equipment including several monitors and a stage. There was a consensus that the equipment nor the scheduling would work at the Town Hall Gym. TJ Eldridge asked about the possibility of using the upstairs room at the OCC Building, and offered his help. The OCC Reps agreed it was a good idea and said they would look into that and be in touch.

Next, Roland discussed the idea of a 1k Road Race, mostly for fun and not a serious competition, that would be a fundraising event during Old Home Week. LT Ripley from OPD had entered the room

and Roland said he would be in touch more with the PD and the Town after they narrow down a date, but Chairman Smith and the rest of the room had consensus that it seemed like something that would be doable and wouldn't see any reason to oppose it.

Lastly, Roland informed the BOS that the development he lives in, The Bluffs, is considering a gate system to keep crime and mischief out of their neighborhood. He asked what the Town's opinion or level of control would be over that. There was a brief discussion regarding the challenges which would be cost, reliability, and the logistics of giving all the appropriate safety personnel key cards or whatever entry method ends up in place. Smith said he didn't think the Town have too much to do with it, although they would possibly need a site plan amendment from the Planning Board but that the Selectmen wouldn't have anything to say about it. Roland and the other OCC Reps thanked the group for their time and left the meeting.

At 3:25 PM Smith motioned to enter a nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(a). Simpson seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Smith – YES

Eldridge - YES

Simpson – YES

At 3:38 PM Smith motioned to reenter the public session. Simpson seconded, and the vote passed 3-0. Smith motioned to seal the minutes to nonpublic session #4. Simpson seconded, and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith reviewed the documents in the red folder and made a motion to approve the two new Employee Evaluation documents, one for Managers and one for non-supervisors. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith made a motion to approve a letter that Sawyer had drafted in favor of SB 84 which would establish a research committee to look into and make recommendations for clarity regarding charitable exemptions. This is a letter of support that would be sent to the appropriate Senate Committee. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith presented a property tax exemption form per the warrant article that passed 2018 pursuant to RSA 72:81, providing incentives to businesses for a 50% tax reduction (not including education tax) up to 5 years. The applicant is for the location formally known as the brick manor. Smith made a motion to approve the exemption. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith presented a contract between Ossipee and Effingham for the use of Recreation Facilities and Programs. Sawyer explained that it is a 4 year deal starting off at Effingham paying Ossipee \$35,000 per year and increasing by \$5,000. Smith motioned to approve the contract. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

TJ Eldridge discussed the Granite Rd project, where the failed culvert is being replaced in the area of White Pond. TJ said the project is in full swing and they will soon be at a point to close the road for a few days. TJ is working on a detour plan currently and will announce more when the dates and detour is firmed up.

TJ said that he has engaged a few companies to build railings for the far side of the entrance at the front of Town Hall which does not have a railing currently and should. He will present bids when he has them all.

TJ said that he was able to trade in the plastic plow for the 5500 that didn't work out. He said that Fairfield made good on the deal, and they upgraded us to a steel one. TJ said that he needs to purchase tires for the skid steer at the Transfer Station, and he will look into universal airless tires that will last a long time and be able to go on the next machine we get. TJ said the skid steer and the backhoe have been giving us problems, based on how much use they have and their age.

TJ asked the Board about the 4th of July holiday regarding the Transfer Station employees, seeing as it falls on a Tuesday. Sawyer presented the Union Contract and it lists the 4th of July as a paid holiday, so it was agreed that TJ would look into it more with the Union to come up with a solution.

Selectman Smith asked TJ what else he had for the board. TJ said that he has signed up with Morton Salt, because they are cheaper than Granite State Minerals, but he will evaluate the product when we get it to determine the overall better deal.

The Board looked through all the documents to ensure they had taken them all from the red folder and that they each had some for the downstairs portion of the meeting. At 3:53 PM Smith motioned to recess until 4:15 PM. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Jonathan H. Smith, Chairman

Susan J. Simpson, Selectman

Martha B. Eldridge, Selectman