

Selectmen's Work Session and Meeting Monday, August 22, 2022

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 present.

Chairman Smith called the meeting to order at 3:00 PM.

Discussion:

Smith made a motion to enter a nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) for personnel issues. Eldridge seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Smith - YES

Eldridge – YES

Simpson – YES

At 3:30 PM Smith motioned to reenter the public session. Eldridge second and the vote passed 3-0. Smith motioned to seal the minutes to the nonpublic session. Eldridge second and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith asked TJ about the straining cart for Camp David. TJ said it should be done fairly soon, but regardless of how late in the year it gets done, the vendor will honor the 30-day warranty of actual time of use. TJ said the lagoon cleanouts went well and that the new tanker truck is useful to flush out pipes. There was a discussion regarding the reduction in Sewer income due to DES now prohibiting us from taking commercial waste. The group was in general agreement that it makes sense to allow residential wastewater from neighboring Towns. Eldridge thought there may have been a warrant article passed at some point in history prohibiting that. Sawyer said he would ask the TC office to do a search.

At 3:38 PM Smith motioned to enter into nonpublic session #2 under RSA 91-A:3, II(a) for personnel issues. Eldridge seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Smith - YES

Eldridge – YES

Simpson – YES

At 3:42 PM Smith motioned to reenter the public session. Eldridge second and the vote passed 3-0. Smith motioned to seal the minutes to nonpublic session #2. Eldridge second and the vote passed 3-0.

There was a review of the documents in the red folder. Smith motioned to approve the invoice of \$45,000 for the purchase of a water tanker truck using ARPA funds. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

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

At 4:15 PM Smith called the meeting back to order in the gym and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. Smith called for public input but there was none.

Eldridge read the financials for the week:

Payroll	\$34,222.13
Gen Fund (A/P)	\$125,921.49
Water & Sewer (A/P)	\$16,473.94
Whittier Bridge	\$87,393.17

Eldridge motioned to approve these totals. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Eldridge motioned to approve the Selectmen's Meeting minutes from August 8. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Eldridge motioned to approve a Water/Sewer warrant for \$169.25. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Simpson read a notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for map 017, lot 014 and map 018 lot 004 from Newman Drew Rd. and Route 16. Smith seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith read a notice of decision from the Planning Board for 22-02BLA regarding map 251 lot 002. They were conditionally approved for a Boundary Line Adjustment and given three waivers.

Smith motioned to approve the revised document for the Institutional Exemption Policies and Procedures. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith presented a document from the Friends of Constitution Park, detailing the work including the volunteer hours and donors. Smith read that a total of 1555 volunteer hours were worked and over \$21,000 in donations were made. Smith thanked and congratulated Edwina and Bob Boose and all involved.

Smith presented the 2021 Audit which we just received and noted that the amount of recommendations or problems/remedies in the report was a pittance compared to all the years past, due to the fine work of Finance Director Andrea Picard and Town Administrator Sawyer. Smith said that the Town is in excellent financial shape. He said that a short time ago our Unassigned Fund Balance was around \$800,000 and now it is over \$2,300,000. He thanked the whole team but especially TJ Eldridge for his careful spending and planning, and who is largely responsible for all the savings.

TJ and Sawyer gave a brief update on the Whittier Covered Bridge project, with a target completion date around October 1 still.

Smith opened the meeting to the second public input session. Frank Burke asked about the Town's new water tanker truck. Brief discussion ensued. Smith reminded everyone that the work session held upstairs is part of the public meeting and everyone is welcome to attend both the upstairs and downstairs sessions.

Dallas Emery expressed concern with some of the voting issues at the state level. Smith encouraged him to contact the Secretary of State.

Being no further input, Smith motioned to adjourn. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0 concluding the meeting at 4:30. Smith announced that the next meeting would be on September 12.

Jonathan H. Smith, Chairman

Susan J. Simpson, Selectman

Martha B. Eldridge, Selectman