

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, May 11, 2015

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Franklin Riley and Robert Freeman, and Elaine Sherman, Finance & Benefits Administrator, who recorded the minutes.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting #1 held on 5/4/2015 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 5/4/2015. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 5/9/2015 in the amount of \$35,906.79 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 5/2/2015 in the amount of \$117,725.87. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the voucher. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan stated that the Selectmen reviewed and approve each invoice prior to approving the batch totals.

The Tax Warrant, instructing our Tax Collector to collect taxes in the amount of \$6,852,013.00 was presented. Morgan made a motion to sign the warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Notice of Intent to Cut Timber was submitted by owner, Derek Nichols. The 43 acre Elm Street property is located on Map 119, Lot 4. The logger is Austin Tremblay. As the taxes have been paid, Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Current Use Application for 20 Covered Bridge Road was presented. Morgan stated that our Assessor had reviewed it and it meets the requirements, therefore he made a motion to approve the application. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Notice of Intent to Excavate was received from Fredrick Heckel for the property located on Map 124, Lot 25. The Intent is to excavate a total of 15,250 cubic yards. 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 Notice of Intent to Cut Timber was submitted for property located on Map 243, Lot 3, 65.6 acres of Backland off Walker Hill Road by John J. Hammond Trustee. The logger is Tim Nolin of Forest Land Improvement. As the taxes have been paid, Morgan made a motion to approve the intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A letter from the Board of Selectmen to the Trustee of Trust Funds requesting reimbursement of funds in the amount of \$1,015.99 from the Whittier Covered Bridge Expendable Trust was reviewed. Morgan made a motion to sign the request. Freeman Seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the week ending 5/9/2015.

A notice was received from the State of New Hampshire Department of Resources and Economic Development, Division of Forest and Lands stating they are planning to harvest timber from 81 acres of the Pine River State Forest. They will be offering this sale for public bidding in the summer of 2015 and will notify the Selectmen of the successful bidder at that time. Morgan commented that if any of the local loggers are interested they should watch for the notice coming up.

An information package was received from New Hampshire Electric Co-op and its consultant Vegetation Control Services, Inc. containing information regarding their intent to apply herbicide treatments to control vegetation along the power lines.

The Board received notification from Time Warner Cable regarding recent programming changes.

A copy of the approval letter for funding of the Ossipee DWI/DUI Patrols from the State of New Hampshire Highway Safety Agency to Chief James K. Eldridge was received.

A detailed package was received from State of New Hampshire Department of Revenue Administration regarding the 2014 Cyclical Review. It is available for anyone who would like to read it.

A memo from Brad Harriman regarding the Library masonry and copper bids was received. The results were that Jay Hounsell was the low bidder on both the masonry and copper bids. His combined bid of \$18,645.00 realizes a savings of \$3,740.00 for the Town. Harriman recommend that the Selectmen award the Masonry and Copper Bids to Jay Hounsell. Morgan asked for comments from the Board. Having none, he made a motion to award the bids to Jay Hounsell for the amount of \$18,645.00. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan congratulated Hounsell on receiving the bid.

Morgan asked Harriman to explain the payment memo submitted for the project. Harriman stated that Hounsell provided a detailed breakdown of his payment requirements to be able to pass the most cost savings on to the Town. Harriman said that the "Up-Front" costs were more than reasonable and said most of the balance would be billed out weekly for the four weeks needed to complete the project. The balance of \$930.00 will be held as retainage until the final inspection and punch list is completed. Sherman and Harriman discussed the details of getting a vendor package completed prior to any work being done.

On behalf of the Board of Selectmen, Morgan expressed condolences to Peter Waugh and family on the passing of his mother.

Morgan spoke on the woodlands fire that consumed approximately 275 acres last week. He believes that it was just short of miraculous that it was brought under control in just over two and a half days. He stated all those involved did an outstanding job. Chief Carl Huddleston added that it far outstretched their local resources. They were aided by in excess of 25 different departments and agencies, both state and federal, from outside our area. The largest crew at one time on the mountain included 95 people. Only two minor injuries resulted. Both independent hikers and pilots out of Windsock will continue to monitor the area for quite some time. He concluded by saying they will probably never know the cause of the fire.

Morgan commended Chief Huddleston and Warden Adam Riley on the excellent communications involved. They kept the selectmen well briefed and followed operation procedures seamlessly. Morgan and Huddleston agreed that joint thank you notes will be sent to the participating departments and agencies as well as businesses that contributed food, water and more.

Old Business:

Whittier Covered Bridge – Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, reported that there isn't much happening on site at the moment. He verified with Hoyle, Tanner that there are no problems or issues and believes that timber milling is happening off site contributing to the lack of activity.

Sidewalks – Harriman submitted as requested a memo stating that the Town of Ossipee has been reimbursed a total of \$20,311.00 to date for the design work on the Main Street sidewalks. Discussion ensued on the costs to build that section of sidewalk ourselves. Harriman stated that if we proceeded that way we would have to repay the state what the state has already reimbursed to the Town. Riley said that he thinks it will be a hard project to get out of. Harriman noted that there may not be any funds for the actual building of the

sidewalks but that to date the reimbursement for the engineering has been at 100%. Morgan thanked Harriman for the update.

New Business:

Water and Sewer Commissioners – After completing research and discussions the Commissioners have agreed to abate most of the 1st Quarter 2015 Water and Sewer bill for 55 Main Street. They asked the Selectmen to resubmit an abatement request in the amount of \$7,075.64 and they will approve it. The Selectmen agreed and will do so.

Morgan asked if the Commissioners were familiar with and were abiding to the Town’s hiring policies, namely the need to do background checks prior to hiring. Commissioner DeWitt stated that he believed that Doug Sargent did so with the new hire and they would do so when they fill the superintendent position.

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

Public Input:

Morton Leavitt spoke on his history with the Water & Sewer Department. He expressed his concerns with, and disappointment of, the decisions being made currently. An emotional discussion ensued between Leavitt, Dewitt and Kwiatkowski concentrating on the resignation/termination of Douglas Sargent. Morgan noted that this discussion would be best served at a Commissioner’s meeting.

Daniel Hughes spoke to the board about “Dump Stickers.” He stated that he is a single dad with limited income. He disagrees with the policy that stickers are assigned to a vehicle as his vehicle does not generate trash his household does. He has had a number of issues with his pickup truck and needs to use another vehicle to go to the Transfer Station and doesn’t think it is fair that he be required to purchase another “sticker.” Morgan explained the policy of reissuing a Facilities Permit at no charge when a vehicle is out of service. Hughes said he did not get that information today when he inquired. Brad Harriman provided clarification of the incident as he was present at the time. Hughes said he would return his sticker to the Selectmen’s Office and have it reissued to the alternate vehicle.

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

Adjourned at 5:10 PM.

Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

Franklin R. Riley

Robert C. Freeman

To be approved 5/18/2015