

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, March 16, 2015

Selectman 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.

Freeman made a motion to appoint Richard Morgan to Chairman of the Board. Riley seconded. Morgan abstained. Majority vote carried.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 3/9/2015. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Workshop held on 3/9/2015. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 3/14/2015 in the amount of \$38,999.42. 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 3/7/2015 in the amount of \$146,299.78 which included payments to the Fire Precincts in the amount of \$110,550.00. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the voucher. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a copy of the Long-Term Variable Milfoil Management Plan from the NH DES. Morgan requested a copy be made for each Selectman for their review.

Morgan announced that the Board has been reviewing and updating job descriptions. The updated job description for the Code Enforcement Officer was presented for approval. Morgan made a motion to adopt the new job description. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Purchase Order payable to Taser International in the amount of \$10,453.05 for the purchase of new Tasers for the Police Department was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve the Purchase Order. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Outdoor Event Application was received from the Open Door Bible Church for concerts being held on Sundays at 9:30 AM and evenings at 7:00 PM during the week of 7/19/2015-7/23/2015. Previously approved by all departments, Morgan made a motion to approve the Application. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Outdoor Event Application was received from Henry Gelinas & Gary Martischnig for the Native American Style Powwows being held on 7/4, 7/5, 8/8, 8/9, 9/19, and 9/20/2015. Previously approved by all departments, Morgan made a motion to approve the Application. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Excavate was received from Green Oak Realty Development for the property located on Map 235, Lot 4. The Intent is to excavate 77,000 cubic yards and the taxes are paid. Morgan made a motion to approve the Intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the week ending 3/14/2015.

An Intent to Excavate was received from David J. Fuller of SADCO Site Development for the property located on Map 277, Lot 4. The Intent is to excavate 5,700 cubic yards and the taxes are paid. Morgan made a motion to approve the Intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Timber Tax Warrant in the amount of \$869.21 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the Warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Intent to Excavate was received from John Jeddrey for the property located on Map 244, Lot 2. The Intent is to excavate 5,000-20,000 cubic yards and the taxes are paid. Morgan made a motion to approve the Intent. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from James M. & Danielle Owen for the property located on Map 33, Lot 28. The Assessor recommends a reduction in value of \$69,300 for adjustments made to the land and building resulting in a refund of \$1,349.27. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Ralph Cerundolo for the property located on Map 123, Lot 11. The Assessor recommends a reduction in value of \$36,100 based upon a comparative market analysis supplied by the taxpayer resulting in a refund of \$723.44. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Excavation Tax Warrant in the amount of \$176.40 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the Warrant. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A request to the Trustees of Trust Funds for the withdrawal of \$2,443.33 from the Whittier Covered Bridge Expendable Trust Funds for reimbursement of expenses paid to Hoyle, Tanner & Associates was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the request. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a copy of a check received from Northeast Resource Recovery Association in the amount of \$129.60 for fibers recycling.

A Delegation of Deposit Authority was received from Treasurer Harry Merrow requesting to delegate deposit function authority to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector and his/her respective Deputy. Morgan made a motion to sign the Delegation. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a letter from Treasurer Harry Merrow requesting the appointment of Jonathan Smith to the position of Deputy Treasurer. Morgan made a motion to approve the appointment. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Condict Billings stated that Smith will have to resign from his position as Trustee of Trust Funds. Morgan requested that White verify whether Smith can hold both positions.

Morgan announced that the Board's request for all bank accounts held under the Town's federal identification number has received two responses to date.

The Board received a letter from the NH DOT informing them of an incoming reimbursement in the amount of \$64,651.86 representing the 80% match for construction-related services performed on the Whittier Covered Bridge Project. Riley questioned if this included funds for the change order. Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, answered that it does not.

The Board received a letter from Rick St. Jean requesting consideration for any openings on the Budget Committee or Selectmen's Representative to the Planning Board. Morgan requested that White forward the letter to the Budget Committee.

Morgan announced that their request made on 1/26/2015 to the Water and Sewer Department seeking an abatement in the amount of \$7,523.68 was denied by the Commissioners on 3/2/2015. Morgan questioned Commissioner Chester "Ski" Kwiatkowski on their decision. "Ski" responded that the removal

of the fee was made in relation to the 2015 budget but not retroactive. Morgan contested the decision stating that the issue was brought to the Commissioner's attention last fall. Morgan made a motion to send a letter to the full Board of Commissioners objecting the bill. Freeman seconded. Riley stated his support stating the Town has been inappropriately assessed along with the school and believes that the school should challenge it as well. A unanimous vote was taken.

Old Business:

Whittier Covered Bridge – Harriman stated that he has received the dimensions for the siding from Stan Graton at 3G Construction and will verify the lengths needed. He added that he still has not received response on the funding of the change order. Morgan stated that he does not want to hold up the construction progress and requested that Harriman continue his efforts and report back to the Board next week. Riley asked if the progress meeting is still on scheduled for Thursday. Harriman confirmed.

Discontinuance of Street Lights – Harriman reported that he, Police Chief Eldridge and Lieutenant Duchesne attended the meeting last Friday as one of five towns out of a total of fifteen who were invited. He stated that they presented the Board's letter and their concerns with the proposed discontinuance of street lights. Harriman stated that the NH DOT's plan is to remove the lights and electrical wiring from the poles starting in April but they will leave the poles in place for one year. Harriman also reported that his concern for the State removing lighting and also not painting the stop bars at certain intersections was answered by the NH DOT representatives who informed him that the State will resume painting all stop bars at intersections. Morgan requested that Harriman keep the Board informed of any new information.

Morgan spoke on the lack of voter participation at the Town Election and Town Meeting. He stated that the budget process begins in September followed by a Public Hearing in February, Candidate's Night, and Town Meeting where attendance was primarily people connected to the budget in some way. He added that a \$5 million budget passed in a little over one hour. A suggestion was made to issue more notice for upcoming meetings.

Ron Adams stated that the coverage in the local newspaper, the Carroll County Independent, is terrible. He added that the newspaper lacks information and a reporter to cover Ossipee. Adams also discussed the impact on the elimination of civic education and social studies in school and the impact on today's youth; an issue that State legislation should deal with.

New Business:

Road Bans – Harriman requested permission to post the roads as of 3/23/2015 following a review of when surrounding towns will be posting. Morgan made a motion to allow the posting of Town roads as of 3/23/2015. Freeman seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. The Board stated they would like Harriman to encourage early morning transports by contractors as needed. Harriman confirmed.

Harriman suggested Saturday, 4/25/2015 for the free day at the Transfer Station as it's the Saturday following Earth Day. The Board agreed and also spoke in support of hosting an additional fall clean-up day again this year.

Public Input:

"Ski" questioned if there has been any talk on the sale of powdered alcohol. Sergeant Bob King stated that it is still very new and they have very little information on it at this time.

Morgan reported that a group of 8-12 individuals will be working to establish Narcotics Anonymous meetings to be hosted at the First Congregational Church to help with the issue of heroin addictions and overdose-related incidents.

“Ski” stated that the reporter covering Ossipee for the Carroll County Independent is from Dover. He stated that he met with her to review the Zoning changes a few weeks back and the coverage was reported in the paper the day following Town Meeting. He added that she relies on the meeting minutes for her reports. Morgan stated the he suspected that most of the coverage was based on footage from Comeau’s recordings but that is only limited to when he records the meetings.

Gwen Guild stated that she was unable to vote due to health reasons but also did not know any of the candidates. She suggested that the Board advertise the vacancies in the paper. Morgan responded that the Board did this several times last year. Further discussion ensued on voter participation and meeting attendance.

Harriman stated that the annual cost for each street light is \$280.00.

White informed the Board that she reached out to the State Representatives by email requesting they speak in opposition to House Bill 547. She added that she received response back from State Representative Ed Comeau but unfortunately the Bill passed. Comeau stated that he is still unsure why the Bill passed with the amendments especially where there is a current court hearing on the issue but it will be moving on to the Senate. Morgan requested that White draft a similar letter to Senator Jeb Bradley stating the Boards’ opposition to the Bill.

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

Adjourned at 5:00 PM.

Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

Franklin R. Riley

Robert C. Freeman

To be approved 3/23/2015