

**Selectmen's Meeting  
Monday, February 4, 2019**

These minutes were recorded by Ellen White, Town Administrator. The meeting was held in the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium at Town Hall.

**Call to Order:**

Chairman Morgan called the meeting to order at 4:15 PM.

Morgan opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Attendance by Roll Call:**

Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Sandra Martin, and Martha Eldridge.

**Public Input:**

Jonathan Smith reported that the attendance at the School District's Deliberative Session was dismal. The results from the petitioned warrant articles submitted are that there will be an advisory budget committee with members serving a one-year term to start and a 25% tax cap. Discussion ensued. Ed Comeau, State Representative, commented how disturbing it was to hear the laughter from the audience when it was discussed that towns like Effingham and Ossipee were struggling to pay the local school tax. Smith discussed the discrepancies that have been noted in the projected impact of the budget increases.

**Meeting Minutes:**

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 1/28/2019. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Department Head Meeting, Work Session & Non-Public Session held on 1/28/2019. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:**

The Payroll & Benefits Voucher was submitted for the week ending 2/2/2019 in the amount of \$148,236.05. The Accounts Payable Voucher was submitted for the week ending 1/28/2019 in the amount of \$483,172.72 including accounts payable of \$31,448.72 and payment to the School District of \$451,724.00. The Water & Sewer Accounts Payable Voucher submitted for the week ending 1/28/2019 was in the amount of \$6,066.59. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the vouchers. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken. Morgan stated that these are only the batch totals; each individual invoice goes through a multi-tier review before it is approved in the manifest total.

**Review of Red Folder:**

The Highway Department Work Log was received for the week ending 2/2/2019.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received for the property located off Route 41 (Map 6, Lot 16) owned by the Rademacher Realty Trust. The request in the amount of \$39.00 is due because a mapping error showed the property boundaries incorrectly. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Nadine San Antonio for the property located at 9 Pork Hill Road (Map 140, Lot 1). The Assessor recommends a reduction in value from \$137,100 to

\$119,600 resulting in a refund/abatement of \$408.27 to account for changes made during a property inspection he completed to include a land condition adjustment due to its wet nature and a building condition adjustment due to the lack of a conventional heating system. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for an Abatement was received from Stephen & Laura Healy for the property located at 47 Lovell River Road (Map 53, Lot 57). The Assessor recommends a reduction in value from \$224,500 to \$195,100 resulting in a refund/abatement of \$679.14 to account for changes made during a property inspection he completed to include building sketch corrections and building condition adjustments for unfinished areas. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The final copies of the No Through Trucking Ordinance and Ordinance Regulating the Use of Engine Brakes were presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to sign the ordinances. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Application for Elderly Exemption was presented for review. The Assessor has determined that the applicant meets all requirements for the exemption and recommends its approval. Morgan made a motion to approve the application. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Application for Veteran's Tax Credit was presented for review. The Assessor has determined that the applicant qualifies for the All Veteran's Tax Credit and recommends its approval. Morgan made a motion to approve the application. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Application for Veteran's Tax Credit was presented for review. The Assessor has determined that the applicant does not meet the requirements for the Service-Connected Disability Credit and recommends the application be denied. Morgan made a motion to deny the application. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan welcomed Victoria Chase from NH DOT and her crew to present on the proposed Route 16 and 25 intersection and Route 16 and 41 intersection improvements. A review of the design plan (attached) took place, and information was provided from the design team and Engineer from the Traffic Bureau. Comments were received from the audience including a suggestion from Ash Fischbein to allow for sidewalks to allow pedestrians the ability to safely travel to the area businesses by foot. A traffic light is not figured into the current design plan but required conduits will be installed for future consideration of a traffic light at the Route 41 intersection. Discussion ensued. Morgan commented that the proposed changes may help but will not eliminate the traffic jams that occur in season. Additional concern was raised with the reopening of Covered Bridge Road which will open up to additional traffic using it as a shortcut and further congesting the direct intersection. Fischbein requested a pedestrian crosswalk area at the existing traffic signal at the intersection of Route 16 and 25 to allow safe crossing for pedestrians especially from the Econo Lodge side of the intersection. Further discussion ensued. Morgan made a motion to proceed with the proposed design plan taking into consideration a pedestrian crossing at Route 16 and 25, and to continue to address the Route 16 and 41 intersection. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Chase informed the Board that she has taken a position with the Highway Maintenance Division and will no longer be leading the project. She thanked the Town for their support.

The Board received a letter in response to a petition that was submitted by Loretta Sim to the Effingham Planning Board in regard to a new pit in Effingham that would require additional heavy truck travel on Duncan Lake Road.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Samantha Kidder requesting use of the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium on 2/9/2019 for a birthday party. The schedule has been verified by Craig Brady, Recreation Director, and applicable deposit has been received. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received notice of a Public Hearing from the Town of Middleton Zoning Board of Adjustment for a variance submitted by Blue Sky Towers, II LLC for setback requirements. The hearing is scheduled for 2/12/2019 at 7:00 PM at the Middleton Municipal Building.

The Board received notice from the Zoning Board of Adjustment of a Public Hearing scheduled for 2/12/2019 at 7:00 PM at the Freight House Annex for a variance and special exception that has been applied for by Patricia and Donald Simpson for the property located at 16 Frost Road (Map 66, Lot 49).

An Application for Current Use was received from Stephen Buswell for the property located at Back Route 16 (Map 127, Lot 5). The application is to put the 18-acre parcel into current use assessment. The Assessor recommends the application be approved. Morgan made a motion to approve the application. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

The Board received a copy of email correspondence received by White from a resident of Circuit Road requesting that Circuit Road also be posted as no through trucking. Morgan requested that Brad Harriman, Public Works Director, consider installing signage to that road as well, when posting the affected roads.

An Application for Property Tax Exemption for Commercial and Industrial Properties was received from Revive Main Street for the property located at 90 Main Street (Map 92, Lot 83). The Assessor recommends denying the application as it was received after the filing deadline of 12/31. Discussion took place on the application deadline and it was ultimately decided to table the application for further information.

The Board received notice of Public Hearing from the Town of Gilmanton Planning Board for regional impact related to a new wireless telecommunications facility application received from Industrial Tower and Wireless, Inc. The hearing is scheduled for 2/14/2019 at 7:00 PM at the Gilmanton Town Hall.

#### **Water & Sewer Red Folder:**

The Payroll Reimbursement Request for the week ending 1/28/2019 was submitted in the amount of \$3,251.55. Morgan made a motion to sign the request. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Water & Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$108.86 for service charges was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Water & Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$136.47 for service charges was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the warrant. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**New Business:**

None presented.

**Old Business:**

Sidewalks - Fischbein questioned the status of the lighting design for the new sidewalks. Morgan responded that Harriman and Joe Deighan had proposed a few ideas but nothing has been decided upon yet. Morgan welcomed anyone to present some additional ideas to assist with calculating the amount of street lights that will be needed and a rough estimated cost.

**Public Input #2:**

Krystal Eldridge questioned the status of the ice skating rink stating that it is not useable at present and has not been taken care of. White will check with Brady to find out what the plan is for flooding/maintaining the rink.

Morgan announced the Budget Committee will be meeting on Wednesday, 2/6/2019 at 6:30 PM at the Freight House. The Public Hearing for the 2019 Municipal Budget will be Wednesday, 2/13/2019 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall.

**Non-Public Session:**

Not applicable.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 4:15 PM.

**Adjournment:**

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

Adjourned at 5:47 PM.

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Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

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Sandra P. Martin

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Martha B. Eldridge

To be approved 2/11/2019