

**Selectmen's Joint Meeting, Work Session, and Finance Meeting
Monday, February 4, 2019**

Chairman Morgan called the Work Session to order at 2:00 PM. The following meeting was held in the upstairs conference room at Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Richard Morgan, Sandra Martin, and Martha Eldridge, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded the minutes. Also present were Justin Prunier and Jessica Cole from the Sumner Brook Fish Hatchery.

Joint Meeting:

Morgan reviewed the Warrant Article that will be proposed to the voters to allow the sale of the Fish Hatchery to Prunier and Cole. Discussion took place on completing a market analysis on the property and what steps will be taken if the Warrant Article is successful. A few questions raised will be relayed to the Town Attorney for clarification.

Prunier and Cole were dismissed at 2:32 PM.

Non-Public Session:

Morgan polled the Board for a non-public session under RSA 91-A:3, II (e) for legal matters at 2:33 PM. Roll call vote was taken. Martin answered yes, Eldridge answered yes, and Morgan answered yes. Morgan made a motion to adjourn the non-public session at 2:46 PM. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to recess at 2:47 PM. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to reconvene at 3:00 PM. Martin seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Review of Red Folders, Accounts Payable and Payroll Manifests:

The Accounts Payable Manifest, Red Folder, and Water & Sewer Red Folder were reviewed.

Budget Review – Warrant Articles and Revenues:

Also present were Craig Brady, Recreation Director, Jay Levesque from Forest Pump & Filter, and Steve McConarty, Zoning Enforcement Officer.

Discussion took place on the existing well at Constitution Park and the output that would be required to properly irrigate the fields. Levesque reviewed the proposal he prepared to install up to two new wells for water supply and the experience he has with Ossipee soils. Discussion ensued.

Discussion also took place on the traveling sprinkler Brady is proposing in place of installing a permanent irrigation system. He and McConarty will be discussing alternate solutions.

Brady and Levesque were dismissed at 3:17 PM.

McConarty informed the Board that he will have additional information from Hartley Well to review next week.

The Board and McConarty discussed the proposed improvements at the Ossipee Concerned Citizens building that are included in the petitioned Warrant Article received.

McConarty was dismissed at 3:30 PM.

Finance Meeting:

Also present were Harry Merrow, Treasurer, Kellie Skehan, Town Clerk/Tax Collector, and Karen Anthony, Finance & Benefits Administrator.

Morgan announced that he will not be in town for the Budget Public Hearing on 2/13 or the Budget Committee Meeting on 2/6. Martin agreed to cover the 2/6 meeting and Eldridge agreed to cover the 2/13 Public Hearing.

Anthony reported \$2.4 million in expenses to be paid in February and March. Merrow reported the current balance in the General Fund to be \$2.8 million.

Skehan stated that \$1 million remains uncollected from the 2018 taxes due. She informed the Board that she will be issuing delinquent notices on 2/12/2019.

Anthony stated the School District payment due in February is over \$1 million and March's payment is roughly \$500,000.

Merrow reported that he has started the application for the Tax Anticipation Note. The estimated interest rate (2.3%) is higher than last year (1.6%).

White reported that the Highway Block Grant funds for the quarter were received last week and the bulk of the auction proceeds were received after the first of the year.

Discussion took place on the School District Tax Cap which has been increased from 2% to 25%. There is question as to whether changing the percentage of the cap changes the intent of the petitioned Warrant Article?

Discussion also took place on preparing the Warrant for the first half of 2019 property tax. White will request that the assessing data be recorded and the Warrant be prepared for signatures on 4/22 or 4/29 at the latest. The tax bills will be due no sooner than 7/1/2019 although early payment can be accepted.

Brief discussion took place on the Town-wide revaluation and building permit data pickups.

Anthony and Merrow were dismissed at 3:47 PM.

Budget Review – Warrant Articles and Revenues Continued:

The six petitioned Warrant Articles that have been received to date were reviewed.

Skehan reviewed two Warrant Articles she is requesting for Town record restoration; one which will use grant funds that have been approved, and a second using Town-funds to restore several loose volumes that are in desperate need. Skehan proposed a few options to break up the funding over

several years. The Board agreed to proceed with the 1940-1965 volumes in the amount of \$22,470 for 2019.

Skehan and the Board reviewed dates for Meet the Candidates Night. The date will be set for Monday, 3/4/2019 at 6:30 PM at the Town Hall. This will be in traditional format with a question and answers forum. No requests have been received from Ossipee Listens to host a similar event.

Skehan was dismissed at 4:00 PM.

White discussed the status of the Town Report. A cover photo, Selectmen's Report, and dedication are needed as soon as possible.

Being no further input, the work session was adjourned. Adjourned at 4:00 PM.

Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

Sandra P. Martin

Martha B. Eldridge

To be approved 2/11/2019