

Selectmen's Work Session and Meeting Minutes Monday, June 20, 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 2:30 PM

Discussion:

Smith motioned to enter 2 consecutive nonpublic sessions, the first under RSA 91-A:3, II(b) and the second under RSA 91-A:3, II(c). Simpson seconded and a roll call vote was taken:

Smith – YES

Eldridge – YES

Simpson – YES

At 3:30 PM Smith made a motion to re-enter the public meeting. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0. Smith motioned to seal the minutes to nonpublic sessions 1 and 2. Simpson seconded, and the vote passed 3-0.

Recreation Director Justin Chaffee joined the meeting, and a discussion regarding Old Home Week ensued. If the Old Home Week Committee does dissolve, the Town could accept funding into the Recreation Revolving Fund, and would facilitate the fireworks, but would probably not host the block party or do a newspaper. All agreed.

Chaffee also explained he had further discussion with the person interested in partnering with the Town to create and host a vendor/craft fair. The Board agreed to a 50/50 split of the revenue between the Town and the interested party, as long as all payments are run through the Rec Revolving Fund, including revenues and the payment to this person acting as coordinator.

At 3:40 PM Finance Director Andrea Picard joined the group and gave a brief finance update including a YTD Expenditure report. She reported good cash flow and adequate bank balances, though the July school payment is over \$1,800,000. She also expects the final audit report soon, but the draft she received looked extremely good.

There was a brief review of two policy drafts, recently created by Sawyer. Smith motioned to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Public Input Policy. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0. Smith

motioned to approve the Duties of the Selectmen's Char Policy. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

At 3:54 Smith motioned to recess until 4:15 PM in the gym. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

At 4:15 PM Smith called the meeting back to order in the gym and invited everyone to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Smith informed the audience of the new Selectmen's Meeting Public Input Policy which limits each speaker to 5 minutes and clarifies the requirement to say their name and address. Smith reiterated that public input at a board meeting is a courtesy, not a right, and that this Board believes in transparency and feedback, so they are allotting more time than many other boards who limit it to 2 or 3 minutes, if at all.

Smith opened the meeting to public input and Patricia Pustell spoke about the AARP Age Friendly Community, and that the Town had agreed to join with her as the liaison for one year which has since lapsed. She asked the Board if they wanted to renew the membership and if they wanted her to continue to serve in this role. Smith asked if there was a requirement or paperwork that the organization wanted from the Town. Pustell replied but did not cite a specific application or form. Smith motioned to continue to participate in the Age Friendly Community program and to continue having Pat serve as the Town's liaison. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0. Pustell thanked the Board and explained that she is running for State Rep.

Chris Elliot from the audience asked if the Public Input Policy limits or regulates the topics of discussion. Smith and Sawyer said no, other than a reasonable level of decorum, but not in terms of national topic vs local.

Bobby Roakes from Blake Hill asked about the Public Hearing for the recent Transfer Station tire fees, and how the meeting was noticed. Sawyer explained it is in all the normal places including the Center Ossipee Post Office, Town Hall and online. Sawyer also explained how to re-enroll in the online email blast service to ensure news and announcements of all kinds generate an email notification. Roakes gave some input regarding his opinion on how the fees for tires should be based on weight. Discussion ensued. Roakes then spoke about the recent Town Drug and Alcohol Policy which he referred to as the Police Department Drug Policy, and said he believed the PD should have been involved in the decision making. Smith replied that they were involved to some degree and properly notified.

Daymond Steer from the Conway Daily Sun introduced himself and asked about the Tax Deeding item on the agenda and whether the Board can or will do anything to prevent a tsunami of people become homeless because of this "policy change." Smith replied that this is not a policy change, but

rather the process is laid out law by NH RSAs, and this Board is simply following the law. Bob Bowie and Bobby Roakes asked about the requirement or ability for the Town to grant abatements for the disabled. Conversation then ensued broadly discussing elderly and veterans tax exemptions etc and the ability for nonprofits to exist if they want to help people pay taxes, but that the Town doesn't keep a trust fund for that purpose. It was agreed upon that the Assessing Clerk and Tax Office do often help people with these applications.

Steer asked a follow up on the Public Input Policy and whether the policy prevents the Board from answering questions. Smith said if the policy doesn't prevent it and depending on the question or concern from the public, there may be a response, or it may be taken under advisement.

Being no further public input, the meeting moved onto the red folder portion of the agenda. Eldridge read the financials for the week:

Payroll	\$33,317.38
General Fund (AP)	\$190,114
W/S	\$13,403.90
Rec Revolving Fund	\$250.96

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

Eldridge motioned to approve the Selectmen's Meeting and Public Hearing minutes from June 6th. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Simpson read a request for an abatement and motioned to deny the abatement regarding the value of a shed for \$600. Smith seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Simpson read a request for an abatement with a recommendation to deny it from the Assessing Clerk. Simpson made a motion to deny it. Smith seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Simpson made a motion to approve a Timber Tax Levy Warrant for \$1,097.27 for Map 130 Lot 8 and Map 136 Lot 1. Smith seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Simpson made a motion to approve a Timber Tax Levy Warrant for \$154.46 for Map 243 Lot 2 and Map 244 Lot 1. Smith seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Simpson said she had a stack of Yield Tax Levies and would read them and make a motion after:

Map 80	Lot 8	for	\$0
Map 104	Lot 14004	Sub 045	for \$965.40

Simpson read the following Clerical Abatement requests:

Map 029 Lot 1 Sub 153 for \$164 which was recommended by the Assessing Clerk.

Map 122 Lot 10 Sub 14 for \$77.00
Map 252 Lot 17 and 18 for \$365.24
Map 53 Lot 92 for \$1472.00
Map 17 Lot 1 Sub C19 for \$93.00
Map 130 Lot 12 Sub 23 for \$66.00
Map 44 Lot 85 for \$133.00
Map 2 Lot 3 for \$290.00
Map 29 Lot 1 Sub 322 for \$207.00
Map 263 Lot 15 Sub 6 for \$20.00
Map 29 Lot 1 Sub 667 for \$104.00
Map 4 Lot 3 for \$306.00
Map 20 Lot 15 for \$3,091.00
Map 37 Lot 22 for \$1,237.86

Simpson made a motion to approve all the Timber Yield Tax Warrants previously read. Smith seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Simpson made a motion to approve all the Clerical Abatements previously read. Smith seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith read a Notice of Decision for Map 95 Lot 13 from ZBA 22-02V. Larry Klinger was denied a variance.

Smith read a Notice of Decision from the Planning Board for Map 53 Lot 99 case # 22-05SPRA. They were granted a final site plan review amendment.

Smith motioned to approve a Water and Sewer Warrant for \$80.00 for Map 93 lot 5 and Map 86 Lot 8. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith motioned to approve three Land Use Change Tax Bills:

Map 274 Lot 5 for \$3740
Map 242 Lot 2 \$5400
Map 104 Lot 14-2 \$810

Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith motioned to approve three Land Use Change Tax Warrants:

Map 274 Lot 5 for \$3740
Map 242 Lot 2 \$5400
Map 104 Lot 14-2 \$810

Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith read the following Supplemental Tax Warrants:

Map 122	Lot 10	Sub 14	for	\$7.00
Map 4	Lot 3		for	\$306
Map 29	Lot 1	Sub 667	for	\$104
Map 2	Lot 3		for	\$290
Map 29	Lot 1		for	\$164
Map 53	Lot 92	Sub 153	for	\$1,472
Map 20	Lot 15		for	\$3,091
Map 263	Lot 15	Sub 6	for	\$20

Smith motioned to approve these Supplemental Tax Warrants. Simpson seconded and the vote passed 3-0.

Smith moved down the agenda to the Fishing Derby Recognition, but the family was not present so they moved on to the next item. Smith said that the Tax Deeding has already been addressed in the Public Input section as well as dealt with upstairs so that item is complete.

Smith opened the meeting for the second Public Input session. Chris Elliot asked for clarification on the next meeting date. Smith responded July 11th.

Daymond Steer asked what the Town's process is for foreclosures. Sawyer clarified that the right terminology is "tax deeding" and that at the three-year mark of unpaid property taxes the Tax Collector must issue a Tax Collector's Deed, conveying ownership of the property to the Town. Sawyer said RSA Chapter 80 can provide much more detail. Smith added that excess proceeds beyond what the Town is entitled to goes back to the previous owner when the Town sells the tax deeded property.

Smith announced that he is interested in allowing OHRVs on some Class VI Town roads and to expect conversation about that in the near future.

Smith said there is no meeting next week. Frank Burke asked why not, and Smith replied that it is the privilege of the Chair. Being no further input, Smith motioned to adjourn. Eldridge seconded and the vote passed 3-0, drawing the meeting to a conclusion at 4:55 PM.

Jonathan H. Smith, Chairman

Martha B. Eldridge, Selectman

Susan J. Simpson, Selectman