

**Selectmen's Meeting**  
**Monday, December 3, 2018**

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 and Martha Eldridge. Selectman Sandra Martin was absent.

Morgan announced that the Board held a non-public session earlier pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3, II (a) for a personnel matter and confirmed the hiring of Patrolman Ethan Rico at that time. Morgan welcomed Rico, who was present in the audience, and congratulated him. Chief Joseph Duchesne stated that Rico will be relocating to the area from Litchfield, NH, and his field training will commence this weekend until he starts at the NH Police Academy in early January.

**Public Input:**

Carroll County Commissioner David Babson informed the Board that the County has received a letter from the NH DOT stating that the County water line that runs under the intersection of Routes 28 & 171 must be relocated due to the construction of the roundabout. Babson stated that the cost associated with the engineering, design, and relocation are the responsibility of the County. Discussion ensued. Morgan requested that Babson forward a copy of the letter to Ellen White so it can be followed up on.

Francis Burke questioned how many Ossipee students attend the School District. Morgan responded that there are 316 currently attending Ossipee Central School but he was unaware of the number attending the middle or high schools. Discussion took place on determining the total population in comparison to the attendance over the past several years.

Morgan announced that the tax rate has been set and tax bills have been distributed noting the increase of \$1.59 in the local education tax, up from the estimated increase of \$1.33. Morgan stated that the Board of Selectmen have worked diligently over the past four years to reduce the Town's portion of the tax rate by \$0.64 and the School District more than doubled that amount in only one year. He reviewed the issue with the calculation used to figure the Town's share of local education which is impacted by the daily average attendance and equalized value of the Town. He also noted that of the \$1.5 million increase in the school budget, Ossipee absorbed \$900,000 of the increase. Morgan stated that the Town Budget Committee is very concerned and unfortunately the Town cannot make budget cuts to support the School District's increase. Morgan also reviewed the School District's budget review process consisting of three meetings held to review the \$50 million budget.

Ed Comeau, State Representative, discussed legislation that has been presented in the past and upcoming legislation he is working on to clarify language in the State Statutes in regard to local education.

Comeau announced the preliminary budget will be reviewed during the School Board Meeting at Tuftonboro Central School this evening at 7:00 PM.

Morgan added that there is already talk of an additional \$1 million increase in the proposed budget. He also discussed the fact that the School District is paying 100% of a full family health insurance plan for its employees totaling \$9.2 million per year. He noted this to be an area in the budget that could be reduced significantly by phasing in an employee-contribution as the Town has done over the past decade. Babson stated that the County has recently ratified a contract requiring a 70/30 split for health insurance costs. Discussion also took place on offering a deductible reimbursement.

Morgan stated there has been significant concern about the future affordability of the taxes in Ossipee and stated that a lot of the concern should be directed to the School District.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Selectmen's Meeting held on 11/26/2018. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

Morgan made a motion to approve the minutes from the Work Session held on 11/26/2018. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

### **Accounts Payable & Payroll Manifests:**

The Payroll Voucher was submitted for the week ending 12/1/2018 in the amount of \$55,135.50. The Accounts Payable Voucher was submitted for the week ending 11/26/2018 in the amount of \$28,417.58. The Water & Sewer Accounts Payable Voucher submitted for the week ending 11/26/2018 was in the amount of \$5,794.07. Morgan made a motion to approve and sign the check vouchers. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

### **Review of Red Folder:**

A Raffle Permit Application was received from the Friends of the Community Christmas for a raffle taking place on 12/8/2018. Morgan made a motion to grant the permit. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Raffle Permit Application was received from the Friends of the Ossipee Public Library for a raffle taking place on 12/20/2018. Morgan made a motion to grant the permit. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Highway Safety Grant Application submitted by the Police Department was presented for signatures. Morgan requested the item be tabled to allow time to review the application.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received from Chuck & Lisa Wilkins for the camper located at 700 Route 16 (Map 130, Lot 12, Sub Lot 44). The request in the amount of \$19.00 is due because the camper was registered. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Contract for Use of Facilities was received from Central NH VNA HFA Home Visiting requesting use of the Bub Avery Memorial Gymnasium on 12/16/2018 for a Christmas Party. The schedule has been verified and the applicable deposit has been received. Morgan made a motion to approve the contract. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Request for a Clerical Abatement was received from the Granese Trust for the property located at 20 Oakwood Drive (Map 53, Lot 88). The request in the amount of \$2,985.00 is due because the

property sold but was not conveyed to the new owners. A supplemental tax warrant will be issued to the new owners. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

A Supplemental Tax Warrant in the amount of \$2,985.00 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to grant the abatement. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

An Agreement and Release Regarding a Building Permit for a Class VI Highway was received from Anthony Scott and Sandra Meninno for the property located on Hodsdon Shore Road (Map 73, Lot 37). Morgan made a motion to sign the agreement. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**Water & Sewer Red Folder:**

The Payroll Reimbursement Request in the amount of \$3,795.09 for the week ending 12/1/2018 was presented for signatures. Morgan made a motion to approve the request. Eldridge seconded. A unanimous vote was taken.

**New Business:**

- Roland Millette re: Ossipee Concerned Citizens – Rescheduled
- Proposed 2019 Municipal Budget Status – Previously discussed.
- Tax Rate Breakdown - Previously discussed.

**Old Business:**

None presented.

**Public Input #2:**

Condict Billings, Planning Board Chairman, stated that the Planning Board is in need of alternate members to fill in for members that are absent or must recuse themselves. White responded that she will advertise vacancies on the Town's website.

Bill Eldridge, Highway Foreman, reported that the Highway Department is in the process of completing repairs following last weeks' snow storm. He stated that the storm resulted in wet and heavy snow but the roads are in great shape. Morgan commented on the quality of the town-maintained roads stating that he drove through neighboring towns and found them to be in much worse shape than Ossipee's during the storm.

Maria Moulton, Librarian, informed the Board that Santa and Mrs. Claus will be visiting the Library on 12/17/2018.

White announced the Breakfast with Santa and Community Christmas Celebration are this Saturday, 12/8/2018.

Morgan announced there will be no Selectmen's Meeting on 12/24/2018 but there will be one on 12/31/2018.

Comeau requested that any response to NH DOT regarding the County water lines be copied to the State Representatives to keep communication open. Bill Eldridge stated that a new water line was installed a few years ago well below the frost line. The question of why the lines need to be moved if they are already well under the roadway will be asked.

**Non-Public Session:**

Not applicable.

The next meeting will take place on Monday, December 10, 2018 at 4:15 PM.

**Adjournment:**

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

Adjourned at 4:47 PM.

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Richard H. Morgan, Chairman

ABSENT  
Sandra P. Martin

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Martha B. Eldridge

To be approved 12/10/2018