

Selectmen's Minutes
May 6, 2013

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, May 6, 2013 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Bussiere, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Hatch, Selectman Malloy, Chairman Clark, Administrator Scruton and Clerk McNeil.

Chairman Clark welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Chairman Clark opened the public hearing at 6:30 p.m. on the proposed changes in fee structure at the cemetery. Commissioner Walker spoke about the changes. The Commissioners did a survey to compare their prices with other towns. Barrington has not made any changes for 12 years. The trustees can set the rules for the cemetery but not the fees. People who already purchased lots will be grandfathered by number of burials on the lot. There was no public comment. Selectman Hatch moved to support what was recommended by the Trustees, effective May 7, 2013, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. The hearing closed at 6:41 p.m.

Chairman Clark opened the second public hearing at 6:42 p.m. on the issuance of a building permit on a private road (Stadig Road) for Cheryl Downing Revocable Trust. Clerk McNeil noted that the paperwork had been completed and the road was inspected by the road agent. The Police Chief and Fire Chief agreed with road agent's recommendation. Selectman Hatch moved to support the road agent's recommendation for a building permit, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Administrator Scruton introduced the new tax Collector, Linda Markiewicz. She spoke of new deputy tax collector, Jessica Stephens. Ms. Markiewicz stated that the tax collector's office will be open longer hours and the office will be more transparent. Ken Grant asked about a resignation of the previous tax collector and why was it not made public. An independent audit of the tax office was done after the resignation in compliance with state law, and there were no money issues.

DEPT. HEAD QUARTERLY REPORTS

Tara Barker – Rec. Director – Mrs. Barker reviewed her statistics from the first quarter and noted that they are on track for another good year. All five camps are filling up for the summer and registration is ahead of last year already.

Upcoming events – fishing derby this Saturday at the Christmas Dove, hoop dance class, adult kayak series, family kayak series, archery and adult paddleboard. The MOU between the Board of Selectmen and the Recreation Commission will be back before the Board in June following a final review by the Rec. Commission.

Marcia Gasses – Planning and Land Use Administrator – Ms. Gasses gave an update of what has been approved by the Planning Board and what is in progress. They are currently well within their budget. The zoning amendments from town meeting have been uploaded to the website. Ms. Gasses attends the Strafford Regional Planning Commission meetings and noted that Barrington has three projects in the top ten of local state projects. She also noted the workshops that she has attended. Selectman Malloy asked about the LGC Leadership program which is about managing and government law.

Carolyn Berryment – Finance Director - Mrs. Berryment stated that the town's expenditures are on track. The capital reserve money has gone to the Trustees of the Trust Funds. We are on track with our revenues. Highway Block Grant money is down from last year. She has been attending meetings with the SAU regarding health care options. She is working with Chief Walker on the NEMO snow event and there may be money coming back to the town.

Tom Abbott – Building Inspector - Mr. Abbott noted the retirement of Penny Smith. He wanted to thank her publically for her service. He noted the first quarter report was provided by Penny Smith. He would like to see a change to the law regarding a building permit on a Class VI or Private Road. Mr. Abbott was asked about the status of the Turbocam property. Administrator Scruton noted that there has been discussion of restructuring the building inspector position to make it part-time and hire a part-time person to focus on code enforcement. The building inspector would work 29 hours with the other individual working 25 hours a week. This may take place in two or three weeks. Administrator Scruton noted that he has someone in mind for the position. He checked town hiring policies and reported that the job does not have to be posted. Selectman Bussiere noted that he agrees with double coverage. Selectman Gaudiello moved

to authorize the town administrator to restructure the building office, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Daniel Ayer stated that it would be beneficial to have two building inspectors and one that would work on Friday.

APPOINTMENTS

John Wallace noted that the management plan for the Tamposi property has been completed but lacked the forest management component. There is a grant available for various habitat improvements on about 100 acres that would be funded by the USDA-NRCS . It was noted that this federal money could also be used for management plans on municipal land. Several Board members wanted more information on the figures. Selectman Bussiere had concerns about the land and will be walking the property and view the land before the next meeting. Peter Royce stated that he would like to participate in the walk. Selectman Bussiere moved to allow an Eagle Scout to work on the town forest for his Eagle Scout project, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Building Committee – Brian Lenzi spoke for the Committee. Chris Dundorf showed a power point presentation of the various options and costs. Currently it is a working document. Chairman Clark stated that we have got to move forward together. He would like to have the top people in all the affected areas involved sit with the Selectmen and come up with a proposal: the five selectmen, the superintendent of schools, the president of the library board and the chairman of the Rec. Commission. He would like to have a consensus come out of that meeting with the top people going back to their Boards to sell the proposal. They need to come up with a tight time line and move aggressively. The Board members agreed with this approach and hope to have the first meeting on Thursday at 6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chief Conway stated that he received three bids for a cruiser that he took out of service. Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept the high bid of \$2,007 with payment due within two weeks or Chief Conway goes to the next high bidder, seconded by Selectman Malloy. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

John Huckins thanked the Board for the plaque that he received as a retiring member of the Planning Board.

Stephanie Dimke from “Stars and Stripes for Barrington” commented that the flags have been ordered. She would like to place a sandwich board sign at the corner of Route 125 and 9 thanking people who have sponsored the project.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – April 1, 2013 & April 15, 2013 – Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept the minutes of April 1, 2013, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept the minutes of April 15, 2013, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

1. Selectman Gaudiello moved to approve signing the first half property tax warrant in the office during the week, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
2. The draft personnel plan will be reviewed and ready for a hearing and adoption on June 3rd.
3. The draft rules and procedures policy for the Board of Selectmen will be reviewed on June 3rd.
4. Selectman Gaudiello moved to authorize Chairman Clark to make a decision by phone on the Orchard Hill Court Hearing to settle and authorize Clerk McNeil to make a decision herself if he cannot be reached, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
5. The draft purchasing policy was discussed. Chairman Clark feels that the amounts need to be looked at in more detail. The policy will be reviewed on June 3rd.
6. Selectman Malloy moved to sign the cable franchise agreement, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
7. It was suggested the Board have a celebration for employees in the middle of the day with a noon barbeque at the Public Safety Building.
8. Four paving bids were received. Selectman Bussiere moved to accept the R & D contract based on the per ton price, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

9. Administrator Scruton researched our current health insurance and if we adjusted copays and prescriptions, the town would save 4%. He recommended against this change as some employees will actually lose money in their paycheck. Selectman Gaudiello noted that the town needs to move forward with a health plan that is a little bit more realistic. We need to reduce premiums and change contribution levels. Chief Conway felt that the employees should be involved in this discussion and felt that it was unfair to make any changes to the health insurance plan with such limited time before the July 1 renewal date. Selectman Gaudiello felt more involvement was needed with the employees and the insurers, and that it is reasonable to work towards implementing a change effective January 1, 2014.
10. The Board agreed to extend the contract for our auditor through 2014. Administrator Scruton will extend the contract through 2014 and request that the fee remain the same.
11. Administrator Scruton will proceed to change the tax office over to a lock box system for the December tax billing.
12. Selectman Hatch moved to accept a late elderly exemption for 2013 due to misfortune, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
13. Administrator Scruton spoke with a representative from NHDOT who stated that DOT would like to put rumble strips on Route 125 on the center line and the edges of the road. NHDOT will be attending the meeting on June 3rd and Administrator Scruton agreed that they would greatly enhance safety.
14. The town's lease for the current town office space was signed for another year.

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following:

1. Intent to Cut for Bodge, Bedford, Huckins, Warren & Fisher
2. Intent to Excavate for Hiltz
3. Excavation Tax Warrant in the amount of \$2
4. Timber Tax Warrant in the amount of \$1,842.15
5. Abatements #28 - #36
6. Land Use Change Tax Warrant in the amount of \$226.00
7. Vendor Manifests dated 4/18, 4/24 & 5/2
8. Payroll Manifests dated 4/14, 4/21 & 4/28

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Chairman Clark noted that he received correspondence from the EPA that the town is exempted from completing the MS-4.

Selectman Bussiere moved to go into non-public session at 10:00 p.m. per RSA 91 A: 3 II a, c, d or 3, seconded by Selectman Hatch. Chairman Clark asked for a roll call, Bussiere – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – aye, Malloy – aye, Clark – aye. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Selectman Bussiere moved to come out of non-public session at 10:00 p.m., seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Meeting adjourned at 10:25 p.m.