

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES AUGUST 11, 2014

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, August 11, 2014 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.

APPOINTMENTS

James and Darlene Thorn – Assessment Discussion – James Thorn noted that he sent a letter to the Board requesting relief from 2013 property taxes even though he never filed for an abatement. He stated that his building is a big unfinished barn with no electricity, plumbing heating, or insulation. The assessment jumped as it was based on unfinished office space whereas now it is assessed as unfinished garage space. Selectman Gaudiello stated that she has an issue of setting a precedent as the abatement was not timely applied for. Selectman Bussiere is for correcting our assessing error. Selectman Malloy feels that the assessing was “off” and there are problems with the assessment and the lack of filing the appeal. Selectman Hatch stated that if granted, the Board must be careful how we word the decision as this is a special case. Paul Mausteller asked if the abatement deadline was state law. Mr. Mausteller feels that the Board will be setting a precedent. Selectman Bussiere moved to correct our error in the amount of \$2,653, seconded by Selectman Hatch. Chairman Clark asked for a roll call, Bussiere – aye, Gaudiello – nay, Hatch – aye, Malloy – aye, Clark – aye. The motion passes.

Chief Walker – Department Update – Chief Walker noted that the fire department is down 44 calls and the rescue side is up 102 calls compared to last year. Regarding the budget, they have expended about 52% of the budget but Chief Walker is comfortable in that range. There are some unanticipated repairs to several trucks and the maintenance line may be overspent. They average about 60% of their membership as active members. Other small towns are trying to increase participation – Strafford approved a full-time chief at their last town meeting. However; even Rochester and Dover are looking for more call-force participation and Barrington may respond to Rochester 15 or so times a year. Chief Walker will be asking for another full-time position in his department in next year's budget. Selectman Malloy asked about the rise in medical service requests. Chief Walker stated as the population grows older there are more medical calls. He further noted that he will be working on the town's emergency action plan this year. They are also working closely with the school and police on an “active shooter plan”. Chief Walker also stated that he is in the process of having an ISO rating audit in hopes of increasing our rating and thus reducing property insurance costs town-wide.

Tara Barker – Recreation Department Update – Mrs. Barker noted that their operating budget is in line with where they should be. The revolving fund is very “healthy”, but there will be a lot of expenditures with summer camp bills. She also presented a program report that noted the programs and enrollment. Any out of town participants pay a higher rate. They use a flex-card for some of the fitness programs. It was asked how some of the outside sports trips have worked out. They are supported by many towns and several Barrington residents have attended. Mrs. Barker reviewed goals and cost savings. One goal is to create a playground maintenance program, create a birthday party rental plan, and working with local recreation departments to offer CPR and first aid.

Selectman Bussiere suggested that the Recreation Department deal with UNH for the passes to use Mendum's Pond.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – July 28, 2014. Selectman Bussiere moved to accept the minutes of July 28, 2014, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

Administrator Scruton

1. Administrator Scruton and Peter Cook met with representatives from Groen Builders regarding the Highway Garage. Groen submitted the lowest price proposal at \$226,623. The warrant article was approved at \$250,000. Selectman Bussiere moved to award the bid to Groen Builders, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Paul Mausteller asked about the bids that were received and felt that the bids were not compared equally and now the Board is making changes. Administrator Scruton noted that they are base bids and alternates to be added. The bid advertisement asked for "design build". The recommended size of the building is 60' x 80'. Selectmen Bussiere moved to add the option of a fourth garage door, upgrade from 200 to 400 amp service, a genron switch, energy lighting upgrade and the outside color pearl gray, seconded by Selectman Malloy. Selectman Hatch stated that she was abstaining from all of the votes as she was unable to attend the meeting with Groen. The motion passed. Selectman Bussiere moved to add the ventilation unit, seconded by Selectman Malloy. Selectman Hatch abstained from the vote. The motion passes. Regarding the perimeter foundation insulation, three options were given. Selectman Bussiere moved to notify the contractor that the insulation will be done with one of the three options so that the contractor can plan for that, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. Selectman Hatch abstained from the vote. The motion passes. Selectman Bussiere moved to upgrade to heavier gauge metal in the walls, seconded by Selectman Malloy. Selectman Hatch abstained from the vote. The motion passes. It was recommended that the concrete floor with heating pipes be installed and drain pipes underneath be included at a cost of \$29,316. The overage for this work will be covered by duplicate budgeting of the salt shed roof. Selectman Gaudiello asked for an estimated cost to putting the heating unit in - just under \$30,000. Chief Walker suggested putting in sealed trenches similar to the public safety building instead of drains. Paul Mausteller asked if there would be a builders warranty on the concrete floor. Selectman Hatch felt the Board should stay with the \$250,000 as voted at town meeting and not add the alterations as this time. Selectman Malloy said it would be less expensive to do the additional work now rather than later. Selectman Bussiere supported doing the work right now and doing it correctly. Selectman Gaudiello would like to put the heating unit cost in next year's budget and do the other work now. It was noted, "is there a way to find out the increase if the floor was done next year along with the trenching"?
2. The survey was received from Liberty Truck regarding the land swap. The assessor put a value on the piece of property for Liberty Truck at \$225,000 - \$250,000. The lot the town would get is worth about \$80,000 but it gives the town better access to the back acreage that the town already owns. Administrator Scruton indicated that like the Turbocam deal increased property tax from a commercial building would make up the difference and return additional funds over time. Selectman Gaudiello was concerned about a lop-sided swap as it

was too big a difference. Representatives from Liberty Truck will be invited to a meeting to discuss their plans for the lot.

3. Administrator Scruton submitted a letter of intent to widen the shoulders of Mallago Road and Tolend Road to the Transportation Alternatives Program. If received this would be a 80% Federal 20% local match. Selectman Gaudiello felt that she would like to hear from residents of Mallego Road before a decision is made if the town receives the grant. It was decided to wait and see if either will go forward with NHDOT before meeting with residents.
4. The following are proposed meeting dates: Sept. 8th HTA engineers for the Green Hill Road Bridge, Sept. 22nd for the architect for the town office, October 18th for a meeting with the public regarding the new town office plans with the architect, first budget meeting on Oct. 20th.
5. Administrator Scruton updated the Board on the status of several tax deeded properties and the eviction process. One property owner responded today and has agreed to a payment plan.
6. The MS-4 was approved and signed.
7. The MS-1 Extension Request form was approved and signed requesting an extension until October 15, 2014.

Clerk McNeil

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following:

1. Recommittal Warrant for the Tax Collector
2. Tax Payment Agreement with a property owner
3. Vendor Manifests dated 7/31 & 8/7
4. Payroll Manifests dated 7/27 & 8/3
5. Clerk McNeil asked for the Board's approval of a list of potential road names that was put together with Chief Walker and reviewed by Peter Cook and Chief Conway. Selectman Bussiere moved to approve the list, seconded by Selectman Malloy. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

SELECTMEN'S REPORTS

Selectman Malloy noted that the Planning Board is waiting for a road name for a new subdivision.

Selectman Bussiere moved to go into non-public session at 9:10 p.m. per RSA 91 A: 3 II a, for personnel, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. 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 Hatch moved, Selectman Gaudiello seconded to exit nonpublic session at 9:40 PM and seal the minutes for six months. Selectman Bussiere-Aye, Selectman Gaudiello-Aye, Selectman Hatch-Aye, Chairman Clark-Aye, and Selectman Malloy-Aye, carried 5-0.

Meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.