

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES
OCTOBER 20, 2014

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, October 20, 2014 started at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Middle School on Haley Drive. 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.

Administrator Scruton presented an overview of the proposed 2015 budget and warrant articles. The proposed budget has a decrease of 1.9%. The Board has not yet decided on wage steps, COLAs and union contract (CBA). There is expected to be a drop in the cost of health insurance. The proposed town office bond will have little effect on the 2015 budget if any. Proposed additions or increases to the budget include the following: a fulltime firefighter, part-time police officer, highway building improvement to include floor and heating, winter contractors, sand and salt, vehicle maintenance, overtime and moving the administrative assistant to full time, storage of records of \$9,000, town clerk equipment to include a folding machine. The following are lines that have decreased: revaluation has been completed, bond payment and interest (last payment for the public safety building), building maintenance, the legal line, administrative contracts, general assistance, elections, road reconstruction is part of the budget, and bridge and culverts is down. Administrator Scruton noted the ongoing capital reserve accounts. There may be a warrant article for contingency for road emergency when there is an above average winter and additional expenses. This issue is up for discussion. Administrator Scruton explained reserved and unreserved fund balance. It was asked if there was any idea of what might be left in the operating budget – revenues are up but not sure about the operating budget.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dan Ayer asked about the bid for the road into the Tamposi property. He was told that the bid had to stay within the budget. He was concerned that this was an open bid.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – October 6, 2014 – Selectman Hatch moved to approve the minutes of October 6, 2014, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following: three taxpayer agreements for payment of past due taxes, three Intent to Cut applications for Guptill, Aucella, and

Fried, vendor manifests dated 10/9 and 10/16, payroll manifests dated 10/5 and 10/12.

Selectman Bussiere moved to approve to unmerge several properties owned by Douglas and Dawn Hatch, and two properties owned by June and Carol Laflin to their premerger status, seconded by Selectman Gaudeillo. Selectman Hatch abstained from the vote. The motion passed.

The information meeting for Green Hill Road Bridge Upgrade started at 7:00 p.m. There were three residents of Green Hill Road who were present. Over 100 notices were sent out to the abutters notifying them of this meeting. Chairman Clark read an introduction noting that this project has nothing to do with the proposed gravel pit located on Green Hill Road. Matthew Low, Aaron Lachance and Sean James represented Hoyle, Tanner and Associates, the town's bridge engineering firm. Through this State program the State pays 80% and the Town pays 20%. There are five steps to the program. The bridge has approximately 1,850 cars per day. It is approximately 18' wide – very narrow. It was constructed in 1955. The engineering study tasks to date were discussed. The river has a 66 square mile watershed that begins above Bow Lake. During construction the bridge would have to be closed to traffic. It would take approximately five months for construction. Detour routes were showed with length and time impacted. They showed pictures of what the bridge would look like after construction. Selectman Hatch asked about the proposed width – 24'. Abutter, Russ Brackett asked about time for public safety to respond with the bridge closed. Chief Walker stated that this was a concern to him as well. There is automatic mutual aid with Rochester from the Gonic fire station. The same is true for ambulance service out of Frisbie Hospital. Paul Mausteller questioned the flood report and the height of the water during the Mother's Day Flood. The weight load would be for a 25 ton vehicle and would meet all legal guidelines. A question was asked who looks at the overall flow of the Isinglass? Permits will be needed through NHDES. Selectman Bussiere asked about slopes and will they be natural or grass. He also asked cost differences for 20 mph design standard, 25 mph design standard and 30 mph designed standard -from 20 mph to 25 mph about \$100,000 and 30 mph another \$100,000. A true cost has not been defined but "ballpark" - \$1,500,000. HTA would work with the town through the bidding process. It was asked if abutters would be notified of future meetings. The Board will post future meetings. The informational meeting closed at 8:00 p.m. Selectman Bussiere moved to replace the Green Hill Road Bridge instead of just rehabilitating the one lane bridge, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectmen Bussiere moved to authorize that the bridge be closed to traffic and detours in place during construction, seconded by Selectman Gaudeillo. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectmen Hatch moved to approve a 30 mph bridge design noting that would be the same speed limit as Green Hill Road and to think of future traffic

on that road, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT (continued)

Administrator Scruton

1. Selectman Bussiere moved to allow the school to remove the boilers from the old town office to be reused at the elementary school, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
2. A request has been made for a blackboard from the old town office (former elementary school). Selectman Gaudiello asked about the town's policy regarding surplus property. Administrator will check the policy and inventory what might have salvage value. It was suggested that the cupola on the building be saved.
3. Selectman Gaudiello moved to return \$2,621 to a taxpayer who was billed for a lot that they didn't own, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. The town's attorney has indicated that it is unlikely any funds from title insurance would cover this error. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
4. Administrator Scruton noted that the holiday party is scheduled for December 4, 2014 at Nippo Lake Golf Club. Employees and Selectmen are invited with a \$10 charge for guests/spouses.
5. Administrator Scruton reported that 99% of town records have been moved to storage. The remaining paperwork that needs to be destroyed will be shredded.
6. Construction has started on the new highway garage facility – the shell of the building is up. There has been a change order for the replacement of some of the subsurface soils.
7. The results from the revaluation noted that the value of the town dropped by 2%. Commercial went up 9%, residential down 2%, utilities down 27%, mobile homes down 4% and land down 6%.
8. The police bargaining unit has requested to meet regarding collective bargaining.
9. The State of NH Division of Emergency Services will be collecting driveway location information with coordinates on all posted addresses and new roads. The process will start on Monday, October 27th and will last several weeks. The workers will have identification and will be driving white Ford Escapes with amber lights on the roof and State of NH decals on the doors.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS

Peter Cook spoke about a turnaround on Wildcat Road. It used to be a bus turn around but the abutter needs to park his truck there. The bus could turn around at Bassett Drive but it is a private road. A turnaround could be made on the Class VI section of Wildcat Road but the town cannot spend money on a Class VI Road. Mr. Cook will get a price for a turn around on Bassett Drive.

There is also an issue with a turn around on Town Farm Road where there is going to be access to a conservation easement. Should the turnaround be made before the last house on the road or after the last house. The property owner's barn is in the town's right of way and there can be an issue with turning a plow truck around in that area. Administrator Scruton will contact the property owner.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Hatch noted that she recently attended a ZBA meeting, one case was continued and the Calef appeal was continued.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

It was asked if the budget discussions are open to the public and if they can be posted on the website.

Selectman Bussiere moved to go into non-public session at 8:30 p.m. per RSA 91 A:3 II c for reputation, seconded by Selectman Malloy. Chairman Clark asked for a roll call, Bussiere – aye, Malloy – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – aye, Clark – aye. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Selectmen Gaudiello moved to come out of non-public session at 9:10 p.m. seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Selectman Gaudiello moved to approve a request to drop an interest rate to 12% on 2011 property taxes and to delay deeding as the interest will be paid by December 31, 2014, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Meeting adjourned at 9:11 p.m.