

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES MONDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2016

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, October 31, 2016 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Ayer, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Hatch, Selectman Knapp, Chairman O'Brien, Administrator Scruton and Clerk McNeil.

Chairman O'Brien welcomed everyone, noted Happy Halloween, and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

Joe Falzone – Mr. Falzone was unable to attend. His appointment will be scheduled at a later date.

BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Land Use – Marcia Gasses presented this budget. There is a small increase in this budget. There is an increase in the full-time hourly wage line as the assistant went from part-time last year to full-time. The part-time hourly wage line is down 78%. The telephone line went down. The conferences and training line has an increase due to members of her various boards attending the law lecture series. Dues and fees are up 17% as this line is currently overspent. The office supplies line is down 56% due to careful ordering and an average of what has been spent over the years. There is a new line for Land Use Registry of Deeds. This will reflect the cost of recordings and the \$1 per page for the town to print off the Registry website. Mileage and expenses is down 33% as this line hasn't been spent fully for a few years. Selectman Knapp asked about the easements line - that is for monitoring the easements that the town holds. The money can also come from the Conservation Fund that is held by the Conservation Commission. Ms. Gasses brought the Board up to date on the Supreme Court decision regarding signs. The sign regulations will be moved to the Zoning Ordinance. She also noted the new additional dwelling unit law. This will be incorporated into the Zoning Ordinance.

Building Inspection/Code Enforcement – There is an 11% increase in this budget. John Huckins presented this budget. Mr. Huckins explained the building permit fees and how well they cover 2/3rds of his department expenses. He has been researching various fee amounts and what items you can charge for building permits. He explained how he came up with the various figures. He feels the town should increase the fees for building permits to cover more of the department costs. Mr. Huckins suggested an increase of \$7.50 to \$8 per thousand of value the latter if building slows in town. Ms. Gasses suggested that there should be an increase in fees for site review applications. Mr. Huckins will put together a proposal for a public hearing. Selectman Gaudiello moved to hold a public hearing on November 28th to consider an \$8 building permit fee, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Under Mr. Huckins proposed 2017 budget, there is an increase of 75% in the dues and fees line as a lot of the conferences have increased their costs. Office supplies increased 7%. The building equipment line has an increase of 20% for upgrades to the assistant building

inspector's computer. Mr. Huckins presented a spreadsheet of zoning violations that he inherited along with his ongoing issues. He feels that it is good to be part of serving the community and knowing what is going on. He works closely with Ms. Gasses and the Planning Office.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Paul Mausteller had a question about the minutes of September 7th. He also asked about the three ads in the paper for the striping bid. When asked he was shown only one ad when he was told there were three posted. Clerk McNeil noted that she only cut out of the paper one ad. However, he could see the bill from Seacoast Media and the three dates where the ad was posted. He also had a concern on the Young Road culvert bid.

Parking on Town Farm Road has been a concern when people are visiting the A Harlan Calef Conservation site. Peter Cook will order a permanent "No Parking" sign. John Wallace stated that the wetlands have been flagged. A parking area beyond the turn-around will be designed and presented to the Planning Board and then go out to bid. The work on the culvert hasn't started yet.

Selectman Hatch commented on posting a notice that there is no parking on town roads and if vehicles are obstructing snow and ice removal operations the vehicles will be towed.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – October 24, 2016 – Selectman Ayer moved to approve the minutes of October 24, 2016, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

Administrator Scruton

1. Administrator Scruton updated the Board on changes from the previous meeting regarding the proposed 2017 budget. The net impact reduced the operating budget \$11,500 and increased the total bottom line \$13,500. He further explained the calculation for the Road Agent's salary.
2. John Huckins has inspected the clean-up work at 456 Pond Hill Road and recommends release of the escrow. Selectman Gaudiello moved to release the escrow amount, seconded by Selectman Knapp. Selectman Hatch and Selectman Ayer abstained from the vote. The motion passes.

Clerk McNeil

1. Clerk McNeil requested signatures on abatement #32, payroll manifest dated 10/23/2016 and vendor manifest dated 10/16/ 2016.

OLD BUSINESS

Selectman Hatch asked Chairman O'Brien if there was an updated on the bill from S & R Construction. Chairman O'Brien stated that "it will be resolved tomorrow".

NEW BUSINESS

Chairman O'Brien stated that there is a projected turnout of 80% for the Election. He asked people to please be patient. There will be a police officer present for traffic duty at Route 9 and Haley Road during busy times and there will be police officers present inside and outside of the building.

A memo was sent from Administrator Scruton that the Selectman should be present during the election. If that is not possible, they can appoint someone or the moderator can appoint someone. Kim Kerekes would like all the help she can get.

Selectman Knapp noted that Metrocast cable rates will be changing as of January 1, 2017.

Selectman Knapp thanked Administrator Scruton and Peter Cook for sending the culvert list.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Gaudiello had no report

Selectman Hatch had no report

Selectman Ayer reminded everyone that the Planning Board meets tomorrow.

Selectman Knapp stated that there is a School Board meeting this week. Chairman O'Brien will also try to attend.

Chairman O'Brien noted that property tax bills have been sent out. He reminded the public that the town tries to level base their budget. If there is concern with the property tax bill taxpayers should voice their opinions at the School Board meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Peter Royce noted that he works at the elections and noted the problem with people writing in frivolous candidates. These ballots are kicked out of the machine and have to be hand counted. He also expressed his disappointment with Metrocast.

Mr. Royce also expressed his disappointment with the contractor that Eversource is using to cut trees in the area.

Chief Walker asked when the Metrocast contract is up. Administrator Scruton stated that the contract isn't up for several years and the town has no say as to channels that are offered and costs that Metrocast charges. The only area where the town would be able to address are billing problems and signal issues.

Paul Mausteller stated that the town can go back and renegotiate the cable contract. The technology committee will also be looking at cable service.

Selectman Gaudiello moved to go into non-public session at 8:13 p.m. per RSA 91A: 3II to discuss personnel, seconded by Selectman Knapp. Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – aye, Knapp – aye, O'Brien – aye. The motion passes.

Selectman Knapp moved to exit non-public session at 9:00 p.m., seconded by Selectman Hatch. Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – aye, Knapp – aye, O'Brien – aye. The motion passes.

Selectman Gaudiello moved to seal the minutes for one month to avoid adversely affecting the reputation of a person not a member of the Board, seconded by Selectman Knapp. Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – aye, Knapp – aye, O'Brien – aye. The motion passes.

The announcement was made that Jason Avery has resigned as a truck driver and the town will advertise for a seasonal part-time truck driver for 20 hours minimum with additional hours for plowing during storms for December to March.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.