

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES MONDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2017

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, February 27, 2017 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 and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

There were no appointments

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Selectman Hatch noted that John Huckins our Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer recently attained the highest level of certification the Code Council offers as a Master Code Professional. Only a small select number achieve this high level of achievement, approximately 800 nationwide and only three in the State of New Hampshire. This certification requires and demonstrates commitment to the profession, diverse knowledge of codes, and a high level of self-initiative. He was given a round of applause.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – January 23, 2017 & February 4, 2017 – Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept the minutes of January 23, 2017, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectman Gaudiello moved to accept the minutes of February 4, 2017, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Selectman Knapp noted that Turbocam, along with One Voice of Strafford County, will be sponsoring a public event on March 8th regarding the opioid crises. It will be held from 6:30 p.m. – 8:30 p.m. at the Route 9 location. Turbocam is also sponsoring a Red Cross Blood Drive on Tuesday, February 28th.

STAFF REPORT – Administrator Scruton

1. Selectman Ayer is interested in having the town accept and plow a portion of St. Matthew's Drive that ties into a subdivision in Nottingham. The town is waiting to check the drainage in anticipation of accepting the road this spring. The only issue is the drainage and that inspection will be completed when the snow melts. The town also has a policy to not accept roads during the winter months. Kyle and Alicia Tipping stated that where the town plow truck turns around has damaged their property. Marcia Gasses noted that she has worked with the engineering company for the owner and the borings have been done, the top coat was completed, brush has been cut on the side of the road but the drainage needs to be viewed. This section of St. Mathews Drive has three houses. The town is also holding surety. Selectman Ayer stated that Nottingham accepted their portion five years ago. Chairman O'Brien stated that he does not want to set a precedent and accept the road against town policy. Alicia Tipping wanted to know

what the process would be going forward. The road should be accepted before next winter.

2. Administrator Scruton noted the HTA Construction Contract for the Young Road Culvert is \$2,456 above budget in the warrant article. Administrator Scruton asked the Board if they wished to approve the contract and the \$2,456 would be a reduction of the budgeted contingency or use of additional funds from the bridge Capitol Reserve Fund. Selectman Ayer feels that the town could use a field engineer for road work, proposed town office and library work. He would like to hire a retired engineer to work for the town instead of using DuBois and King and other engineering companies. Administrator Scruton noted that federal money is involved in this project and the town should stay with HTA. Selectman Gaudiello moved to approve the proposed contract and use contingency, seconded by Chairman O'Brien. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
3. Administrator Scruton noted an application for abatement that missed the 60 day deadline for "fire or natural disaster" was recently received. The question before the Board is whether to waive failure to meet the 60 day deadline for the abatement. The Board does not want to set a precedent. Chairman O'Brien moved to not extend the time limit for the application, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
4. A request was received from an abutter who wants to acquire a town owed property that abuts them. The lot is 50' wide and is wet. It is only useful to the three abutters. Selectman Ayer wanted to add other lots and have a big sale that may occur later in the spring or summer. Selectman Gaudiello feels that it makes sense to sell this lot and hold a larger sale in the spring and summer. A deed restriction will be included on the deed noting that no residence may be built on this lot. Selectman Gaudiello moved to advertise Map 104 Lot 121 as unbuildable for a residence, seconded by Chairman O'Brien. Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Hatch – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Knapp – nay, O'Brien – aye. The motion passes.
5. Chairman O'Brien moved to close Mallego Road from the Post Office to TD Bank on May 13th from 8:00 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. for the Chamber Peeper 5-K walk/run, seconded by Selectman Knapp. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
6. John Wallace and the trails committee would like to post the woods road entrance to the EcoPark property off Pierce Road with a sign against wheeled motorized vehicles. Administrator Scruton suggested the sign note "unauthorized" wheeled motorized vehicles as the town may be using that for access on the development of our seven acre parcel. The Board suggested that the trails committee place a sign at the beginning of the SATWaSR property but not at the access off of Pierce Road due to the possible development of the town's seven acre parcel.
7. A full time Fire Department employee has left the department. Chief Walker would like to tell prospective employees what their schedule will be but it is dependent upon items proposed in the budget that is voted on in March. Administrator Scruton asked if the Board would be willing to make a motion to authorize the fire chief to proceed if the budget warrant article passes. Chief Walker could advertise internally and he could proceed with hiring if the budget passes without having to wait until the March 27th

Selectmen's meeting. Selectman Gaudiello didn't have a problem with that. Selectman Gaudiello moved to authorize Chief Walker to go ahead with internal posting and a hiring decision if the budget passes March 14th, seconded by Selectman Hatch. Selectman Knapp would like to see a job description for the position. Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – aye, Knapp – abstained, O'Brien – aye. The motion passes.

8. Regarding the timely signing of the manifests and the mailing of payments, Administrator Scruton requested clarification that the manifests be prepared on Thursday, be approved by the Board by the following Monday and the checks will be mailed on Tuesday. If the Board does not have a meeting on Monday a majority of the Board would need to come to the office and sign the manifest. There may be an occasion when a check might have to be mailed before the manifest is signed in order to receive a discount or avoid a penalty. Chairman O'Brien moved to set up the procedure as outlined, seconded by Selectman Ayer. Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Gaudiello – abstained, Hatch - abstained, Knapp – aye, O'Brien – abstained.
9. Administrator Scruton sent out an RFP for insurance services. There are four to six different companies available that do business through independent agencies. Some of these agencies represent the same companies. One local agent has already committed with one of the insurance companies. The direction from the Board was that an agency could only bid one national provider. If more than one agency wanted to quote the same national provider the decision would be based on their amount of municipal business.
10. Administrator Scruton noted that the Town of Barrington has the Champion Big Tree Program Quaking Aspen.

Clerk McNeil

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following: abatements #2 - #6, Land Use Change Tax Warrant in the amount of \$52,200, Supplemental Property Tax Warrant in the amount of \$11,184, payroll manifest dated 02/19 and vendor manifest dated 02/22.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business

NEW BUSINESS

There was no old business

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Gaudiello attended the candidate forum and noted that it was very informative. Selectman Knapp attended the planning board meeting where there was discussion of the Visioning Chapter of the Master Plan. He also attended the candidate forum and the meet the candidates at the library.

Selectman Hatch attended the Library Trustees meeting, the candidate forum, the visioning meeting and the meet the candidates.

Selectman Ayer attended the Planning Board meeting where there was a lot line adjustment, condition were reviewed for the gas station and the hearing was continued to May 2nd. Chairman O'Brien stated that he was unable to attend the last Recreation Comm. meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman O'Brien recognized Selectman Gaudiello and presented her a plaque to recognize her service to the Board of Selectman, the Library Trustees and her support of the community. Selectman Gaudiello thanked the Board and stated that she was pleased to serve her community.

Selectman Ayer gave the Board a copy of a letter that the town received from the Department of Environmental Services that related to Three Socios.

Chief Walker thanked Selectman Gaudiello for everything that she has done for the town. He also suggested if there is going to be a change to when accounts payable checks are mailed out maybe a note could be enclosed notifying vendors of the change.

Paul Mausteller also thanked Selectman Gaudiello for her service. He suggested that the Board look at signing the manifest electronically. He suggested that Chairman O'Brien ask the Recreation Commission if they will change their meetings to a different day. He has also done an analysis of the Recreation Department.

Selectman Gaudiello moved to go into non-public session at 8:00 p.m. per RSA 91- A:3 II a, c, d, or e for personnel, legal and land acquisition, seconded by Selectman Ayer. 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 exit non-public session at 9:30 p.m., 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 seal the minutes indefinitely to avoid rendering the proposed ineffective action ineffective and that divulgence of the information in the session would likely affect adversely the reputation of a person other than a member of the Board, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Gaudiello – aye, Hatch – aye, Knapp - aye, O'Brien – aye. The motion passes.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.