

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
November 26, 2018

Members Present: Selectman Murphy, Selectman Bennett, Selectman Guthrie

AA to Board of Selectmen: S. Theriault

Visitors: J. Worthen, Chief Beaudoin, C. Cipriano and E. Reschberger

Public Announcements

- Sunday, December 9th is the Annual Christmas Parade starting at 2:00 pm
- There is a Toys for Tots drop-off at the Hampstead Police Station Mon-Friday 9 am to 4 pm
- Waste Oil, car batteries and thermostats are collected at the Town Garage on the first and third Saturdays of the month 8 am to 1 pm.

Visitors Comment

There were none.

Department Heads

Senior Drop Center- E. Reschberger and C. Cipriano

E. Reschberger presented the report for the Senior Drop In Center. She was requesting that the Selectmen consider level funding the program for 2019. The request is for \$2,700 for the coordinator and \$2000 for the expenses. The current budget will be underspent. Mrs. Reschberger explained that they meet weekly at the library but when there is a snow day or the library is closed, they do not meet. This year she estimates that they will have met 50 weeks and the 2018 average number of people there per week is about 13. She went on to explain that for many of these people this is the place for them to socialize, read the paper, have coffee and a snack. She noted that there are residents that prefer to not leave town and therefore are unable to attend any other locations for senior activities. Mrs. Reschberger also presented a second alternative budget which takes out the weeks they know they won't be meeting. She emphasized that any funds left get returned to the general fund. They only incur an expense when they meet.

Selectman Guthrie motioned to continue the funding for the Senior Drop In Center at \$2,700 and \$2,000 for a total of \$4,700. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bennett. The motion passed with all in favor 3-0.

Selectman Guthrie asked about the expanded position that was brought up by the Committee that looked into the needs of the seniors in town. It was noted that there is no job description for the position and there needs to be input as to what the needs would be. The Committee suggested when they gave their final report a few months back that there should be a new committee to go forward and work on the details of a new position. E. Reschberger stated that if they were to expand that job, they could add funding to the Senior Drop In Coordinator line and it would incorporate the work being done by the person at the Drop In Center.

Mrs. Reschberger stated that she would be interested in being on a committee to further define the job description.

Highway Department- J. Worthen

Mr. Worthen gave the Selectmen an update on the new salt shed. He stated that it is complete and it is in the process of getting loaded up. He thanked the Selectmen for allowing the new salt shed to happen and that it will make a huge difference in what he can store. He is currently storing both salt and sand in the new shed.

Police Department- Chief Beaudoin

Chief Beaudoin asked for permission to work the cost out with the Recreation Commission for the special duty costs incurred during the Turkey Trot Race held on Thanksgiving Day. He wasn't sure the turnout was what was expected and not sure what they were able to bring in for funds.

Chairman Murphy made the motion to allow Chief Beaudoin to work out the costs for the Turkey Trot with the Recreation Commission, up to \$1,000. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bennett. The motion passed with all in favor 3-0.

New Business

Adoption of the 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan

Mrs. Theriault reported to the Selectmen that the Hazard Mitigation Plan is required to be updated every 5 years. There were 8 employees that meet on a regular basis to review the potential concerns in town that were potentially infrastructure issues. Most potential problems were a wind Storm, flooding, and severe winter weather. The list includes items that they considered important but includes what could be done to reduce any impact now and in the future. The Plan needs to be in place in order to apply for some grants. The cost of the plan was \$6,000 with a \$3,000 grant through Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) and the Towns' portion was the cost of the employees.

Mrs. Theriault pointed out that the salt shed was on the report in such as to provide enough salt for a storm. Each concern is rated and given a priority. One of the items the EMD is looking to bring forward is for the Library to be an emergency shelter. This needs to be in the plan, but they would need to have a generator and water. There may be grants available to help. Mrs. Theriault explained the reason is that with the schools as the shelter, it creates an issue with school opening and people in the shelter. This wouldn't be an issue with the library. Enhanced communications for the Fire Department is also on the priority list but Mrs. Theriault didn't have details on it. The report is now ready for the signature of the Selectmen.

Chairman Murphy motioned to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan for 2018. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion and the motion passed 3-0.

The Selectmen signed the plan at the end of the meeting (there was a typo with Exeter in it).

Mrs. Reschberger spoke to state that as a former Library Trustee, they were told a while back that there were no water lines in the area of the library and it could get costly to run lines to the library.

Discussion on Senior Coordinator Position

Mrs. Theriault reported that a few months back there was a report from the "Senior Subcommittee" with a suggestion to hire a part time senior coordinator/liaison. Chairman Murphy asked the other Selectmen if they were interested in the recommendation of the subcommittee in creating the expanded position. Selectman Guthrie suggested that it be added to the activity log. Chairman Murphy asked if the position was warranted. Selectman Guthrie stated that he felt there was a need for it especially where Hampstead didn't have its own Senior Center and that other towns had a part time coordinator. Selectman Guthrie stated that he could work with Mrs. Cipriano and Mrs. Reschberger on a job description and have the information ready for January. Chairman Murphy stated that they would need to lay out the steps to see what is needed. It was also suggested to contact other towns and use what they have in place for job descriptions. Currently there is only the three people interested in the committee.

Hold Harmless Agreement for Trash/Recycling pick up on private roads

Town Counsel prepared a Hold Harmless for the private complexes and roads that are not yet accepted by the town. This would be only in relation to the trash pickup on these private roads. There was discussion as to who signs the document, but it is the property owner, not the Selectmen. Selectman Bennett asked what would happen if the trash truck got stuck on the private road if it isn't maintained. He didn't want to see the town going down there to take care of the road. Mrs. Harrington reported that in the past if the roads didn't look safe to go down, the company would call to let the office know and then they would try again at another time. There have been very few instances where the Highway Department needed to do anything on such a road.

Chairman Murphy motioned to accept the Release of Liability for Trash and Recycling Services on Private Road. Selectman Guthrie seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

Old Business

There was no old business

Liaison Reports

Selectman Guthrie

Selectman Bennett- Nothing to report

Chairman Murphy- Nothing to report

AA Report:

Hero Tree Lighting

Patriotic Purposes is requesting that the Hero Tree be placed in the Town Offices main entrance area and the plan is to decorate the tree on December 3rd. The Selectmen all gave their approval.

Christmas Tree lighting

The Civic Club will be lighting a Christmas tree in Veterans' Park on November 30th. Activities are scheduled during this time as well.

Stormwater Management

The EPA has requested additional information concerning the Notice of Intent. The agency is definitely reviewing the paperwork that was submitted. The supplemental paperwork has been provided to them.

Christmas Eve Meeting

The Selectmen are scheduled to meet on December 24th and Mrs. Theriault asked if they would like to reschedule the meeting. The Selectmen agreed to cancel the meeting for the 24th and see if they needed to meet before the end of the year. Mrs. Theriault also asked if the Selectmen would allow the offices to close early on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve. In the past the office has closed at both noon and 2 pm.

Chairman Murphy motioned to close the Town Offices on December 24th at noon and on New Year's Eve at 2:00 pm. The motion was seconded by Selectman Guthrie and passed 3-0.

Activity Log

The Activity Log was reviewed.

Selectman Bennet reported that he spoke with the Cemetery Trustees and they were okay with moving forward to get a cost to have the cemeteries contracted out. Selectman Bennett will see about getting some informal estimates. Selectman Guthrie asked what impact this would have on the current Sexton. Mrs. Harrington reported that he also sells the lots and handles the burials. The rest of the items were reviewed.

Re- Appointments/Appointments

Call for candidates:

- Ordway Park, full members and alternates – monthly meeting
- Recreation Commission, alternate member – monthly meetings
- Trustees of the Trust Funds, alternate members – meetings as needed

Appointments

There were no appointments

Correspondence

Resident letter – L. Briscoe

E. Reschberger gave the Selectmen a letter from Mrs. Briscoe stating that the senior population in town has grown a lot since 1970 when she moved in. She pointed out that the Vic Geary Center is available, but there are many in town that don't drive anymore and need a place that they can meet locally. She wanted to know if the Town had considered a Community Center for all residents to use. She also noted that not everyone finds what they are looking for at the Vic Geary Center.

Selectman Guthrie mentioned that he went to the Conservation Commission meeting to ask if they had any interest in the parcel along Wash Pond Road that he was interested in selling. They explained to him that they were not in favor of that parcel being sold and gave their reasons, which he stated, he

agreed with. He is still moving forward with a warrant article to allow the Selectmen to sell town land and have the proceeds go into a Capital Reserve Fund set up for a Community Center. He noted that there are many sites that he thinks could still be sold. Chairman Murphy asked if the Current Use policy could be changed and have those funds directed to the Community Center Fund. Both Mrs. Theriault and Mrs. Harrington stated there weren't many parcels still in current use so that may not be a big source of income. Moving forward with selling some parcels is a way to get the process started

Visitors Comments

There were none.

Selectman Guthrie motioned to enter into a non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II (b) hiring at 7:50 pm. Chairman Murphy seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote:

Selectman Guthrie, yes: Selectman Bennett, yes: Chairman Murphy, yes.

Chief Beaudoin stayed in the non public session. He explained that they had received applications from two certified police officers in response to the ad placed. The two candidates had gone through an interview process and then the Chief and Chairman Murphy met them. They all agreed to move forward with Joseph Bozek, of Danville, NH. His current Police Chief was contacted for a background check and the report was that all was clear and Chief Beaudoin asked to offer the position to Mr. Bozek.

Chairman Murphy made the motion to allow Chief Beaudoin to offer the Full Time position to Joseph Bozek. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. Chief Beaudoin stated that he would like to have him start on December 17th and that Det. Conway would move to the SRO position that week as well. The motion passed with all in favor 3-0.

Chief Beaudoin went on to explain how the move to School Resource Officer would impact the position currently held by Mr. Conway in that he would be required to give up his Detective Badge, but everything else would stay the same.(i.e. benefits and wages etc).

Chief Beaudoin also mentioned that he was waiting to hear from the Selectmen what Town Counsel says about a current issue that was brought forward.

Selectman Bennett stated that he had received a request from Chief Carrier to promote two of his employees to a Lieutenant position. There was a question brought up on the request and Selectman Bennett will reach back out to the Chief.

A motion was made by Chairman Murphy to close the non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II (b) hiring at 8:25 pm. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bennett. The motion passed on a roll call vote.

Selectman Guthrie motioned to enter into a non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II (c) reputations at 8:25 pm. Chairman Murphy seconded the motion. The motion passed with a roll call vote:

Selectman Guthrie, yes: Selectman Bennett, yes: Chairman Murphy, yes.

Mrs. Theriault asked the Selectmen about a recent issue with an employee that has used more than their annual PTO. The Selectman asked how the time was accrued and were told it is done monthly. They agreed that an employee could not exceed their allotted time, unless there was an extenuating circumstance. Mrs. Theriault will reach out to the Department Head and if there were any questions, they could contact Chairman Murphy.

Mrs. Theriault presented a request from the resident of map 5 lot 15 to skip a month on the payment agreement with the Town. After some discussion the Selectmen decided that they would allow the month to be skipped, but the next month needed to be double the monthly payment. They would allow the month to be skipped because the person has honored the agreement. The agreement goes back quite a ways and the Selectmen asked to get a copy of it. They also wanted the resident to know that this agreement could not continue going on and that the resident needed to look at what their options were to get up to date on the taxes owed. Mrs. Theriault will get the agreement and will contact the resident.


A motion was made by Chairman Murphy to close the non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II (c) reputations at 8:42 pm. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bennett. The motion passed on a roll call vote.

Selectman Guthrie made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:42 pm. Selectman Bennett seconded the motion. The motion passed 3-0.

A True Record:


Tina Harrington, Recording Secretary

Approved By:


Sean P. Murphy, Chairman


Chad R. Bennett, Selectman


Joseph A. Guthrie, Selectman