

SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 20, 2016

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Board members present: Chairman Bugbee, Selectman LaCourse and Selectman Brown

Others present: Caren Rossi, Randy Stevens, Ruth Eifert, Roger Rice, Senator Martha Fuller Clark, Paul and Annie Gasowski, Chief Nemet, Chief Dronsfield, Town Secretary Denise Duval and Town Administrator Julie Glover.

1. Chairman Bugbee calls the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Chairman Bugbee opens the **Public Hearing** to accept the donation of a 1986 HUMV up to public comment. Chief Dronsfield speaks on the history of the vehicle. Chairman Bugbee moves to accept the donation of a 1986 HMMWV from the Town of Barrington. Selectman LaCourse, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
3. Chairman Bugbee opens the meeting up to public comment.

Paul Gasowski, Lamprey Lane, refers to agenda item #9. He is not sure what this is about, but he states that he believes in agenda planning. He further states that the Town hired a Town Administrator back a few years ago to act as the agent for the Board and interface with the public and department heads. She is professional and the department heads are professionals. He is a strong believer of letting professional's time and space to be professionals. Everybody reports to the Board. There is no question that the Board has authority. At the same time he thinks that it is important to allow professionals room to navigate in their environment and the Board should resist the temptation to micro-manage.

Roger Rice, Garrity Road, is pleased to return to having monthly meetings with the Select Board.

4. Chairman Bugbee introduces Senator Martha Fuller Clark. Senator Clark begins by explaining that there is only a certain amount of money every year out of the transportation budget that's allocated to move the Portsmouth Route 16 and bridge project forward. She will leave a copy of the 10 year Senate Transportation Committee Plan that passed. The two biggest issues were making sure that there was enough money to complete the I-93 project and what we were going to do about rail funding. NH has an issue with losing young people. They go out of state to go to college and they don't come back. Millennials don't like to drive. They want access to public transportation. The budget is challenged with pavement that needs improvement and red list for bridges and bridge preservation. The proposal was to keep the good roads good such as Route 101. There is an increase in funding to address the red list bridges back log and also to continue to invest money in bridge preservation. The Legislature has looked at raising tolls to deal with the toll roads.

Senator Clark informs the Board that the Legislature did pass Medicaid expansion for 2 years. As a result of this, 200 additional residents in Lee now will be provided access to health insurance that were not getting it before. Statewide approximately 50,000 individuals have been added under this Medicaid expansion. Hospitals have agreed to pick up some of the State's obligation as the 100% of funding is reduced to 95% of funding coming from the federal government. NH has 4 health insurance companies offering health insurance now as opposed to just one.

The Cap was raised for school funding. Oyster River is getting a small increase in funding due to an increase in population.

About \$150 million is now in the rainy day fund.

Senator Clark does not see a return to the 35% that the State was putting in to local retirement funds, but hopefully we can see better revenue sharing for local communities. She asks the Board what she could track for them and keep an eye on for them. The cap on the rainy day fund was raised to \$15 million.

Chairman Bugbee has four questions for Senator Clark. 1. There is a bill in the Legislature about what towns can do with residents who have mobile homes that do not pay their bills. She will track this and get back to him. 2. There is a Dover court case that is about the tax cap in educational funding. What is the Legislature doing about that? The Attorney General has said the Cap is illegal. Senator Clark said that ultimately what that Legislation did was to raise the Cap for this year. There will be ongoing discussions on how to handle in the future. 3. It is his understanding that there is a net metering Cap that the State has. Is the Legislature thinking about raising that? Senator Clark states that they doubled the Cap from 50 megawatts to 100 megawatts. But the demand is such that this is almost reaching the 2nd Cap. At the same time as part of this legislation they directed the PUC to determine how we should handle this net-metering issue going forward. 4. Chairman Bugbee has been reading about premium insurance increases within the health exchange. Is there something that the Legislature can do to help with that? Senator Clark says that in her mind if you are trying to provide health insurance for people who are earning \$15,000 or less why are you then going to increase the burden. As a result of legislation that Senator Clark filed years ago, the department of insurance has to hold a public hearing before health insurance companies can raise their rates. There are still individuals that cannot afford insurance under the affordable care act and at the same time do not qualify to get funding under the affordable care act. The other issue that insurance companies are raising the out of pocket or deductible to such high rates that people cannot afford to seek medical care. She is not sure how they are going to get their arms around this, but it is almost worse than it was before. There have been studies done nationwide that 47% of the people in this country could not deal with an emergency where they had to find an additional \$400. Everyone should be concerned about that. This also means that these same people are not saving for retirement. This is related to the fact that base wages for moderate and low income workers have not gone up over the last 30-40 years when we have seen the cost of housing is now 50% of everyone's budget. Health insurance can be as much as 30% of your budget. How do we deal with funding post-secondary education or training? The problem that NH businesses are having now is that they have the good paying jobs but they can't find the qualified workers. The State does not have a stellar record of being able to invest in post-secondary training or education. At what point do we say that investment in these areas are what is going to secure a robust economy for NH for the future and keep young people here and bring them here.

5. Chief Nemet informs the Board that this year the Fire Department is emphasizing fire fighter safety by implementing the cancer prevention standard operating guidelines. He reads an excerpt from these guidelines: Today Firefighters are exposed to more carcinogens than ever

before. This is due to the modern manmade materials used in everyday products and building materials. Firefighters are more likely to contract Cancer than the general population. Studies have shown that smaller particles can slowly permeate the layers of gear and eventually reach our skin. We can smell the smoke in our hair and skin for days after a fire and these chemicals get into skin through the pores. Those chemicals are causing Cancer at up to twice the rate of the general population, depending on the type of Cancer. The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health undertook a multi-year study after the University of Cincinnati conducted comprehensive analysis of 32 previous studies of cancer among firefighters. Those studies show higher rates among firefighters of testicular, prostate, skin, bone marrow, brain, rectum, stomach and colon cancers and non-Hodgkin's lymphoma. Hampton just lost a firefighter to non-Hodgkin's lymphoma and there is another firefighter nearby battling this same disease. Currently the department decontaminates themselves and the equipment as much as possible before entering the station. Right now the department is using a residential washing machine. This is not economical or safe for the equipment. Chief Nemet is requesting permission to purchase a commercial size washing machine specially designed to handle decontaminating and cleaning the protective fire equipment and clothing. He is also asking to enclose the gear storage area that is located in the bay. He is also looking at a special venting system for the exhaust coming from the trucks. Selectman Brown asks what the other departments are doing to identify whether the cancer is indeed fire related or not. Chief Nemet states that PFPA physicals are conducted as a base line when they are first hired. Selectman Brown is curious as to how this is handled in other towns. Selectman LaCourse says one would look at what is practical and prudent. A common washing machine must be wrecking the equipment. Chief Nemet states that the money would be coming from the FY16 fire department budget. Chairman Bugbee moves to authorize the Fire Chief to purchase the Milnor Gear Guardian washer – NFPA 1851 Compliant as proposed by S&S Commercial Laundry Service with funding from 01.42201.750.00 New Equipment budget line. Selectman LaCourse, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

6. Randy Stevens is requesting to encumber \$30,000 towards the summer paving program which was discussed and agreed upon in principle at a previous Board meeting in the spring. Selectman LaCourse asks how much is left over. Mr. Stevens says about \$60,000. His plan was to encumber \$30k and use some towards more shimming and possibly turn some back. Chairman Bugbee moves to encumber \$30,000 from the FY16 Highway budget 01.43111 and assign the encumbered funds to the 2016 (FY17) summer paving program to be performed by Brox Industries for which work the Town has a signed contract. Selectman Brown, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

Mr. Stevens met with Mr. Matt Parcel from UNH with regards to the Tibbetts Road clean-up. Caren Rossi, John Tappan and Dick Weyrick were also in attendance. They did a decent job except they left some concrete that they will take care of soon. Tibbetts Road is still covered with natural growth so it is not visible at the beginning.

Mr. Stevens informs the Board that we did not get the FEMA grant that we applied for on Tuttle Road. We were close but apparently they didn't have as much money as they hoped for so we were cut. There were 4 applications that were approved and they took 3. We were number 4. The Town of Lee does not have any red listed bridges. The State owns a red listed bridge in Lee down by the racetrack.

7. a) Roger Rice is requesting permission to transfer \$30,000 from one line to another within the Transfer Station Budget. He is worried about the operating being short and the solid waste being over. Chairman Bugbee sees these lines as being combined in one budget. He views both of these budgets being Mr. Rice's and he needs to stay within the bottom budget. He would rather not move money around to lose track of what was actually budgeted and what was actually spent. Selectman LaCourse and Brown both agree.

b) Mr. Rice is requesting permission to pursue quotes on a bobcat. He will then present those to the Board at the next meeting. The CIP has the \$35k less the trade. He will also apply for a grant.

c) Mr. Rice turns the most recent award from the NRRA award over to Selectman's Office.
8. Chief Dronsfield requests permission to encumber \$13,570.00 from the current budget for the purchase of 8 body cameras and 2 patrol rifles. Selectman LaCourse asks if the rifles are new or replacement. Chief indicates that they are replacement. Chairman Bugbee moves to encumber \$13,570.00 from the FY16 Police Department Operating Budget to purchase patrol rifles and body cameras. Selectman Brown, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
9. Selectman Brown feels that it would be good if once per month the Selectmen got together with the department heads for an informal meeting to discuss various subjects to start getting better lines of communication going. He thinks that one hour a month is a long way from micromanagement which was brought up earlier. He understands that this was tried before and it was not successful, but he thinks it is worth taking another shot. Selectman LaCourse thinks it is worth a pilot but he is not interested in making it a full Board meeting. Selectman Bugbee thinks that speaking could be optional and lunch time would work. Caren Rossi states that the only issue that she has is that a lot of the issues are not public. If it is a regular meeting then minutes will be taken. Her work related things could not be brought back to the Board because they are not for public release yet. Ruth Eifert backs up what Ms. Rossi suggested. In her experience when department heads get together there is information that they are talking about that is not public yet so possibly a regular monthly meeting might be too much, maybe quarterly. Selectman Brown thinks that quarterly is too far apart for what is would like to see come out of it. The department heads were having meetings at one point, but collectively they decided to only call a meeting when there was something necessary to talk about. The Board decides to holds these meetings on a temporary basis to see how they go. Selectman Brown will put something together and decide when to start.
10. a) TA Glover has distributed the 3 Audit RFP responses electronically to the Board for their review. There is \$14,000 budgeted for this project. Melanson Heath proposed \$14,000, Roberts and Green proposed \$12,700 and Vachon proposed \$10,260. Selectman Brown and LaCourse agree to have Chairman Bugbee be the Board's representative to meet with TA Glover and Finance Officer Clancy to review and discuss the proposals and make a choice.

b) TA Glover informs the Board that the lights at LRP are working but the feeling from the Police Chief is that we should probably move to get bigger and better fixtures.

c) The Clerk will be putting together the official list of Board, Committee and Commission members. The Board would like to see us choose a volunteer once a month or so and write a little expose on them. Target the longer term people first and those who call back first can go in first.

d) The pet waste signs and waste stations have been ordered and are on their way. Mr. Stevens and the Conservation Commission will be working on getting those set up. Put pictures in the E-Crier once they are up.

e) The Board would like to work on a leash law for a warrant article for next year.

f) Selectman Brown will cover the Selectman's Office tomorrow from 1:30pm until the TA returns from a funeral. The Town Secretary and Finance Officer will be attending Tyler Tech training in Concord all day.

11. Chairman Bugbee **moves** to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Selectman LaCourse, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
12. Chairman Bugbee **moves** to accept the Select Board Non Public Meeting Minutes from May 23, 2016. Selectman LaCourse, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
13. Chairman Bugbee moves to accept the Select Board Non Public and Public Meeting Minutes from June 13, 2016. Selectman LaCourse, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
14. Chairman Bugbee **moves** to accept Manifest #25 and Weeks Payroll ending June 19, 2016. Selectman Brown, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**
15. a) Chairman Bugbee **moves** to enter into Non-Public Session per NH RSA 91-A: 3 II (a), (c) and (a-e, & i) at 7:40pm. Selectman Brown, seconds. All in favor. **Motion Carries.**

The Board returns to public session at 8:24pm.

16. **Motion** made by Chairman Bugbee to seal the non-public minutes regarding the personnel issue and tax deed issue. Roll Call Vote to Seal Minutes: Scott Bugbee Yes, John LaCourse Yes, Cary Brown Yes. **Motion Passed.** The Board agreed to unseal one of the non-public meeting minutes from 7/21/2014.
17. Selectman LaCourse requests that the meetings start at 6:30pm beginning August 29th due to his teaching schedule change.

TA Glover requests permission to miss the August 1st meeting. The Board is amenable to this and asks that the agenda for this meeting be for signing the manifest and reviewing non public meeting minutes.

Chairman Bugbee brings to the attention of the Board that there are groups that are not providing meeting minutes to the Town Secretary to be published on the website. The list of groups that are in non-compliance are as follows:

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Ag (last pub 11/24/2015), Energy (2/7/2012), Joint Loss (12/4/2014), Lamprey River Advisory (10/23/2014), Municipal Records, Recreation (9/8/2015), Trustees of the Trust Funds (8/20/2015) and ZBA (9/24/2014).

18. Chairman Bugbee **motions** to adjourn at **8:38 pm**. Selectman LaCourse, seconds. All in favor.
Motion Carries.

Minutes transcribed by:



Denise Duval, Town Secretary

7/5/16

Date

Minutes accepted by The Lee Select Board:



Scott Bugbee, Chairman



John LaCourse



Cary Brown