

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD
Monday, April 1, 2019 – 7PM

Present: Thomas Maher, Chair, Bill Stewart, Selectman, Damon Frampton, Selectman, and Bette Jane Riordan, Secretary

Also present: Christiane McAllister, Jim Cerny, Andy Schulte, Dave McGuckin, and John Ireland.

Chair Maher opened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

1. Approve Select Board Minutes of March 18, 2019.

Selectman Frampton made a Motion to Approve the Select Board Minutes of March 18 2019 as amended. Chair Maher seconded, and the Motion carried.

2. Public Questions.

a. Safe Path

Jim Cerny asked if the Safe Path Group is keeping any minutes of their meetings. Even though they are not an official committee, they are becoming more involved in financial matters. He asked if there is an expectation that they will be keeping minutes? Chair Maher indicated that although they have not been asked by the Board to do so, they are keeping good records. Chair Maher said that if they are going to continue on, then perhaps they should be asked to keep minutes for the sake of transparency. He asked for the opinions of the other Board members. Selectman Stewart stated that they originally formed themselves as a citizen's group. However, as they take on a larger role, the Board should look at this. Chair Maher said they will look into this. In response to a question from Dave McGuckin as to the regularity of their meetings Chair Maher stated that many of them are away for a few months right now, however they do meet on a fairly consistent basis. Ken McDonald is a liaison from the Board to the group.

John Ireland also had some questions regarding the warrant article for Safe Path that will be voted on at Town meeting. He asked if there is a time frame for when we have to expend the funds, and if we accept the funds, what is the Town responsible for? He also expressed concerns about meeting the training requirements, and stated he felt two people from the Town were needed to be trained. He asked what other costs were associated with the TAP grant, such as monthly reports to the State. He has concerns about the problems which might occur with the water project taking place. He pointed out his concerns about accepting federal monies and also the fact that DPW will be affected by having to meet requirements of the grant.

Chair Maher explained that the Town has five years in the wording of the warrant which allows for maximum flexibility to execute the project. The project is staggered in phases. The Town will confirm compliance in order to move to the next phase with the designated TAP Manager in Concord, New Hampshire. Expenditures are pre-approved by the State prior to engaging in the work. As a result, each approved phase of work will be pre-

approved and hence reimbursable. The Town is responsible for 20% of \$403,000.00 or (\$80,600). Ben Jankowski has been designated as the full-time person assigned to the project and will do the April training. Ken McDonald, TAPC, will fill in and assist as is deemed necessary. The Town will produce the monthly reports. He noted that normally the Town does not get many chances for accessing federal funds. While there may be a risk of having to pay back the monies should the Town not be able to comply with the requirements, Chair Maher noted there is risk associated with all that the Town does. The Chair was confident the Town can execute the project in a compliant manner. John Ireland still was not sure that the Town can do this project with the employees we have.

3.

a. Green Bean permission letter.

The Green Bean Restaurant submitted its annual request for approval from the Town to forward to the State Liquor Commission to serve alcoholic beverages. There are no changes to the services or hours of operation. No complaints have come forward. After a brief discussion, Chair Maher made a Motion to Approve the request, which was seconded by Selectman Frampton. The Town will forward a letter to the NH State Liquor Commission supporting the annual renewal of their license to serve alcoholic beverages.

b. Audit FY 19.

Chair Maher and Christiane reported that the audit has been accepted, with no significant issues raised. The town has addressed or has a plan to address the issues outlined in the management letter. Selectman Stewart concurred.

c. Road race.

It was determined the race is all set to go forward on Saturday April 13, 2019. The organizer has been made aware of the problems with the parking last year and has made arrangements to assure that problem will not recur. Chair Maher will follow up with the Library and checked with Police Chief to make sure parking plans are all set.

d. Water Sewer Update.

Chair Maher spoke about the upcoming Public Information Meeting this Wednesday, April 3 2019 at the Rec Center. Selectman Stewart encouraged all to attend as they will be going over traffic flows, bridge issues, and reviewing the 90% design drawings. Engineers from Underwood will be present to answer questions and concerns, as well as doing a presentation. Wetlands applications and other permits are being buttoned up. A general timeline will be discussed. He encouraged people to come and bring their questions.

Selectman Stewart discussed TTHM's and the path forward with mitigation efforts. The most recent test was low, in the 29 ppm range, which was somewhat lower than expected even for cold weather months. Although, the test brings the Towns average below the threshold, the Town is still required to have a mitigation plan in place with DES (under EPA rules), part of the mitigation plan involves an aeration system coming on line in Portsmouth. This has been delayed from this Spring to tentatively this fall. The plan calls for continued "bleeding of the system" during the summer months. The cost of this will be shared with Portsmouth. . John Ireland pointed out that we have recently changed the

billing cycle. Dave McGuckin wants the Board to keep pushing back with DES since New Castle is at a disadvantage with dirty water to begin with. The Board said the EPA is pressuring DES. Chair Maher noted that right now we are good with the rolling average. We are at 70 and 59 for the two test sites.(Shapleigh and the school).

There was also discussion about moving the test site from the school. Steve Tabbutt has asked that the school site be moved to the Town Hall. There was also discussion about the temporary water situation from the water project, and how that will affect testing. These would be good questions for Wednesday evening public information meeting.

Regarding the Water Replacement Project, Selectman Stewart spoke about removing the meter pits, with billing for "lost water" at 15%. This is being negotiated with Portsmouth. John Ireland would like the meter pits to stay, and new meters put in. But Selectman Stewart pointed out some issues with doing that.

Andy Schulte was asked to send out another Email regarding the Public Information Meeting.

4. Committee Reports.

a. Police Department.

Selectman Stewart presented the monthly Report for March, with additional detail as a result of a request by the Budget Committee. Bill went over the highlights. (See attached 1 page).

Christiane reported that as of the end of the 3rd quarter the budget is in great shape.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Selectman Frampton made a Motion to Adjourn, which was seconded by Selectman Stewart. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:52 PM.