



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, February 06, 2017 – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Vaughan Morgan, John McDevitt, Jim Rolston

Members Absent: Kevin Forrest, Paul Sanderson (attending School Deliberative Session)

Staff: Karen Anderson – Town Administrator

Chair Morgan opened the Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:00 p.m. A roll call was taken by the Chair; he announced a quorum was present and the meeting was being recorded.

I. APPOINTMENT

1. Town Report Cover: Amy Bauer, Deputy Town Clerk

Selecting the Town Report cover was continued.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Monday, January 23, 2017 and Wednesday, February 01, 2017

Approval of minutes was continued to the next meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2017.

III. OLD BUSINESS

1. Coakley Update

The Town Administrator recently received a call from the Interim Director of DES. They retested the same locations of Berry Brook that had been tested by the Conservation Law Foundation. DES wasn't confident of the results due to possible differences in parameters. DES agreed that the elevations were extremely high with surface water in that area (above the 70 parts per trillion). However, there is no standard for surface water.

The Town Administrator has contacted two environmental attorneys. The Boston estimated rate was \$650 per hour. Attorney Richard Head is awaiting word from his firm that it would not be a conflict. The City of Portsmouth Assistant Mayor sent an email to the Selectmen stating their willingness to have discussions. Also included in the email were officials from North Hampton and Rye. The Town Administrator read the email into the record (copy on file). J. McDevitt suggested, and Chair Morgan agreed, that it might be best to wait for the new Board members.

2. Needed Repairs to State Roads: Paul Hayden, Road Agent

P. Hayden prepared a list of repairs needed to State roads and their condition as requested by P. Sanderson (copy on file). P. Hayden numbered the roads from one to five, with one being in the worst condition. J. McDevitt stated that the Planning Board has weighed in on the road conditions. There is a culvert issue on Winnicut Road that should be addressed. Rt. 33 is also a problem, with emphasis on the intersection of Bayside Road. The Planning Board also discussed regionalization with a Rt. 33 corridor study from Portsmouth to Rt. 108 in Stratham. J. McDevitt suggested also adding the culvert at Riverside Lane (Rolston Park).

J. McDevitt asked P. Hayden to contact Underwood Engineering. It's his hope that there will be a five year plan in place for road repairs before his term expires in March.

3. Other Old Business

The Town Administrator has sent out the evaluation forms to the Police Chief, Building Inspector and Road Agent. They were asked to complete and return them to Board members by Monday, February 13, 2017. At the conclusion of the meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2017, the Board will meet in a non-public session to review the evaluations. On Monday, March 06, 2017, reviews will be held in non-public sessions at 6:00 p.m., 6:30 p.m., 7:00 p.m. and at the conclusion of the meeting.

Chair Morgan felt the Deliberative Session went very well.

IV. NEW BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Review of Town Administrator's Bi-Weekly Report

There were no comments on the Town Administrator's or Building Inspector's reports.

2. Term for Auditors

Chair Morgan reported that several staff members were concerned about changing auditors after a three year period. The Town Administrator agreed that the first year with a new team of auditors was a great deal of work; the second year goes much better and the third year is even easier. The third year with the auditors from Plodzic and Sanderson will be in May. The Town Administrator recommended that the contract with Plodzic and Sanderson not be automatically renewed, but rather put out to bid; the pricing may be better if it's competitive. The Board reserves the right to choose the auditor in the best interest of the Town. If Plodzic and Sanderson is not the lowest bid but is within a reasonable amount, the Board may elect to stay with them. Since the audit has gone out to bid, the cost has decreased from \$15,000 to \$10,000. Not putting the audit out to bid may give the staff confidence that the Board has listened to their concerns. Changing auditors on a regular basis is a form of internal control. The Board agreed that the contract should be put out to bid and results will be reviewed.

3. Veterans Credits

There were two applications for Veterans Credits. George Chetson, served from 1965-1968, received an Honorable Discharge, and qualifies; Ronald Laurence, Jr., served from 1990-1999, received an Honorable Discharge, and qualifies.

MOTION: J. McDevitt moved to approve the two Veterans Credits in the amount of \$500 each for George Chetson and Ronald Laurence, Jr. Second – J. Rolston; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

4. Other New Business

There was no other new business to discuss.

V. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 09, 2017

1. Payroll Manifest 03

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to approve Payroll Manifest 03 in the amount of \$50,276.04. Second – J. McDevitt; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. General Fund Manifest 03

MOTION: J. McDevitt moved to approve General Fund Manifest 03 in the amount of \$474,530.92 (School - \$300,000). Second – J. Rolston; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

The Town Administrator has been working with Rep. Malloy on a current bill that has passed its committee (14-0) to the Consent Agenda. Rockingham County has requested to be put onto a fiscal year. They have also requested through the Legislature permission to do semi-annual tax billing to its towns. Greenland would need to borrow in anticipation of taxes. The first half of the Town's taxes is collected in June; the school is then paid their large tuition bill. That leaves enough funds until the next tax billing; a large portion of that is used to pay the County. If the County goes to semi-annual tax billing, Greenland will have to borrow in anticipation of taxes for September, October and November. The Town Administrator has asked Rep. Malloy to follow-up when the bill reaches the Senate. They are going to try to get the Rockingham County towns to oppose the semi-annual billing.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: J. McDevitt moved to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. Second – J. Rolston; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, February 21, 2017 – 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room (NOTE CHANGE IN DAY)

Respectfully Submitted – Charlotte Hussey, Secretary to the Boards

Approved: Tuesday, February 21, 2017