



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Town of Greenland • Greenland, NH 03840
575 Portsmouth Avenue • PO Box 100
Phone: 603.431.7111 • Fax: 603.430.3761
Website: greenland-nh.com

MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, March 09, 2015 – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Chair John Penacho, Kevin Forrest, John McDevitt, Vaughan Morgan, Mo Sodini

Staff: Karen Anderson – Town Administrator

Chair Penacho opened the Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:02 p.m. A roll call was taken by the Chair; he announced a quorum was present and the meeting was being recorded.

I. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER ITEMS

1. Abatement: JML Family Trust

The elderly exemption for the property located at Maple Drive had been deleted and needs to be reinstated. The family has signed a statement that the elderly resident does live in the home.

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve the corrected abatement request for the JML Family Trust (72 Maple Drive) in the amount of \$1,184. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

2. Veteran's Credit

This veteran qualifies with 20 years of service.

MOTION: V. Morgan moved to approve the veteran's credit for the resident living at 4 Maya Way. Second – K. Forrest; all in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

3. Approval of Minutes: Monday, February 23, 2015

MOTION: J. McDevitt moved to approve the minutes of Monday, February 23, 2015. Second – K. Forrest; four in favor, one abstain (Chair Penacho). **MOTION CARRIED**

4. Review: Town Meeting Presentation

The slide presentation for Town Meeting was reviewed.

- Budget: The Budget Committee Chair, Mary McDonough, will present this portion.
- Snow removal funds will be discussed by Chair Penacho; an additional \$74,000 will be requested.
- The budget can be increased \$120,000 without raising the Town's tax rate.
- Paving is part of the Transfer Station improvement plan. Approximately 40% of the residents do not recycle.

- If the Medical Deductible Trust Fund does not pass, employees would be paying the deductible. There is the possibility they would also have to reimburse the Town for deductibles already paid this year. Deductibles will be reviewed by the Board for the 2016 budget. Blue Choice this year would cost the Town \$392,000; the cost of the high deductible plan is \$248,000. Paying the employees deductible is \$80,000; there is a \$63,000 savings over Blue Choice. Chair Penacho suggested keeping the same plan and having the employees pay a portion of the deductible in 2016; this will be reviewed by the Board during the upcoming budget season. The Town Administrator noted that the open enrollment period is over. To be added to the presentation: over five years, the Town has saved \$ _____. The Town Administrator stated that residents need to understand if this doesn't pass, Town employees will be paying 100% of the deductible.
- The Town Administrator will email Toby Fedder about addressing Article 8.
- Article 9: V. Morgan told members that the lowest bid received was \$194,000; only two bids were received. There will be a strategy meeting on Thursday, March 12, 2015. Chair Penacho suggested there should be transparency if asked about future funding.
- Article 12: At the start of the meeting, the moderator will ask if there were any objections to voting on this article first. Wording can be amended, but not the amount because the purpose of the fund is being changed.
- Article 17: The money raised at the 2013 Town Meeting lapsed; when the work was done in 2014, the face had to be redone and the numbers were restored to their original state with gold leaf.

5. Other Business

- M. Sodini voiced his concern about the Bookkeeper being elected as Town Treasurer. He stated that the individual has a choice: be Treasurer or the Bookkeeper. If the Board decided to appoint a Treasurer, the Deputy Town Treasurer could perform the duties of the Treasurer in the interim. Trust was not a question; the same person performing duties as the Treasurer could not be the Bookkeeper—there would be no checks and balances. He continued that the auditor would also question it as a conflict of interest. The Town Administrator told the Board that the Town Clerk had contacted the Secretary of State to see if there were any legal conflicts; there were none: it wasn't an expressly incompatible position. In the Town Administrator's research, she found that the law for incompatibility only establishes the minimum requirement for segregating duties. The Town would have to look at its organizational structure to see if it creates a problem. She stated her concerns to the Board. Although the Town Administrator trusts the Bookkeeper 110%, she was concerned that the segregation of duties was gone. The Board asked the Town Administrator to check with the auditor about possible conflicts.
- The Town Administrator researched the personnel issue mentioned in a letter to Selectmen. The Town Administrator found inaccuracies in the accusations that were made, and brought the Board up to date.
- V. Morgan informed the Board that the Police Department has been contacted by residents about contractors taking salt. Jim Jones has some contractors working for him that have been authorized by him to take salt from a specific bay; the Town is reimbursed. Perception from the residents was a concern as was liability if a contractor was hurt on Town property. The Town Administrator reminded the Board that it was time to go out to bid for snow plowing services. However, J. Jones has been the only bid received for the last several years, and hasn't increased his price in over eight years. Any additional stipulations can be added to the RFP.
- The Town Administrator suggested that because of the melting, snow should not be pushed back by J. Jones; it would be cost savings for the Town.
- Paving bids will go out April 04 and will be due May 05 (30 day bid period). Bids will be awarded shortly after that for a 90-day construction period; substantial completion would be expected by September.

- V. Morgan told the Board that he has been approached by several residents about the Mutrie house. The Town Administrator stated that it had been held up in litigation and may have been recently resolved at the Supreme Court level. It was her understanding that the owner can now work with the bank and Habitat for Humanity to acquire the property and build a duplex. Habitat for Humanity had indicated it can move forward if the bank would forgive some of the existing mortgage on the property.

II. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2015

1. Payroll Manifest 05

MOTION: M. Sodini moved to approve Payroll Manifest 05 in the amount of \$35,887.64. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. General Fund Manifest 05

MOTION: M. Sodini moved to approve General Fund Manifest 05 in the amount of \$299,353.05 (School - \$130,000). Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

M. Sodini adjusted General Fund Manifest 05 by \$198.20; an item from Zoll is being returned. The original manifest amount was \$299,541.25.

3. Medical Deductible Expendable Trust Manifest 05

MOTION: M. Sodini moved to approve Medical Deductible Expendable Trust Manifest 05 in the amount of \$2,320.01. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

Chair Penacho thanked M. Sodini for his years of service on the Board of Selectmen and to the Town.

III. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: V. Morgan moved to adjourn at 8:40 p.m. Second – M. Sodini; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Monday, March 23, 2015 – Town Hall Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Charlotte Hussey, Secretary to the Boards

Approved: March 23, 2015