



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, December 12, 2016 – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Vaughan Morgan, Kevin Forrest, Jim Rolston, Paul Sanderson

Members Absent: John McDevitt

Staff: Karen Anderson – Town Administrator, Paul Hayden – Property Maintenance Supervisor, Road Agent

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. PUBLIC HEARING

1. Acceptance of Donations - Greenland Veteran's Association: \$500

The Greenland Veteran's Association makes an annual donation to be used for food and gas cards. They are distributed throughout the year to residents who are in need. Chair Morgan expressed his appreciation on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and the Town for the Greenland Vets generosity.

Chair Morgan opened the public hearing for comments. There being none, he closed the public hearing and returned to the Board.

MOTION: P. Sanderson moved to accept the donation of \$500 from the Greenland Veteran's Association. Second – J. Rolston; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

II. APPOINTMENT

1. Jim Jones – Snow Removal 2016/2017

The Board of Selectmen requested to meet with Jim Jones, snow removal contractor, at the beginning of the season to review expectations. They also meet with him at the end of the season to discuss any concerns or issues that may have occurred during snow removal. Chair Morgan noted that J. Jones would be working with the Road Agent during the season. Chair Morgan asked that any deficiencies in the roads be brought to the attention of the Road Agent.

Responding to a question from K. Forrest, J. Jones stated that mailbox height was an issue. The Postal Service requires 41" to 45" in height, and 2' to 3' off the edge of pavement. The height of the wing plow is 39". There is also a problem with vehicles on the road during a snow event; residents should find alternative parking. Chair Morgan suggested adding reflective tape to mailboxes; J. Jones reminded residents to keep the pavement height in mind.

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2. Jillian Lane, Breakfast Hill Road - Water

Please refer to “Old Business, Item 1 – Coakley Update”.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Monday, November 28, 2016

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve the minutes of Monday, November 28, 2016. Second – P. Sanderson; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Coakley Update

Chair Morgan addressed residents present, stating the Board appreciated their presence. The issue concerns all residents of Greenland; as a Board they would do their best to remedy the situation. He pledged not to let the issue go “under the covers at any time”; it would be discussed at every Board of Selectmen meeting until there was a resolution (resounding applause).

Jillian Lane, Falls Way, addressed the Board, stating her concerns about the Coakley Landfill and its contaminants. She requested that the Town investigate the location and source of the three culverts leading into the testing area so there is a better understanding of the cause of the contaminants. J. Lane continued they needed the Selectmen to build a case on their behalf if they were going to move forward productively to have municipal water in the Breakfast Hill area. She noted there are no monitoring wells installed between the Coakley Landfill and the Falls Way development; this should be rectified as soon as possible. Gravely disappointed that the Board’s request for water was denied, she implored the Board of Selectmen to take whatever steps were necessary to continue to support immediate action to supply municipal water to the residents of Breakfast Hill Road.

Several other residents addressed the Board. It was suggested that a Health Advisory Committee be formed. Also suggested was a feasibility study on the possibility of running a water main. Concerns were raised that the EPA and DES were not being very responsive. DES and the EPA need access to land for monitoring wells. A clause should be added to the covenants (Seavey Way development) that monitoring wells should be installed on the lots. There needs to be a better understanding of the wells around the perimeter so it’s known how deep the fractures run.

The Town Administrator recently had a conference call with EPA and DES; she had sent letters requesting the surface water limit for the PFOS and PFOA. The response was that the Coakley Group had agreed to move up the testing of residential and monitoring wells from February to January (that was the soonest it could be moved up due to regulatory requirements). The testing will include sediment and surface water for PFC’s, 1,4 Dioxane and other known contaminants. DES has expanded their sampling efforts and will assist residents from that area who call for water tests. Working with Jim Murphy, the Town Administrator is trying to set up quarterly meetings to keep residents informed. An electronic newsletter will be done by DES on a monthly basis, or more frequently as needed.

The Town Administrator had asked about the surface water limit for PFC’s vs. the drinking water standard of 70 parts per trillion. There hasn’t been a limit established; the closest comparison the EPA could give was for direct dermal contact, primarily based on soil contact; that limit is .5 parts per million

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or 500,000 parts per trillion. Their concern is primarily for the Stone Meadow Way area; tests continue to show that there are no exceedances of the established limits for any contaminants. Understanding the concerns of Greenland residents, EPA and DES will continue to be a resource for the Town.

K. Forrest appreciated the comments regarding the Health Advisory Committee and recommended the Town work on establishing an advisory board. The Town Administrator will work with the Town's Health Officer.

There was a comment that the burden of proof appeared to be on the Town. Chair Morgan responded that he was proponent of "let's not wait until it's too late; why don't we start action on it now". He added that when they covered the landfill, they only covered it. Today, landfills have a protective mat underneath and over them. Chair Morgan noted that the Town never contributed to the landfill, and the Town is suffering because of the problems at that site. He personally felt they were responsible for running a water line up Breakfast Hill Road, and he intends to pursue it.

P. Sanderson stated that the Coakley Landfill Group is not an incorporated association according to the Secretary of State's website. It's an association or group that includes some municipalities and private entities. Correspondence from the Coakley Landfill Group is from the Portsmouth City Attorney or Peter Britz, a City of Portsmouth employee. A right-to-know request should be made for records about the group that are open to public disclosure; he suggested the reporters from the Portsmouth Herald do the same thing. There is also a question of who can supply public water in the Town of Greenland. Back to 1895 there was a legislative bill giving all rights to provide water service in the Town of Greenland to the City of Portsmouth. It was modified in 2012 giving a non-exclusive right to the City of Portsmouth to provide water to the Town of Greenland. The only identified source of public drinking water in Greenland is the Greenland Well, which is owned and operated by the City of Portsmouth. They pump approximately 600,000 gallons of water per day, which is primarily serving people outside of Greenland. Putting pipes down Breakfast Hill Road: the only system that's available to connect to a source of water is the City of Portsmouth, not the Coakley Landfill Group. The City of Portsmouth Water Division has never said anything about extending the system within the Town. P. Sanderson directed inquiries to Brian Goetz, Director of Public Works as well each member of the Portsmouth City Council.

Going forward, P. Sanderson suggested obtaining more information about the Coakley Landfill Group using the right-to-know law. Robert Tibbetts, Sewall family, suggested it may be time to litigate. The Town Administrator responded that she had approached the EPA suggesting the Town of Greenland hire an environmental attorney. Their recommendation at the time was to do what the Town felt was right, however, the EPA and DES would be unable to work directly with the Town if they hired a lawyer.

P. Sanderson urged residents to contact Portsmouth City Council members and express their concerns. The City Council must make the determination if a line can be extended within the Portsmouth water system on Breakfast Hill Road. It was suggested that Selectmen send a newsletter to residents in the Breakfast Hill Road area informing them of what they can do proactively. J. Rolston added that the Selectmen support residents and encouraged them to contact the individual City Council members as well as the State and federal representatives about their concerns with the water.

Dennis Malloy, State Representative-elect, asked if there were protocols for contacting municipal bodies that these concerns may need to be addressed at their meetings. The Town Administrator responded that administrators do correspond so they're not blind-sided on issues. Mindi Messner, Rye, has started legislation dealing with the pediatric cancer cluster. Representative-elect Messner is on the Board of Selectmen agenda for Monday, January 09, 2016. In addition, this issue will be brought before the State

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Legislature this session. It was also suggested that the standards for safe water for the State of New Hampshire be reviewed.

In conclusion, Chair Morgan encouraged residents to attend Portsmouth City Council meetings and voice their concerns. The Selectmen are members of the community also and are very concerned. He acknowledged that real estate values are affected, our children and our lives. He assured them that the Selectmen will continue to push for municipal water and do everything within their power to remedy the situation. "We've got your backs".

It was noted that on Monday, December 19, 2016 there would be a Pediatric Cancer Task Force Coakley subcommittee meeting at Rye Jr. High School, 6:00 p.m. In addition, on Monday, January 09, 2016, Mindi Messner will be at the Greenland Board of Selectmen meeting at the Town Hall, 7:00 p.m.

J. Rolston announced that the Legislature meetings in Concord are open to members of the public for comments.

2. Veteran's Credit

A resident on Tuttle Lane qualifies for Veteran's Credit based on years served.

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve the Veteran's Credit for the resident at 53 Tuttle Lane in the amount of \$500. Second – J. Rolston; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

The new Veteran's All Eligibility Credit was discussed. This was approved by the State Legislature in 2016 and enables Towns to adopt the All Veteran's Credit. Adoption of this credit authorizes tax credit to be given to all veterans that served 90 days or more of active service and were honorably discharged. Active service doesn't have to be within a time of conflict, which is the current law. Towns have the option of adopting this law. If adopted, the amount must be the same as other veteran's credit.

56% of the State's veterans currently receive a credit; 44% are either ineligible due to dates of service or termination status. Greenland has 220 veterans receiving credits. The application deadline is April 01. The Town Administrator budgeted for an additional 30 veterans for the first year. It may need to be increased an additional \$15,000 the second year depending on the response. She confirmed that the statute requires an honorable discharge to be eligible for a Veteran's Credit.

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to include the All Veteran's Credit as a warrant article. Second – J. Rolston; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

3. Other Old Business

- The lights at Remembrance Park are shining.
- The Town Administrative received a letter from the City of Portsmouth regarding the municipal hydrant rental (copy on file). Last year the City of Portsmouth charged the Town \$11,725 for hydrant rental. The Board had directed the Town Administrator not to pay the bill and send a letter requesting they use that in lieu of taxes. P. Sanderson stated the Town is able to provide fire protection without the hydrants. The Town Administrator will contact the Fire Chief for his comments before any action is taken. Where there are no hydrants, there are dry hydrants or cisterns. And, the City takes 600,000 gallons of water per day from the Town.
- The tree at 115 Bayside Road is on Fish and Game property, and has been referred to them for limb removal. DOT will be sending someone out to look at the tree at 51 Bayside.

V. NEW BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE

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

There was no discussion of the Town Administrator's bi-weekly report.

2. Budget Encumbrance

At a previous meeting, the Board had approved moving forward with the GIS program requested by the Building Inspector. The amount budgeted was \$5,000; the data conversion is an additional \$6,800. The Town Administrator suggested encumbering \$6,800 from the 2016 budget for the conversion and to pay the balance from the 2017. Another option would be to encumber the entire amount from the 2016 budget (funds are available due to lack of snow).

The Town Administrator explained this would be a one-time conversion fee. If data from the tax maps wasn't converted, the property lines wouldn't merge appropriately with the information from their source. It will not cause a continual conflict with Vision. P. Sanderson recommended encumbering the entire amount of \$11,800.

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to sign the contract with CAI Technologies and encumber \$11,800 from the 2016 budget for the conversion of the Greenland tax maps to a GIS format. Second – P. Sanderson; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

3. Transfer Station Holiday Hours

P. Hayden requested that on Christmas Eve (Saturday, December 24, 2016) the Transfer Station close at 3:00 p.m. He also requested an extra person work on Wednesday, December 28, 2016. P. Sanderson added that arrangements have been made for extra capacity. P. Hayden noted that Christmas trees should be put in the brush pile at the far corner of the Transfer Station.

MOTION: P. Sanderson moved that the Transfer Station close at 3:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve (Saturday, December 24, 2016). Second – K. Forrest; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

4. Other New Business

- At the budget meeting on Thursday, December 08, 2016, there was a discussion about maintenance of Town roads. The report had just been received that day, and there wasn't much information available to give the Budget Committee. They were given a basic summary regarding the three different types of repairs that were recommended in the report from Underwood Engineers (current repair, preventative overlay, or reconstruction). The full amount would be \$500,000 per year, which is above the Town's means. The Town Administrator added there is approximately \$200,000 in the budget. P. Sanderson stated the Board needed to give the Budget Committee the next level of recommendation. He suggested that for the first year the Board not recommend anything for actual reconstruction other than the necessary engineering study. Current needs should be taken care of by keeping the good roads good; one or more protective overlays should be budgeted.

The Town Administrator suggested that if the Board made no further changes to the operating budget amount, they could decide the amount of the warrant article and its purpose (reconstruction, engineering and reconstruction, etc.). It was clarified to leave the current projected work at \$200,000 and a warrant article for up to \$300,000. Underwood Engineering will be at the

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Board of Selectmen on Monday, January 09, 2017 to review the report and explain their recommendations. The Board agreed to increase Engineering to \$25,000 and keep the budgeted amount of \$200,000 for current maintenance.

- The Town Administrator stated the Budget Committee may cut the snowplowing and salt lines in the proposed budget.
- The Fire Inspector position will be discussed at a future meeting.
- Officer's Expense will be used as the line item for the 300th Anniversary. The Board of Selectmen can accept donations for that event.
- Encumbrances will be approved at the meeting on Tuesday, December 27, 2016.
- The Holiday Luncheon will be held on Wednesday, December 14, 2016, from noon to 1:00 p.m.

VI. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2016

1. Payroll Manifest 25

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve Payroll Manifest 25 in the amount of \$50,207. Second – P. Sanderson; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. Payroll Manifest 26A

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve Payroll Manifest 26A in the amount of \$48,359.83. Second – J. Rolston; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

This manifest was for stipends.

3. General Fund Manifest 25

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to approve General Fund Manifest 25 in the amount of \$252,399.16 (School - \$160,000). Second – P. Sanderson; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

VII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION [RSA 91-A:3, II(a)]

The non-public session was postponed to a future date.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to adjourn at 8:45 p.m. Second – K. Forrest; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, December 27, 2016 – 7:00 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room

Respectfully Submitted – Charlotte Hussey, Secretary to the Boards

Approved: