



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Tuesday, January 19, 2021 – 6:30 p.m. – Virtual via Zoon

Members Present: Jamie Connelly, Rick Hussey, Jim Rolston, Steve Smith, Rich Winsor

Staff Present: Matthew Scruton - Town Administrator

Also Present: Bob Krasko – Budget Committee Chairman (in person), Frank Hansler – Budget Committee (in person), Jack Shephard – Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer (Zoom), Marcia McLaughlin – Library Trustees Chairman (Zoom)

Chair Smith opened the Board of Selectmen meeting at 6:30 p.m. A roll call was taken; it was announced a quorum was present and the meeting was being held virtually through Zoom and recorded by video. A checklist to ensure meetings are compliant with the Right-to-Know Law during the State of Emergency was read into the record by Chair Smith.

Attendance was taken by roll call: J. Connelly - present, R. Hussey - present, J. Rolston - present, R. Winsor – present, S. Smith - present.

I. APPOINTMENT

1. Town Report Cover and Dedication - Amy Bauer, Deputy Town Clerk

Amy Bauer, Deputy Town Clerk, presented the Board with proposed covers for the Town Report. Members of the Board selected a picture taken by Chief Tara Laurent of the 300th Anniversary flag at Portsmouth Avenue and Town Square. Each year, the Town Report is dedicated to a resident(s) who died the previous year. The Board discussed and chose the recipient of the dedication.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to dedicate the 2020 Town Report to Gail McKenzie. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. Eagle Scout Project

Michael O'Neil is a Life Scout with Troop 164. He is proposing an Eagle Scout project to be completed by the end of June 2021. He would like to install one, possibly two, signs to welcome people to the Town of Greenland. M. O'Neil has spoken to Frank Catapano, property owner of the Willowbrook Avenue open space; he has given permission for a sign to be located on that parcel. The second proposed location is near the Greenland Crossing shopping center on Rt. 33 (Target and Lowe's). M. O'Neil has also contacted NH DOT District 6. They do not have a problem as long as he is not in their right-of-way. The Town's Code Enforcement Officer will need to review the plans to ensure they are in compliance with the Town's regulations. Fund raising and expenses would be M. O'Neil's responsibility; there would be no cost to the Town.

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Information about the proposed project can be posted on the Town's website and Facebook page. R. Winsor stated he would like to have more information about the sign. Chair Smith reviewed the sign description provided by M. O'Neil with the Board.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to approve, predicated on the fact that the Selectmen have the ability to discuss the post type at the time donations are complete and potentially fund the upgrade to granite vs. wood. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Board received copies of public comments that were emailed to comments@greenland-nh.com or the Town Administrator regarding the Deliberative Session scheduled for Saturday, January 30, 2021.

Mark and Barbara Fleming, Post Road, called in via Zoom: There is the possibility that the State will approve the option of allowing towns to postpone their annual meetings due to COVID-19. The Deliberative Session must be held in a public place. Residents must appear in person to make any modifications, changes, or vote. B. Fleming stated it may be very limiting during COVID, and it would be prudent for the Town to exercise the option if it became available. She continued that full information is not provided on some things, among which is the Citizens Petition from the Library Trustees. B. Fleming added they may benefit from the additional time to provide more complete figures and reconcile with the Town. B. and M. Fleming asked the Board to consider exercising this option.

Bob Krasko, Portsmouth Avenue and Budget Committee Chairman: There were 60 chairs set up for the Public Hearing, separated 6 ft. to 7 ft. apart. There was plenty of room; unfortunately, only 12 people were in person. B. Krasko felt it was very safe and the Deliberative Session would be similar. M. Fleming responded that given the nature of the pandemic and the recent development of a more contagious strain of the virus in Massachusetts, it is realistic it will be in New Hampshire. No confined space would be safe despite any precautions. He felt it was a reasonable request given the pandemic.

Marcia McLaughlin, Nantucket Place and Library Trustees Chairman: Addressed the possibility of a meeting between the owner's representative for the Library project and the Town. M. McLaughlin was not in favor of the Deliberative Session being held in person. R. Winsor asked if the Board of Trustees was provided with a full accounting of the funds. M. McLaughlin responded she was told by Craig McLaughlin (Nantucket Place and Library Project Manager) that it was not in a coherent manner; there were things that appeared to not be there. They were meeting face-to-face to have a complete understanding. Responding to a question from R. Winsor, M. McLaughlin stated the numbers did not balance. C. McLaughlin, as the owner's representative, has been doing the accounting on the Library side. The numbers he was given did not balance.

TA Scruton stated that the Selectmen did not currently have the authority to postpone the meeting. He consulted with legal counsel. The decision resides with the Moderator who has the ability to make emergency postponements. Currently, the only way the Selectmen could change the process would be to adopt the alternative meetings through House Bill 1129. The Board has already discussed, and voted against, that option; it puts the entire budget at risk should the voters not like the alternative voting procedure. TA Scruton noted that at this point it was at the Moderator's discretion unless it was revisited, which would mean new hearings, postings, etc. M. McLaughlin added that the Senate had passed the bill, the House chose not to fast-track it. The House wanted feedback from the public.

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R. Winsor had a number of constituents contact him prior to the meeting with an opposing view, not supporting postponing the meeting. Chair Smith noted that the Town had received a letter from the School District stating their concerns and that they were not in favor of changing the dates.

TA Scruton, at the request of B. Fleming, clarified that the Moderator makes the decision. Until the bill passes and authorizes the Selectmen to make the decision, there are strict deadlines for hearings that must be met unless the Moderator intervenes.

TA Scruton has met with the Town Clerk and Moderator regarding the Deliberative Session. The public will be allowed to express their opinions at the meeting. If residents are not physically present, they cannot motion, make amendments, or vote. Residents are welcome to participate through Zoom, but only to voice their opinions; residents must be physically present and checked into the meeting.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Monday, January 04, 2021

MOTION: J. Connelly moved to approve the minutes of Monday, January 04, 2021. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

IV. OLD BUSINESS

1. Roads – Update from Altus Engineering

TA Scruton received an update from Eric Weinrieb, Altus Engineering, that they were still updating the road information for the Board and hoped to have it for the next meeting. R. Winsor stated he had received positive feedback from residents on how the Board was approaching the roads and utilizing Altus Engineering. Chair Smith noted a letter was received from Dick Rugg, Stratham Lane, regarding the roads (copy on file). J. Rolston requested the letter be forwarded to Altus Engineering for their opinion.

R. Winsor suggested starting a timeline for Bayside Road. Chair Smith would like to see the report from Altus Engineering. TA Scruton did not have any updates from DOT; they have moved the limit sign and markers. They are claiming responsibility for that portion of Bayside Road. TA Scruton will ask Altus Engineering for a DOT update to include the culvert.

2. Other Old Business

There was no 'Other Old Business' to discuss.

V. NEW BUSINESS AND ADMINISTRATIVE

1. Portsmouth Half Marathon

Per Dennis Cote, Health Officer and Emergency Management Director, updated the Board that the organizers of the Portsmouth Half Marathon have decided not to hold the race until the fall. Portsmouth did not think it was the right time to hold the race.

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2. Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer Update

Jack Shephard, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer, provided the Board with an end of the year update. (1) The Atrio Properties sign on Winnicut Road has been removed. (2) Attorney Whitley may be filing a warrant to inspect 454 Portsmouth Avenue; the owner appears to be evasive. (3) The Building Department issued 478 permits in 2020. That number was down from 2019 due to COVID. There has been a good start to 2021.

3. Warrant Article Recommendations

MOTION: S. Smith moved to recommend Article 06 – Operating Budget in the amount of \$5,846,009. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - no, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – no, S. Smith - yes. Three in favor, two against (R. Hussey, R. Winsor). MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (3 to 2)

MOTION: J. Connelly moved to recommend Article 07 – Police Station Maintenance in the amount of \$8,500. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to recommend Article 08 – Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$5,700. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to recommend Article 09 – Ambulance Billing in the amount of \$4,500. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to recommend Article 10 – New Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$75,000. Second – R. Hussey; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to not recommend Article 11 – Emergency Contingency. Second – R. Hussey; roll call vote: J. Connelly - no, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - no. Three in favor, two against (J. Connelly, S. Smith). MOTION CARRIED – NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (3 to 2)

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to recommend Article 12 – Road Improvement in the amount of \$200,000. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to recommend Article 13 – Town Equipment Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$7,500. Second – R. Winsor; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

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MOTION: R. Winsor moved to recommend Article 14 – Retirement Liability Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$5,000. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

MOTION: J. Rolston moved to recommend Article 15 – Town Events and Promotions Capital Reserve Fund in the amount of \$10,000. Second – R. Hussey; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

J. Rolston updated that Board on the recent 300th Anniversary Committee meeting. Due to the lack of cooperation from various sources, the Committee decided not to hold the event. They will be selling the remaining T-Shirts and hats.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to not recommend Article 16 – Citizens Petitioned Warrant Article to Finish Construction of the Weeks Library. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED – NOT RECOMMENDED BY THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN (5 to 0)

Bob Krasko, Budget Committee Chairman, questioned why R. Winsor voted against Article 11 – Emergency Contingency. R. Winsor stated he felt it was not needed and any funds could come from the budget, which is a bottom-line budget. The post-COVID world is right around the corner. As the governing body, the Selectmen could find the money if it were needed. TA Scruton noted it was not recommended by the Budget Committee (8 to 3).

4. Warrant Article Assignments for Deliberative Session

Article 06 – Operating Budget.....	J. Connelly
Article 07 – Police Station Maintenance.....	R. Hussey
Article 08 – Police Equipment Capital Reserve Fund	R. Hussey
Article 09 – Ambulance Billing	R. Winsor
Article 10 – New Fire Station Capital Reserve Fund	S. Smith
Article 11 – Emergency Contingency	S. Smith
Article 12 – Road Improvement.....	R. Winsor
Article 13 – Town Equipment Capital Reserve Fund.....	S. Smith
Article 14 – Retirement Liability Capital Reserve Fund.....	S. Smith
Article 15 – Town Events and Promotions Capital Reserve Fund	J. Rolston
Article 16 – Citizens Petitioned Warrant Article	S. Smith

5. Other New Business

Library Trustees: Dale Rockefeller, Shore Drive and Weeks Library Trustee, has moved out of Town and resigned his position. The Library Trustees are requesting the Board appoint Jane Man, 31 September Drive, to fill the position until Town Meeting in March. It will be on the ballot as a one-year vacancy. M. McLaughlin noted that J. Man has been serving as an alternate Trustee for the last several years and is very capable and competent.

MOTION: J. Connelly moved to accept the resignation of Dale Rockefeller as Weeks Library Trustee and appoint Jane Man to fill the vacancy until Town Meeting in March 2021. The position will be on the ballot as a one-year vacancy. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – no, S. Smith - yes. Four in favor, on against (R. Winsor). MOTION CARRIED

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Bethany Church: The Bethany Church is planning to do a COVID-safe scavenger hunt on Sunday, January 31, 2021. They have requested to post encouraging signs (there will be no religious context) in the Town Hall parking lot and at the Gazebo.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to approve the Bethany Church posting signs in the Town Hall parking lot and at the Gazebo as part of their COVID-safe scavenger hunt on Sunday, January 31, 2021. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

VI. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021

1. Payroll Manifest 21.02

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to approve the attached Payroll Manifest, pay date January 21, 2021, period of January 03, 2021 through and including January 17, 2021. Gross amount, excluding payroll liabilities: \$63,423.33. Second – R. Hussey; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. General Fund Manifest 21.02

MOTION: J. Connelly moved to approve the attached General Fund Manifest of Unpaid Bills Detail as of January 21, 2021 in the amount of \$546,815.71. This manifest includes a Greenland School District payment in the amount of \$380,000. Second – R. Hussey; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey – yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

VII. NON-PUBLIC

1. Legal – RSA 91-A:3, II(e)

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to enter into non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II(e) at 7:22 p.m. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey – yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

The Board returned to public session at 7:40 p.m.

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to seal the non-public minutes. Second – J. Connelly; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey – yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: R. Winsor moved to adjourn at 7:42 p.m. Second – J. Rolston; roll call vote: J. Connelly - yes, R. Hussey - yes, J. Rolston - yes, R. Winsor – yes, S. Smith - yes. All in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Monday, February 01, 2021 – 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Conference Room & Zoom

Submitted By – Charlotte Hussey, Administrative Assistant

Approved: