



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, November 17, 2014 – 7:00 p.m. – Town Hall Conference Room

Members Present: Chair John Penacho, Kevin Forrest (via phone for first portion of the meeting), John McDevitt, Vaughan Morgan, Mo Sodini

Staff: Karen Anderson – Town Administrator

Chair Penacho opened the Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:04 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. Transfer Station Fees: Proposed Brush Fee

Currently contractors and residents are allowed to drop brush at the Transfer Station at no cost. A lot of contractors are bringing residential brush by the truck loads. Previous years, the brush has been burned; brush is now chipped at a cost to the Town. The proposal is to charge \$20 per truck load to contractors; residents would not be charged. V. Morgan added that “truck load” is the same size truck the Town uses. The Town Administrator further explained that Greenland is the only town that currently accepts commercial brush at no cost.

The Property Maintenance Supervisor has spoken to contractors who bring brush to the Transfer Station, and they don’t have a problem with the fee. V. Morgan felt a fee would be a good way to offset the cost. The Town Administrator added another option would be to not allow commercial brush.

Chair Penacho opened the meeting to public comments. Responding to a question from the audience, the Town Administrator explained that the contractor who does the chipping charges the Town and keeps the chips. Another comment was that a \$20 fee seemed too low. The Town charges \$40 for a load of debris. Chair Penacho stated this would be a trial period and the Board would re-evaluate after a year.

M. Sodini agreed that \$20 was too low, and suggested \$30 per truck load. J. McDevitt suggested a higher fee and a limit to the number of truck loads per day. M. Sodini further suggested one truck load per day per contractor. Chair Penacho asked that a survey of other towns be done for fee comparison and policies. Another suggestion was to require dump stickers for contractors. The Town Administrator stated there are three Greenland landscapers who bring their brush to the Transfer Station. Commercial has been allowed to do “pay per service” (example: a local contractor can bring in debris from a residential property).

There being no further comments, Chair Penacho closed the public hearing. This item will be continued to the meeting on Monday, December 01, 2014, for further discussion.

II. APPOINTMENT

1. Wally Berg: Remembrance Park Wrap Up, Financial Reporting

The financial accounting of the project was reviewed; W. Berg distributed an interim expense report. Expenses: \$21,214.84; donations: \$23,934; balance on hand: \$2,720. Additional expenses are pending due to resurfacing that will be needed on one of the monuments to correct names. The monument is expected to be in Vermont until the spring of 2015.

The monuments honor those residents who entered the service while in Greenland. V. Morgan stated that the park is a “living memorial”, and names will be inscribed on a continual basis. W. Berg suggested a Parks Committee be created to administer the park.

2. Aida Cerundolo: Great Bay Drive East Plowing

Slides were shown by A. Cerundolo. The Selectmen were asked to consider safety concerns about the lack of plowing on Great Bay Drive East. Another audience member stated that they realize a large truck could not fit; however, there is room at the end of the road to push snow into the bay and then back straight out. The Town plow does leave the road blocked. The Town Administrator will talk to the contractor to make sure their road is not blocked by snow.

J. McDevitt stated there are many private roads in Town; he was concerned about setting a precedent. A. Cerundolo countered that the precedent had already been set by renaming their road in the name of public safety. She continued that if a road is considered an emergency lane, municipal funds may be spent to remove brush, repair washouts or culverts, plow or do other work deemed necessary to render such way passable by firefighting equipment and rescue or other emergency vehicles (RSA 231:59-a).

Chair Penacho stated there wasn't any intent to change the policy of the Town regarding plowing with the 911 changes. He continued that residents knew when they moved here what their responsibility was. The Board and emergency responders were trying to make locations easier to find. He continued that it could be called a Class VI road and the Town would not have to maintain it. He assured those present that plowing the road would be discussed by the Board.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER ITEMS

1. Road Name Changes: 911

The Town Administrator explained that these changes have been requested by residents who recently had their roads renamed. Birch Point Drive has requested Birch Point; Devon Lane has requested Applegate Lane; Palomino Way would like to be renamed Doe Hill Lane.

MOTION: M. Sodini moved to amend the name of Birch Point Drive to Birch Point. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION: M. Sodini moved to amend the name of Devon Lane to Applegate Lane. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

MOTION: M. Sodini moved to amend the name of Palomino Way to Doe Hill Lane. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. Conservation Commission: Purchase of Land [Map R21, 7]

The purchase of the land will be taken from the Capital Reserve Fund for Conservation Land. The amount will be \$11,300. The Town Administrator reminded Chip Hussey, Conservation Commission Chairman, that the Conservation Commission could not sign the purchase and sales agreement.

MOTION: V. Morgan moved to approve the purchase of land [Map 21, 7] in the amount of \$11,300, to be taken from the Conservation Land Capital Reserve Fund, contingent upon a purchase and sales agreement. Second – M. Sodini; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

The seller will draw up the purchase and sales agreement to be reviewed by the Town Attorney. The Town Attorney will also review the deed.

3. Budget Reviews

The Town Administrator reminded the Board that the submitted budgets, other than Police, did not include a COLA increase.

- a. Building Department: There were no issues noted. Permits were estimated at \$75,000, which may be a low estimate.
- b. Town Clerk: Motor vehicles revenues may come in higher than estimated. There were no issues noted.
- c. Fire Department: EMS didn't change; there isn't a lock-in price available for fuel at this time; there is an increase of 2% due to the warrant article coming in this year. They are also looking at hiring a private contractor through the State to do the monthly training. Chief Cresta stated that response time with the part-time staff on duty has benefited the Town; Chief Laurent agreed. There are approximately 330 to 350 calls per year. Chair Penacho asked how many calls have been made vs. how many have been missed since adding part-time staff during the weekday. No calls have been missed during the day and Portsmouth ALS doesn't roll automatically. Revenue is expected to increase, partly due to Portsmouth not responding automatically to calls. The Town Administrator told the Board that their ambulance revenue is designated to the Special Revenue Fund and is not used to offset the tax rate; it goes into a special account to purchase an ambulance or fire truck. Chair Penacho told Chief Cresta he may be asked by the Budget Committee the monetary offset for on-duty staff vs. Portsmouth responding. The Town will be billed by the City of Portsmouth over \$10,000 to rent their hydrants. The cost was \$100 per hydrant; in 2015 it will increase to \$150 per hydrant. M. Sodini stated there should be payment in lieu of taxes because of the withdrawal of water from Town property.

MOTION: M. Sodini moved that the Town request payment in lieu of taxes from the City of Portsmouth equal to the hydrant charge of \$10,050. Second – J. McDevitt; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

- d. Police Department: Chief Laurent presented the Board with two Police Department budgets; one shows seven officers (currently) and the other shows eight. Last year, the Budget Committee asked for a budget with one additional officer. Chief Laurent felt the Police Department could do their jobs better with eight officers, giving her more control over the overtime budget and decrease it slightly. The difference between the two budgets was approximately \$9,000 without benefits. The budget for seven officers indicates a 2.75% increase; eight officers is an increase of 4.25%. With

seven officers, 40% of the overtime is covered; it would decrease to 18% with eight officers. With eight officers, the part-time line item would decrease slightly. As with the Fire Department, the cost of gas has not been locked in. Tasers and laptops in the cruisers will need to be replaced. They are researching tablets for the cruisers as well as doing away with the desktops in the building. Officers would use the tablets in the building and in the cruiser. There is a significant savings between the tablets and Toughbook laptops. The price of the tablets would be all inclusive with the heavy duty case, cruiser program, docking station and accessories. The office copier will need to be replaced; leasing may be the best option. Capital Improvement includes the vests that are replaced every two years. Motor vehicle complaints and accidents saw a decrease. Percentage of drug arrests has increased. The cost of ammunition increased. The final draft from the architectural firm for the second floor should be done within the next week and will go out to bid. The next vehicle replacement will be done in January 2015.

4. Approval of Minutes: Monday, November 03, 2014

MOTION: M. Sodini moved to approve the minutes of Monday, November 03, 2014. Second – K. Forrest; all in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

5. Other Business

Debbie Beck addressed the Board regarding the fines she has been assessed because her cows have gotten out. She has fines in the amount of \$700 and has a court date tomorrow. Her farm is located on a dead end road. The ordinance, which is very poorly written, was proposed by Mike Maloney and passed on 62 votes. D. Beck stated it was very important to have some support, and feels her fences are adequate. She continued that she had her animals, and hunters, under control. D. Beck didn't feel the cows being out were a police matter; she couldn't pay the Town \$1,000 a year in fines. Continuing, she stated she thought it was a Town ordinance and the Board of Selectmen should solve this; it should not be going to court. J. McDevitt stated he would like to review the ordinance.

D. Beck asked the Board to come up with something reasonable. After reviewing the summons she received, the Board noted that most of them were from 475 Great Bay Road. D. Beck also suggested there should be an Animal Control Officer; there is not one member of the Greenland Police Department who is capable of managing or handling livestock.

Chair Penacho suggested that the Board of Selectmen meet with Chief Laurent for her perspective and recommendations for changes to the ordinance.

IV. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2014
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1. Payroll Manifest 24

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve Payroll Manifest 24 in the amount of \$50,566.75. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

2. General Fund Manifest 24

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve General Fund Manifest 24 in the amount of \$57,906.78. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

3. Medical Deductible Expendable Trust Manifest 23

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve Medical Deductible Expendable Trust Manifest 23 in the amount of \$1,461.14. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

4. Police Second Floor Capital Reserve Fund Manifest 01

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve Police Second Floor Capital Reserve Fund Manifest 01 in the amount of \$5,805. Second – J. McDevitt; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

5. Ambulance Special Revenue Fund Manifest 05

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve Ambulance Special Revenue Fund Manifest 05 in the amount of \$150,000. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

V. NON-PUBLIC

MOTION: M. Sodini moved to adjourn into non-public session at 9:30 p.m. Second – K. Forrest; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: V. Morgan moved to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Second – J. McDevitt; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to adjourn into public session at 9:55 p.m. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

VI. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: V. Morgan moved to adjourn at 10:05 p.m. Second – J. McDevitt; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Monday, December 01, 2014 – Town Hall Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Charlotte Hussey, Secretary to the Boards

Approved: Monday, December 01, 2014