



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Monday, December 01, 2014 – 6:30 p.m. – Town Hall Conference Room

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

Members Absent: Mo Sodini

Staff: Karen Anderson – Town Administrator

I. PERSONNEL – 6:30 p.m.

MOTION: V. Morgan moved to go into non-public session at 6:35 p.m. Second – K. Forrest; all in favor.
MOTION CARRIED

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to adjourn into public session at 7:10 p.m. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor.
MOTION CARRIED

Chair Penacho opened the Board of Selectmen meeting at 7:12 p.m. A roll call was taken by the Chair; he announced a quorum was present and the meeting was being recorded.

II. PUBLIC HEARING – 7:00 p.m.

1. Proposed 911 Changes – RSA 231:133-a

Chair Penacho explained to those present the purpose of the proposed 911 changes. The Police Chief, Fire Chief and Emergency Management Director have identified driveways in Town with more than two houses that may be difficult to find in an emergency situation.

Chief Laurent further explained the recommended changes to residents. Tim Scott, Data Operation Manager for 911, was also present to answer any questions. Chief Laurent detailed the process for making address changes, adding that property owners would receive an informational packet.

Residents affected by the proposed changes were unhappy and expressed their concerns about the difficulties involved. Many suggestions were made, including large signage. Chair Penacho explained that the Selectmen had made 911 changes to one section of Town. He asked that valid reasons be given not to make the Post Road changes. He continued that the safety of residents was a priority for the Selectmen. Chair Penacho stated that a great deal of thought had gone into making these decisions and understood how difficult it was going to be for residents.

T. Scott explained the mapping process with Google and other major online map applications. He attempted to explain the difference between GPS and 911.

Chair Penacho suggested that residents affected by the proposed changes think about a new road name. Chief Laurent added they should not use “street” or “road”, which infers a through street. T. Scott explained the 911 standard for changes. Chief Laurent told residents they have a two week period to agree on a name and forward it to the Town Administrator, along with any additional thoughts or concerns they may have. The Board of Selectmen will make a decision at their meeting on Monday, December 15, 2014. Although it is a public meeting, further comments will not be heard. Changes will become effective 120 days after Board approval.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE AND OTHER ITEMS

1. Conservation Land Purchase

The Town Administrator explained that after the public hearings and Board approval for the land purchase, she started the withdrawal request process from the Trustees of the Trust Fund. At that time, she discovered that the Board of Selectmen are not agents to expend from that fund; it can only be done at Town Meeting. A request for additional funding and to change the agent to the Board of Selectmen went to Town Meeting in 2012; that article did not pass. The Town Administrator added that by the time the legal review of the Purchase and Sales Agreement is completed, it will probably be Town Meeting. She recommended the seller proceed with that process. Chair Penacho didn't see a problem with approval at Town Meeting; the Board has already approved the purchase.

Chip Hussey, Conservation Commission Chairman, requested two warrant articles be submitted: one for the land purchase and another to change the agent to the Board of Selectmen. He also suggested that a portion of Current Use Release monies be put aside for the Conservation Commission; Chair Penacho recommended it be put in as a warrant article.

2. Current Use Releases

Current Use Releases were submitted for Cushman Way: R10, 26C (15 Cushman Way); R10, 26D (17 Cushman Way); R 10,26E (19 Cushman Way). Total: \$21,900. Cushman Way lots have all been released.

MOTION: V. Morgan moved to approve the Current Use Releases for Cushman Way, totaling \$21,900, as submitted by the Town Administrator. Second – K. Forrest; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

A Current Use Release for R5, 3D (6 Hickory Lane), totaling \$15,600, was also submitted.

MOTION: V. Morgan moved to approve the Current Use Release for Hickory Lane, totaling \$15,600, as submitted by the Town Administrator. Second – J. McDevitt; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

3. Town Budget Review

The Town budget was reviewed; the Town Administrator reminded the Board that the Budget Committee would begin their review on Wednesday, December 17. There was a significant increase in New Hampshire Retirement: police will increase from 19.9% to 26.38%, effective July 01, 2015. Group 1 (office staff) employees will increase from 8.8% to 11.17%. Health insurance decreased 12.7%; there was no change in dental insurance and slight decreases on the short-term and long-term insurance. When the Town received its 2015 rates, Blue Choice increased 9% and the Comp 5000 Plan decreased 12.7%. Worker's Comp increased significantly. Liability and General insurance increased from 28.5% to 31%.

A potential warrant article would be for an automatic door opener for the Town Clerk's office. It was put out to bid and is approximately \$4,000.

The Recreation budget was briefly discussed. Field maintenance has been included under Equipment – Permanent, and includes repairs to fencing and rails at Krasko and Caswell Fields. The last set of bleachers will be purchased under the current budget. The set ordered will include fencing along the side and safety railing. Damage at Maloney Field caused by vehicles driving over the fields was discussed; a gate has been installed. The last vehicle out must make sure the gate is closed.

Hydrant rental fees have not been addressed. The Town Administrator is working on the hazardous waste collection fees being charged by the City of Portsmouth.

Tree removal was discussed. Mary Dearborn has returned a signed easement. Two other residents have requested meetings/site walks with the engineer.

The Town Administrator and Property Maintenance Supervisor have done “road tours” to grade the roads in Town. There are several roads that have the lowest ratings. There is not enough money to repair all the roads listed. Many towns have locked in their paving price; Greenland has not. If the rate is good, more roads can be repaired. The Town Administrator will watch the paving prices and send out bids in late winter/early spring.

The Town Administrator, responding to a question from Chair Penacho, stated the year should close out in the \$80,000 range for salt. She received an invoice for plowing over the Thanksgiving holiday, which was \$13,500. There was \$27,000 remaining in that account; \$23,000 was spent between salt, chipping, and the last storm. And, there are 29 days left in the year.

The hauling budget has been reduced by \$8,000. The number of hauls has been reduced to one per week from four to six. The average was 20 hauls per month; it's currently six per month, and the budget figures were based on that number. The savings from the compactor, offset by the rate increase for recycling, is \$15,904.

The budgeted amount for health agencies is based on what has been requested from the agency. The Town Administrator reviewed the various agencies and their services with the Board. The Town Administrator recommended not level funding Meals on Wheels. The Board set funding for the various agencies.

The consensus of the Board was to increase wages by 2%. Returning to the discussion regarding the number of police, the Board agreed to submit the budget at seven officers.

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to submit the Police Department budget with seven officers for 2015. Second – J. McDevitt; three in favor, one opposed (V. Morgan). **MOTION CARRIED**

Changes to the budget were reviewed. Additional funding for paving was discussed at length. RFP's for paving will be sent, with bids due by mid-February. The Town Administrator will send out a revised preliminary budget for review by the Selectmen.

4. Approval of Minutes: Monday, November 17, 2014

MOTION: J. McDevitt moved to approve the minutes of Monday, November 17, 2014. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. **MOTION CARRIED**

5. Other Business

Brian Hutchinson, 475 Great Bay Road: Voiced his concerns about changes to the animal control ordinance. B. Hutchinson told the Board there has been some destruction to property in the neighborhood due to the Beck horses and cows. Although there were no problems over the summer, there haven't been any in the last few months. He added that there needed to be some accountability. V. Morgan reminded him that the Selectmen could not change ordinances; it would have to be done at Town Meeting. The Board assured B. Hutchinson that they were looking into the matter.

Personnel Evaluations: Chair Penacho reviewed the process with the Board. Evaluations will be reviewed by the Board at the meeting on Monday, December 15, 2014; that meeting will start at 6:30 p.m. with a non-public session. Formal evaluations will be done prior to the meeting on Monday, December 29, 2014; that meeting with personnel will start at 6:30 p.m. with a non-public session.

IV. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – THURSDAY, DECEMBER 04, 2014

1. Payroll Manifest 25

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve Payroll Manifest 25 in the amount of \$131,784.15. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

2. General Fund Manifest 25

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve General Fund Manifest 25 in the amount of \$861,829.44. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

The Town Administrator explained the General Fund Manifest 25 included the County Tax Warrant.

3. Medical Deductible Expendable Trust Manifest 24

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to approve Medical Deductible Expendable Trust Manifest 24 in the amount of \$482.92. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

V. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: K. Forrest moved to adjourn at 10:15 p.m. Second – V. Morgan; all in favor. MOTION CARRIED

NEXT MEETING

Monday, December 15, 2014 – Town Hall Conference Room, 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted – Charlotte Hussey, Secretary to the Boards

Approved: Monday, December 15, 2014