



SELECTBOARD MEETING OF November 20, 2017

Members Present: Bob Beeman, Eric Dodge, Brian Kellogg, Yvette Mason and Chris Towne

Department Heads: Dan Lindley, Town Administrator; Carol Bradley, Finance Director; Sara Haskins, Town Clerk/Treasurer; Roland Boivin, Highway Foreman; Shawn Goodell, Fire Chief; Richard Keith, Police Chief; Todd Thomas, Planning Director; Trisha Follert, Community Development Coordinator

Guests: Duane Sprague, Corey Boisvert, Ron Bohmer, Alan Newton, Sheila Lowe, Cody Marcotte, Larry Bliss, Marsha Marble, Roy Marble, Julia Compagna, Ron Stancliff, Brent Teillon.

Bob Beeman called the Selectboard meeting to order at 6:30 PM.

**I. AGENDA CHANGES OR ADDITIONS**

1. Delete Pay Classification of Public Employee.
2. Delete Appointment of Public Employee – possible executive session.
3. Delete Sullivan & Powers Audit Review FYE June 2017.

**II. APPROVE MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

1. **Motion made by Brian to amend the minutes of November 6, 2017 Select Board Minutes under New Business to include: Brian Kellogg made the motion to approve the Errors and Omissions provided by the Listers. Seconded by Eric Dodge. Passed (4/0).**
2. **Motion made by Brian Kellogg to approve the minutes of November 13, 2017. Seconded by Eric Dodge. Motion carried (5/0).**

**III. COMMUNITY CONCERNS**

None

**IV. LIQUOR CONTROL**

None

**V. NEW BUSINESS**

1. **Property Tax Map Index Cards** - Alan Newton wrote a letter expressing his concerns about the decision the Board of Listers have made to discontinue the Lister Index Card File. This card file has been used for many years. The cards are not the official documents, but

are used by people to get an idea of the history of a property. The card file has not been maintained for a year or so, and does not always reflect accurate information. Alan Newton stated that most people are aware that these are not the official documents, but use them as a guide to start their research. He feels that they are public knowledge and are used by the tax payers and should be maintained. They should also have access to the file cards. Now they are not accessible. Bob feels it is a valuable resource and that we should set up another public meeting to discuss this further.

2. **Greaves Farm Subdivision** – Todd Thomas discussed the Greaves Farm subdivision. The Greaves want to deed 4.1 acres of their land to the Town for land conservation. This would also enable the Greaves to subdivide the rest of their land. The land to be deeded to the Town has no real tax value. The Greaves want some stipulations prior to deeding the land to the Town: 1) cut down trees to maintain a view whenever they want. 2) The land may be posted by the Town, or its assignees. 3) The Town/Conservation Commission must create a walking path area. Ron Stancliff felt that they should remove any trees prior to the Town taking possession. Eric Dodge stated that he doesn't think there should be mandates to post the property. More than likely, the Town would post the land due to the walking path, but we shouldn't have to be mandated to do it. The Select Board asked Todd to take their concerns back to the Greaves.
3. **Discuss Ransom Building – Foundry Street** – Todd Thomas feels that the Select Board should send a strong message to Chris Ransom to clean up his lot. There was a fire three years ago that burned Chris Ransom's property. There has been minimal efforts made to clean up the lot. Due to Chris's health, he can't do the cleanup. Trisha is certain that his property has brown fields' issues. If we go to court, the Town may have to take the property. The Town doesn't want the property; we just want it cleaned up. Todd says that Chris won't let volunteers clean up the property because he wants to get the money from the scrap metal. Todd says that Chris can't make too much money or he will lose his oxygen benefit that he needs to live. Trish has been stopped many times by people complaining that the Town is not treating everyone the same because they aren't making Chris clean up his lot. People are concerned about safety as well. Chris is planning to come to the Select Board meeting in two weeks.
4. **Approve Oxbow Use – VAST February 17, 2018 Salute to Veteran's –**

**Eric Dodge made a motion to approve the VAST use of the Oxbow on February 17, 2018 pending receiving a Security Deposit. Seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion passed (5/0).**

5. **Appoint EMS Volunteer; and Permanent Part-time Employee –**

**Eric Dodge made a motion to approve Tracy Olson as an EMS Volunteer. Seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion passed (5/0).**

**Eric Dodge made a motion to approve Peter Fitz as a permanent part-time EMS employee working 23 hours a week at \$13.25/hr with no benefits. Motion seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion passed (5/0).**

6. **Discuss and Approve Poly Tank Purchase for Fire Department** – Shawn Goodell, Fire Chief explained that Engine 1 has a leak in the Poly Tank. The tank has been welded once and the welding is still under warranty; however, we will need to bring the truck to

Wisconsin or Florida to get it repaired which could take six to eight weeks with travel time. If we don't want to bring the truck there, we can pay the expenses for a person from the company to travel up here and repair the truck. Shawn estimated the cost to bring someone here would be between \$4,500 and \$8,500. We can replace the tank with a life time warrantied tank for \$16,738. This tank is built in Massachusetts. Lakes Region Fire Apparatus Inc. out of New Hampshire would sell and install the tank. Our Engine would be out of order for about a week. Shawn feels that replacing the tank could extend the life of the Engine for 7-10 years. Shawn proposes to not use as much of the money budgeted for building repairs and use it for the cost to replace the tank.

**Eric Dodge made a motion to approve the purchase of the poly tank from Lakes Region Fire Apparatus Inc. for an amount not to exceed \$17,000. Seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion passed (5/0).**

## **VI. BUDGET REVIEW**

1. **Review Highway Department** – Discussed modification of the sweeping broom for the Holder so we can sweep with it. Cost for modification is unknown at this time. Roland wants to hire someone to do ditching next year because they are unable to get it done due to many other projects. We are falling behind on the ditching. We have budgeted \$30,000 to have sidewalks constructed. We do all the demo and prep work and hire out the concrete work. We usually use granite curb for sidewalks, however, we did use asphalt curb to keep the water in the street and going toward the storm drains instead of going over to the sidewalk on Congress Street. The borings have been done at the pit for the Act 250.

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **VIII. APPROVE WARRANTS**

**Eric Dodge made a motion to approve the warrants. Seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion passed (5/0).**

## **IX. TA REPORT**

1. The front end loader will be here before the end of December.
2. The Festival of Lights will be on December 2<sup>nd</sup>.
3. The Town Offices will be closed on Friday and will have limited hours on Wednesday. The Town Clerk's office is closing at noon.
4. We will be picking dates for the road discontinuances when Erica gets back.
5. The Auditors will be here next meeting on December 4<sup>th</sup>.
6. The General Government budget discussion has been rescheduled to December 11<sup>th</sup>.

## **X. SELECTBOARD CONCERNS**

1. Chris – no concerns
2. Yvette – no concerns
3. Brian – The cannon refurbishing is beautiful. The judge has reduced the fines to \$10.00 a day for the trailer that we have the health order filed on because she doesn't have access to the property. She is still trying to evict the tenants.
4. Eric – Concerned about the smoke from the fire at Pleasant View Cemetery. Shawn said he is

up there every day dealing with complaints. The Fire Department has put the fire out once. Shawn stated the piles will now be smaller and he needs to look at the piles prior to lighting them and also at the end of the day to make sure they are out. Shawn wants to work on a village burn ordinance.

5. Bob – no concerns

**Motion made by Eric Dodge to adjourn at 8:15PM, seconded by Brian Kellogg. Motion carried. (5/0)**

Respectfully submitted and filed this 21<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2017.

Tina Sweet, Scribe

**Please note all minutes are in draft form and are subject to approval at the next Selectboard meeting.**