

MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 5, 2016 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MEMBER'S PRESENT: Board Members Joe Lovejoy, David Canada and Bruno Federico and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

At 7:34 Chairman Canada reopened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Canada noted that the Board had been in non-public session beginning at 6:38 PM to discuss a personnel issue and came out at 7:30 PM. The Board voted to seal the minutes.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Town Treasurer Deb Bronson reported that the current balance was \$10,189,055.21.

MINUTES:

Mr. Lovejoy moved to approve the minutes of 11/28 as amended. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PARKS & RECREATION:

Tom Healy from the Friends of Stratham Baseball, indicated that they needed storage for equipment and a small tractor and that they would like to put a shed up for the storage. He continued that the Friends of Stratham Baseball would donate the shed. Mr. Deschaine noted that by vote of town meeting, no additional buildings were allowed to be constructed at the Park without Town Meeting approval. Mr. Lovejoy stated he did not think it was a building if it was on concrete blocks.

Mr. Federico moved to allow the purchase of an 8' x 10' (or 12') shed by the Friends of Stratham Baseball and to place it on the third base side of the Scamman Field. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Parks & Recreation Director Seth Hickey stated that they had the boards up for the ice skating rink and they were waiting for the temperatures to get cold so they could install the liner and make ice. He continued that the process was going smoothly.

Mr. Hickey went over the winter preparations at the Park and the waterline replacement set for 2017. Mr. Hickey noted that the old heating system had been removed from the Maintenance Building and the new one was installed. He stated that the tennis nets at Stevens Park had been removed.

He then discussed youth sports including basketball, which opened Saturday, baseball, and softball. He continued that the snack shack renovation project at the softball field at the Municipal Center had stalled. He stated that a newly re-organized Soccer Board would be meeting in January.

Other events noted were the upcoming family trips to Portland and Boston, the ski programs for Pats Peak, the Fat Bike event on 2/4 and the snow shoe hikes on 1/13 & 2/11. Mr. Hickey went on to explain the Town's Fat Bike rental program which is available at the Park through the Recreation Department's reservation system.

Mr. Hickey stated that he was going to be requesting an increase in the budget for 2017 to increase the hours for the program coordinator position. Mr. Hickey discussed the summer camp contracts.

Mr. Deschaine told Mr. Hickey that his handouts to the Board would be appended to the meeting minutes in the future so it would be beneficial to prepare them with clarity. He will so advise other Department heads.

The Board and Mr. Hickey conversed about Park Ranger Kim Woods' work truck situation and the use of her personal vehicle. It was noted that she made many trips to the Highway Garage to get a vehicle to go to Lowes. It was suggested that it would be more efficient if she used her own vehicle and be reimbursed for mileage. Highway Agent Colin Lavery explained the truck policy and deployment.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

The Board started the conversation by commending Mr. Lavery and his Department for the nice work they had done in the Town Center with holiday decorations and lighting.

Mr. Lavery talked about the Town assuming maintenance responsibility for the original Wiggin cemetery off Depot Road. He continued that he had been in touch with the State AG Office, who had provided the details that would go into accepting the cemetery. Mr. Lavery noted that he was waiting for the next Cemetery Committee meeting to get a formal vote on the matter but that he thought it was a good idea. Mr. Canada advised Mr. Lavery to hold off on any action until formally requested by the Heritage Commission.

Mr. Lavery discussed the landscape maintenance at the Maple Lane Cemetery and what they would be doing next year to keep it up. He continued that it would need some work due to the drought this past summer. He stated that the Highway Department had a 1200 gallon water tank which would allow them to irrigate new grass, as needed, to get it established.

The Highway Department has begun working on viewshed pruning on Stratham Hill. The first work concentrated on the view toward Greenland.

Mr. Lavery commented that cleanup of the season's first snow storm went well. The new wing on the Terrastar performed as intended.

Mr. Lavery inquired as to whether interest on the cemetery trust funds could be used for buying equipment or for work on projects at the cemeteries. Mr. Deschaine replied that the interest could be used to offset anything in the operating budget.

MEETINGS: The Chair then reviewed the meetings scheduled for the coming week and reviewed the meetings held this past week.

RESERVATIONS:

Michael Tallone requested the use of the Morgera Room on 12/12 for a den meeting and that the fee be waived.

Mr. Federico moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Stephen McCauley of the State Police requested use of the Morgera Room on 12/20 for the State Police Christmas party and requested that the fee be waived.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Dick Rugg requested use of the 4H Pavilion on 9/9 & 9/10 for the Greenland Vets Annual Picnic and requested that the fee be waived.

Mr. Federico moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Josh Crow requested use of the Morgera Room on 1/21 for a birthday party and requested that the fee be waived.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ed Murphy requested use of the Scamman Pavilion, the Front Pavilion and the 4H Pavilion on 10/1 for the Annual Boy Scouts Car and Bike Show and requested that the fee be waived.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Becky Mitchell requested use of the Morgera Room on 2/17 for the Heritage Commission public program and requested that the fee be waived.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Deschaine continued the discussion on the regulatory changes regarding overtime rules under the Fair Labor Standards Act that had been scheduled to take effect December 1. The

changes have been stayed by a Federal judge. He then went over the Town's options for the employees that this would affect.

At 8:17 PM Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. At 8:36 PM the Board came out of non-public session. The Board sealed the minutes.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine indicated that he had received a proposal from ADG to facilitate adoption of a TIF district at the March town meeting. Mr. Canada mentioned some additional companies that they might want to get proposals from. The Board then discussed the need for a TIF district. Mr. Federico stated that he thought they needed to hold off on a TIF proposal until the new Route 108 Corridor Study Committee had a chance to consider the value of such a district. Mr. Lovejoy indicated that he would work on a charge for the group.

Mr. Canada moved to appoint Roger Giroux, Lucy Cushman, Nate Merrill, Maria Stowell, Melissa Currier, Norton Newborn and Joe Lovejoy to the new committee to be named the Route 108 Corridor Study Committee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Board clarified that included in "all non-clothing" items transferred from the 300th Anniversary Committee to the Historical Society was the cash box used by the Committee.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Deschaine stated there were two end of year requests for payment in lieu of vacation time, one from Chief John Scippa and another from Sgt. David Pierce. The Board then discussed the issues involved in the matter and stated that they would like these gentlemen at the next meeting to discuss Sergeant Pierce's request.

Mr. Federico moved to pay Chief Scippa for 40 hours of unused vacation time which cannot be carried over into 2017. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:43 Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Rodier
Recording Secretary