

## **MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 9, 2017 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

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

At 7:32 Chairman Canada opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Town Treasurer Deb Bronson reported that the current balance was \$9,124,153.99.

### **MINUTES:**

Mr. Lovejoy moved to approve the minutes of 12/19/16 as amended. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Lee Beauregard, Chair of the Board of Trustees for the Wiggin Memorial Library, was present to have a conversation about compensation for the library staff. He continued that they had exceptional employees but that they were being paid less than the state average. Mr. Beauregard indicated that he had put together a budget for equitable adjustments which were commensurate with the state average requiring a \$27,000 increase over 2016. Mr. Canada noted that the Board would study this issue and would get back to him.

### **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:**

Highway Agent and Cemetery Trustee Colin Lavery discussed cemetery maintenance that would come under the perpetual care category that was needed. The expenditures required had been approved by the Trustees of the Trust Fund and the Cemetery Trustees. He requested authorization to spend \$14300 from interest on Cemetery Trust Funds.

Mr. Federico moved to approve the expenditures of \$14300 as presented. Mr. Canada seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Lavery then went over the winter storm update, forest management work at Stratham Hill Park and winter equipment maintenance. He continued by discussing repairs on the Bartlett Cushman House and the 28 Bunker Hill Avenue house and the electrical issues with the outdoor Christmas lights for Town Center. He noted he wanted to change the lights to LED.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT:**

Fire Chief Matt Larrabee went over the calls they had received in 2016 and the calls so far for 2017. There were a total of 688 calls for service last year. Mr. Larrabee noted that they were going to be holding EMS training classes in July and that they were putting together a hazmat training class. Mr. Deschaine asked why the dues for the Seacoast Chiefs were more expensive for this year. Mr. Larrabee stated he would look into it and get back to him. Mr. Larrabee noted

that Tom Sturgis would like to use the Morgera Room that Friday from 10-4 for a reception after a funeral.

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

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

**RESERVATIONS:**

Rebecca Nash Pannella requested the Front Pavilion on June 10<sup>th</sup> for the Collie Rescue League of New England.

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

The Ladies Auxiliary requested use of the Morgera Room on March 4<sup>th</sup> for election preparation activities.

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

Les Charbonneau requested use of the Front Pavilion on August 13<sup>th</sup> for a family reunion. The use was approved.

Mary Beth Green on behalf of Easter Seals requested use of Room A on 1/18, 2/1, 2/8, and 2/15 for art classes.

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

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Mr. Deschaine stated that the proposal from Downing Corporation for renewing planned HVAC maintenance services had gone up slightly from 2016.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the Downing contract and authorize Mr. Deschaine to sign it. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine stated that he had been contacted by the Town of Pittsburg to see if Stratham would join their efforts opposing Northern Pass' intention of using town right of ways for infrastructure without permission from the town. The Board discussed and agreed that they did not want to get involved.

Mr. Deschaine discussed two legislative issues that would be coming up. The first was relative to a change in the makeup of membership on the Assessing Standards Board, HB254. The second issue was relative to mandating towns to use DRA assessments for utility poles, HB324. The Board indicated that they would like to meet with their representatives to discuss these issues further.

Mr. Deschaine stated that he had just received the solid waste contract from Casella and was going to try to review it as quickly as possible.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Deschaine indicated that it was time to open the bids for the Town Report printing contract. The Board opened the bids from Select Printing, Ram Printing, Keystone, Puritan and Kase.

Mr. Canada moved to accept the bid from low bidder Select Printing, pending Mr. Deschaine's reviewing the proposal for compliance with the RFP. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the 2017 mileage reimbursement rates. Mr. Lovejoy indicated that he had looked into other towns who reimburse for use of personal vehicles and stated that they were most all using the IRS business reimbursement rate. The Town currently uses the medical rate plus 12.5¢ which will equate to 29.5¢ for 2017 as opposed to the business rate of 54¢.

Mr. Lovejoy moved to use the IRS business mileage reimbursement rate. No second was made.

#### PUBLIC HEARING:

Mr. Deschaine stated that the first public hearing for the reading of the No Through Trucking Ordinance on Frying Pan Lane was scheduled for this evening.

Mr. Canada opened the public hearing and waived the reading as no public was present. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Lovejoy moved to close the public hearing and schedule a second reading for January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine stated there was a road name request for a new subdivision off Stratham Heights Road. The requested name is Breslin Farm Road.

Mr. Federico moved to approve the name. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Lovejoy moved to fly the POW/MIA flag on the 6 days designated by the Government and to seek donations for a second flag pole which would fly the state and town flags in an appropriate location at the Park. The POW flag would then be flown at the Veterans Memorial

permanently on the existing pole with just the United States flag. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board discussed the future of the Bartlett Cushman House. No conclusions were reached.

At 9:48 PM Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss an issue that could affect the reputation of another. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:52 Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public and seal the minutes. Mr. Federico seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

At 9:53 Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Lovejoy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Rodier  
Recording Secretary