



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
May 10, 2023

Present: Marybeth Quill, Chair, Bob Hamilton, Selectman, Karl Pruter, Selectman, via telephone, Lori Rautiola, Town Administrator, members of the public.

The meeting was called to order at the Town Offices on April 12, 2023 at 5:00 p.m.

Bob made a motion to enter into nonpublic session pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 II, (a) personnel AND (c) reputation.

At 6 p.m. the meeting reconvened. The chair led the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance. Marybeth stated she and Bob agreed to allow Karl Pruter to attend the meeting by telephone.

Selectmen's Announcements: Marybeth announced the Conservation Commission is holding a grand opening of the Mattabesock Wildlife Corridor on Sunday, May 21, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. The event will take place rain or shine. Directions to the Corridor are on the Town's website. The Commission extends the invite and all are welcome to attend.

Consent Agenda: Bob made a motion to accept the 4.12.23 minutes as edited. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 3-0. Bob made a motion to approve the Payroll and Accounts Payable for 5.4.23 & 5.11.23. Marybeth seconded the motion, and Karl abstained. The vote passed 2-0-1.

Citizen's Forum: There was no public comment.

Old Business:

Rindge Veteran's Association: The special event permit was submitted for the Rindge Veteran's Parade. There were no issues with the permit. Bob made a motion to approve the special events permit for the Rindge Veteran's Association. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

ARPA Update: Marybeth noted the compliance report for ARPA was submitted on time. Lori noted the vacation payout was reported twice and has reached out to Jake Landry, the Town's contact for the SLFRP portal to make the correction on the compliance report.

Land Use Position Update: Lori stated there has been a lot of feedback and several people interested in attending the group discussion on the land use position, adding the group will meet tomorrow, Thursday, May 11 at 2:30 at the Town Office. The public is invited to attend.

Roni Hamilton voiced concerns that no Selectmen could be present at the first discussion. Marybeth requested at least one Selectmen should be available for the next meeting.

School Board Decision on Use of School Facilities: School Board members Charlie Eicher and Lisa Wiley were present and gave an update on the new policy for the Use of School facilities. Lisa explained it was brought to their attention the need to update the policy as a way to see who using the facilities as well as establishing a way to save money. She explained the need to clean and maintain the buildings after they are used. Such as the floors of the gymnasium need to be cleaned after high usage. She noted Town Elections would have their own priority. She also mentioned there would be a waiver for the towns and other nonprofit entities which the School Board would consider providing they are given at least fourteen days in advance. They did not want to increase fees for the kids but were mostly concerned with large groups charging large fees.

Charlie noted one of the SB's concerns was that for-profit businesses were making money and not paying for the use of the facility and the Board was looking at ways to save money since the school budget was currently in a default budget. Charlie noted his understanding was that if the Rec Department had a program, they would provide a waiver. The Board's intention is to get handle of the larger programs going through the Rec Departments to use the facility for free.

Rec Director, Dan Bemis asked what the criteria were for a waiver. He voiced his concerns for the Rec Department. He explained according to the new policy the Rec Department moved down on the "priority scale" and would now have to pay for the use of the facility. He added he would have to pass this increase on to the families who are participating in the activity, thus he was concerned. Dan added he has not had large groups come through the Rec Department and most groups are community members.

He also had concerns about the new software used to schedule the use of the facilities, adding he has experienced several issues with the automated system and when he calls and/or emails the school for help with it he has no luck reaching the person who manages that area. Lori noted the Executive Secretary also had issues with scheduling the day before Election this year and requested help but had no luck reaching a person to assist her with it. Karl noted the problem is implementation and the SB should consider revising the priority levels.

Donation of recycled bench: Marybeth stated the Jaffrey Climate Initiative would like to donate a recycled Trex bench and would like it to go near the Farmers Market area. Bob noted the Town has had several requests to donate a bench but the Town prefers to stick with the wooden benches that are similar. The Board concurred they would like to maintain the wooden benches and add a Trex one to the Hillside Cemetery. Marybeth asked Lori and Mike to find a place for the bench and also contact The Jaffrey Climate Initiative to see if that would be ok.

Camper Permits: Lori mentioned the Town received a call regarding one of the camper permits on Pulaski Drive. The Board reviewed the permits and all three permits were lacking

information. Lori will have the executive secretary contact them to fill the applications out for completeness and be more specific with dates.

2023 Veteran's & Elderly Exemptions: Bob mentioned he questioned one document as to whether or not the surviving spouse received the full credit and discovered they are eligible to receive full credit. Marybeth made a motion to accept the recommendations of KRT for the 2023 Elderly and Veteran's Exemptions. Bob seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

Intent to cut Map 10 Lot 30: Marybeth made a motion to approve the intent to cut for Map 10 Lot 30, providing the Conservation Commission had no objections. Bob seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

Planning Board Alternate/Ex-Officio: Bob made a motion to appoint Karl Pruter as an Alternate/Ex-Officio for the Planning Board. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

Town Office telephone system proposals: Marybeth questioned the need for a new phone system. Lori explained the trouble with the current system and then expressed a need for a new system. Jim Qualey stated he has had trouble calling in and has been unsuccessful since last summer. The discussion was tabled. Bob also expressed his trouble calling in and agreed there is a need for a new one. The Board tabled the discussion and will look over the proposals. Marybeth requested TelTech to look them over. Bob and Karl noted the Committee did not feel this was in their purview but Craig Clark offered his expertise. The other members had more of an IT background.

Town Clerk Resignation: Marybeth noted the Town Clerk has asked to defer the resignation for two weeks. The Deputy TC was in agreement with it. Bob made a motion to allow the Town Clerk to extend her resignation date for two weeks or until May 25, 2023.

Marybeth stated she forgot to seal the non-public session minutes. Bob made a motion to seal the nonpublic minutes. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 2-0-1.

Informational Items/Communications & Updates: Lori stated DPW Director Mike Cloutier received a call from Red's in Jaffrey to say the home heating oil was down from \$3.98 to \$2.90 per gallon. Bob asked if Mike had received any other quotes and Lori stated he had not as he would normally do this in July. The Board concurred to have Mike request quotes but they would be willing to give him the OK to move forward if needed. Lori noted to table the Code Enforcement job description as she had not emailed it prior to the meeting.

Bob gave a brief update on the Meetinghouse Oversight Committee: The Town is in the progress of applying for an LCHIP Grant to paint the steeple. He added Scully Architects has compiled the final assessment on the Meetinghouse and Horse Sheds and the Committee will work to get the grant approved and use some funds from the Moose Plate grants as well. Blinds for the Meetinghouse were approved. Mike requested the Woman's Club send him a link to purchase the blinds and the Town can send an invoice for them.

The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola
Town Administrator