



BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 1, 2023

**Present:** Bob Hamilton, Chairman, Marybeth Quill, Vice Chair, Karl Pruter, Selectman, Lori Rautiola, Town Administrator, Betsy Lambert, Executive Secretary, Laurie May, Finance Director, members of the public

Bob opened the meeting at the Town Office with the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 pm on February 1, 2023.

**Selectmen's Announcements:** Bob stated that the POOR Meat Raffle for Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> has been canceled. Karl added there are still seats for the upcoming Town election, Bill Thomas who was on the Zoning Board for 17 years is not running for office this year. Karl thanked him for his services. Bob stated the last day for nominations was Friday, February 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 at 5 pm. Deliberative Session will be Saturday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. at Rindge Memorial School.

**Citizen's Forum:** There was no public comment.

**Consent Agenda:** Payroll & Accounts Payable - 1.26.23 & 2.02.23, 1.11.2023 & 1.18.2023, 1.27.2023 Minutes. Karl mentioned he was not at the meeting on 1/27/2023, Karl motioned to approve the consent agenda **except for the 1.27.23 minutes**. Marybeth seconded motion and it passed 3-0.

Bob motioned to accept the 1.27.23 minutes. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 2-0-1, Karl abstained.

**Old Business:** There was a discussion on the ARPA fund balance Laurie May had created a spreadsheet showing the balance of funds available. Bob and Marybeth requested more time to look over the spreadsheet before approving the carpet quotes and town clerk renovations.

Update: Lori stated she spoke with Rob from KRT as there is no contract in-place at this time. She reached out to Christian at MRI and unfortunately they are unable to help at this time. Rob from KRT has submitted a draft contract and is willing to contract with the Town again. She added she has reached out to Sam Greene at the DRA to see if he could recommend something and to possibly sign a yearly contract. The Board agreed to hold off on making any decisions until they hear back from the DRA.

**New Business:**

Flag Poles: The Rindge Veterans Association would like to donate two more flags to the Town and is seeking the Board's permission to install two more flag poles at Veterans' Park. Bob, Karl, and Marybeth have no problems with this. It was noted Mike Cloutier did not have an issue. Bob made a motion to allow the Rindge Veteran's Association to add two more flag poles. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

Argent Communications: There was a discussion on the Town's cable company Argent Communications. It was noted Argent is being bought by Charter Spectrum Communications. Bob stated they are a bigger company and may offer better services such as, up to 1 gig TV, telephone and internet services. The discussion continued. The franchise agreement is up in August of 2023. The Town has 120 days to respond or Charter/Spectrum will automatically take over Argent's contractual duties. It was noted a Public Hearing will be required for the Town to enter into negotiations with Charter/Spectrum and Argent had an agreement to pay \$100 dollars annually which they have failed to do so. Karl stated that Fidium has 50% of the towns business, adding, it was time to negotiate a new deal, and suggested the Teltech Committee meet to find out more information.

Bob asked for permission to sign a Title for a DPW truck that was being traded in. The vehicle being traded is a 7400 FSA 2012 with a trade in value is \$25,000. Karl made a motion to allow Bob to sign the title to release the title. Marybeth seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

Informational Items / Communications & Updates: Lori stated Fire Chief Donovan submitted a document to the Board seeking approval for the grant agreement for the variable message boards the Town was working on receiving through NH EMPG. Marybeth stated she would like more time to read through the document. The grant would be a 50/50 match, meaning the Town would be responsible for \$20,000 (half of \$40,000) for two variable message signs. The discussion was tabled.

The Board discussed possible candidates for the 2022 Annual Town Report Remembrance page. Amy Raymond, Michael DiPasquale, Bernice Martin, and Rae DuVernay, were all accepted to be on the dedication/remembrance page in the report.

The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Lambert  
Executive Secretary