



**Board of Selectmen Meeting
Town Office
Wednesday, 12/18/19
6:00 PM**

MINUTES

Present: Selectmen: Bob Hamilton, Roberta Oeser, Karl Pruter, Executive Secretary Michele Christian, Finance Director Laurie May, Town Administrator Sara Gravell
Members of the Community, Members of the Conservation Commission and Members of the Budget Advisory Committee.

The meeting was opened at 6:00 pm with the Pledge of Allegiance.

GENERAL BUSINESS

Selectmen's Announcements –There were no Selectmen's announcements

Citizen's Forum: There were no comments for citizen's forum

PUBLIC HEARING – CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Public Hearing: Conservation Commission

The Chair opened the public hearing. David Drouin presented on behalf of the Conservation Commission. The property is on North Street off route 119. The property is subdivided and there is a residence there. Mr. Ford of North Street approached the Town Administrator Joe Byk about the property that he would like to donate to the town. David showed a map of the property. The owner would like a restriction that there be no trapping or hunting on the property. He would like the property used for recreational purposes. He does not want any development on the property. There are 8 acres of land. The owner is offering a twenty five foot right of way to access the property. David stated that after ConCom visited the property they followed up with a letter stating the property would have a deed restriction because it is not enough land for a conservation easement. The property would be called the Ford Family Nature Preserve. Bob asked if ConCom would be taking care of the deed, and David stated that the grantor would be responsible for the deed and would be reimbursed by ConCom. Craig Clark asked about the cost of the survey, which would be approximately \$4,000. Cheryl McCabe-Charron asked if

there was a difference between a nature preserve and a recreational property. Cheryl asked if a preserve had more restrictions than a recreational property. Roni Hamilton asked if the town owned the property. David Drouin said that the conservation commission simply maintains the land for the town. There will be deed restrictions on the property that it can never be developed. Craig Clark asked what the tax impact would be for the property. Bob said that it will be minimal and it is not in current use. Roberta said that the excess acreage is between \$5,000 and \$15,000.

The Chair closed the public hearing at 6:40 PM.

Karl made a motion to accept the property at North Street and Route 119, Tax Map 25, Lot 19 pursuant to RSA 36 A:4, seconded by Roberta. Approved 3-0-0

Changes to the Consent Agenda – Roberta requested the health officer and duties be removed from the consent agenda. The Consolidated service agreement is the same as last year. Bob made a motion for Sara to sign the Consolidated service agreement on behalf of the Board of Selectmen, seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of:

- **Minutes 9/17/19, 10/2/19, 10/8/19**
- **Payroll 10/10/19, 10/17/19**
- **Accounts payable 10/10/19, 10/17/19**

Roberta made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented with changes, seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

2. Old Business

a) Teltech Committee – Consolidated & WiValley Broadband Proposals

Phil Motta submitted a recommendation to move forward with the proposal from Consolidated Communications and begin the process of contract negotiations. The Consolidated proposal is committed to 100% of the town. Phil stated that another advantage is that we don't have to pay for another 11 poles in the town which will be the town's responsibility and liability. Craig Clark stated that WiValley didn't want to pay taxes on the poles which would be on town property. Roberta asked what Chesterfield did for a bond term, Phil stated it is 20 years. Deb Qualey asked how it affects people who already have Consolidated and they are paying \$55-\$60 per month. She wanted to know if there would be an additional cost. It was explained that if a customer chooses to go from DSL to fiber there was an additional fee of up to \$9.50 for the bond payment. Jim Qualey asked when the town pays for the bond. Karl stated that Consolidated is going to take the financial risk on the bond. If they don't raise enough money with the \$9.50 cap they will take the liability. This information is in the contract. Jim also ~~stated~~ wanted it clarified that there is no possibility that the bond will have tax impact. Craig Clark said that there will need to be negotiations for those who do not want to take the Fiber option.

Doug Garner asked what the schedule is for the project. Bob said there is no contract, there is a proposal. It is 12 – 24 month schedule. Chesterfield voted in March for the bond and the project started in July and they are already serving customers.

Roberta made a motion that Teltech move forward with negotiations with Consolidated for broadband in the town, seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

b) Dump Stickers/Pricing

Bob suggested increasing the senior dump sticker and the regular dump sticker by \$5.00. The senior stickers would be one per household and any additional stickers would be at the regular rate. The other thought that was suggested by Mike was going up to \$30.00 and \$10.00 for the senior sticker.

Roberta made a motion that we institute the fee schedule for non-household waste items effective 1/1/2020, seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

Roberta made a motion that the dump sticker price for the transfer station be increased to \$30.00 and \$10.00 for seniors with one senior sticker per household effective March 1, 2020, seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

Roni Hamilton asked if the sticker had to be affixed to the car. The sticker has to be on the passenger side rear window.

c) Pay Plan

Roberta stated that next year is a 53 pay period year. A fair wage plan needs to be implemented for the employees. It turned out to be more expensive than originally anticipated. There is a \$5,000 decrease for insurance payments. Solid Waste could be decreased by \$10,000 and use the revolving fund. The pay plan would be a merit based system.

Bob stated that tomorrow there is a meeting with the Department Heads and Roberta will be there to explain the Pay Plan.

Cheryl McCabe-Charron stated that she would like to see the pay plan phased over a couple of years because it is such a large amount of the budget.

Candy Phillips stated that it is hard to bite the bullet but you will always be playing catch up. Holly Koski asked if we are talking about hourly employees. Roberta said that they are not included as the contracted salaried employees are negotiated separately.

3. New Business

a) Welfare Contract

The Chair moved this item up in the agenda as Mary Drew was present at the meeting to discuss her contract. Mary agreed to extend the expiration date of her contract to 12/31/2020.

b) Treasurer's Investment Policy

Roberta said that Helene has put the unassigned fund balance in CD's and she is making about \$1,000 per month. Roberta made a motion that we approve the Treasurer's investment policy effective October 1, 2019 through December 31st 2020. Seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

2. Old Business (continued)

There was discussion on the IT hardware budget. The board had discussed putting in an employee wellness fund or a health savings account. This will be an offset for employees that need medical help which would be job related.

ZBA budget: This will be level funded this year. There will be an increase in the application fee as well as cuts in the cost of advertising.

c) Budget: Code Enforcement/Assessing

Dave is going to retire and we will need to leave some money in the budget for assessing. KRT is going to take over the Assessing responsibilities. The code enforcement position needs to be discussed.

Bob asked if Laurie had given the BAC a November expenditure report. Laurie asked about the \$5,000 holiday from Primex and she wanted to know if she should put it toward the insurance budget for next year.

d) Encumbrances – Warrant Article

There are four special warrant articles that need to be encumbered. Roberta made a motion that pursuant RSA 32:7 (v) to encumber 2019 warrant articles 6, 7, 8 and 12. Seconded by Karl. Approved 3-0-0

The special warrant articles are as follows:

6: The ten wheel truck coming in January

7: Is for the grader and part of the warrant article was for the radios which haven't been installed yet.

8: Generators for the Town Office, Meeting House, Rec. Department and Highway

9: Cama conversion of assessing software and hardware

The L.E.D. street lights were delivered and they are supposed to be installed before the end of the year. If they are not installed by 12/31/19 that money will be encumbered also.

4. Informational Items/Communications/Updates

a) Christmas & New Year's Eve (early closings) This was discussed and it was agreed to close at 1:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve but not on New Year's Eve

Roberta said that the school budget is done. Monday night was the overview and the marathon was on Saturday and the budget has been completed. There will be a school safety coordinator in the budget for 2020.

Bob stated that there was no BAC meeting recently, but there was an e-mail thread that went out to all the members and it was sent via reply all. This is prohibited under RSA 91-A:2-a.

Karl made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Bob. Approved 3-0-0

Adjournment 8: 08 PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Christian
Executive Secretary