



**Board of Selectmen Meeting
Town Office
Wednesday, 1/23/19 - Approved 2/20/19
6:00 p.m.**

MINUTES

Present: Selectmen: Bob Hamilton, Jim Qualey, Roberta Oeser; Town Administrator Joe Byk, Executive Secretary Michele Christian, Finance Director Laurie May, Police Chief Dan Anair, Members of the Community.

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was opened at 6:00 PM. The Chair invited everyone present to join him in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Selectmen's Announcements: Selectmen's Announcements: Roberta stated that the library is having an event on Friday on the 1925 Fire. Bring your lunch.

CITIZEN'S FORUM

The Chair reviewed the rules of procedure for Citizen's Forum.

Gillian L'Eplattenier asked if there is any way to get the state to put a light to the drive that goes up to Hidden Hills. Joe stated that the State would have to be contacted. Gillian asked how far back the road goes before it becomes town road. The setback is 100 feet from the center line of the highway. Bob said that there are lights for the sign and they weren't working. Roberta stated that they put the sign as close to the state line that they could.

Roni Hamilton stated that the Chamber of Commerce had another successful Gala honoring Stephen Pelkey as the Business Leader of the Year.

Holly stated that the Meat Raffle on February 2 will be sponsored by Crime Watch.

Phyllis McCoun said that the Recreation Department used to bring the seniors out to eat and to other events but since the new van has been purchased there has been nothing done for the seniors. She stated that the Rec. Director did not return phone calls. Roberta stated that there is a sign up for the Rec. Dept. bulletin that goes out the first of every month.

Deb Qualey stated that there is going to be a Women's Club meeting on Thursday, March 7 at noon at the Rec. Dept. to discuss upcoming programs.

GENERAL BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda

Changes to the Consent Agenda: Roberta stated that she had an issue with one of the payables on the manifest. There was a payment made to Judy Harris for uniforms and Roberta wanted to know why. It was determined that Judy Harris does uniform repairs and also sews badges on the uniforms. This was payment for seamstress work.

Approval of:

- **Payroll 1-24-19**
- **Accounts Payable 1-24-19**

Bob made a motion to approve the consent agenda as amended, seconded by Roberta, Approved 3-0-0

Roberta stated that when a person gets assistance their name should not be in the manifest. The manifests are public but welfare assistance is not. Roberta stated that when people are given assistance a lien is placed on their house and the house was sold so the lien has been released.

2.) Old Business

a) Overtime Shift Differential Rate:

Chief Anair discussed the special rules of overtime calculations that were not paid correctly. There was 2 years of calculations that needed to be completed. It is a total of \$1568.84. Moving forward the overtime for 2nd or 3rd shift will have to be calculated according to the DOL rules for overtime. Laurie stated that this also affects the highway department if the employee is on call and they work overtime they will have to have their wages calculated through the same special rules. Chief Anair stated he has completed his end and go forward and not have this become an issue. December 2016 - December 2018 is the 2 year time frame that was calculated and will need to be paid back to the employees to become compliant with the Department of Labor. Roberta asked if Laurie had adjusted the budget and she has not. This money is not in the budget. Roberta asked if the

2018 adjustment could be posted in the 2018 budget. Laurie stated that the auditors would be able to do this. Bob stated that this is a law from the US Dept. of Labor not the State.

b) Warrant Articles – Final Review and Approval:

Article 1: The candidates running for town offices will be on the warrant.

Articles 2 – 7: Jim made a motion to post these to the warrant, seconded by Roberta. Approved 3-0

Article 8: Jim stated that he is not comfortable with the cost of the generators. Jim said that he thinks the Rec. Center and the Highway Dept. would be the primary candidates for the generators. The total for four generators is \$160,336. Jim would be fine with spending \$80,000 for the Rec. Center and Highway Dept. Roberta stated that there are a lot of capital expenditures. The town took in almost 1 million dollars in the property sales. She stated that voters look at the tax impact and most of the articles will create an increase in the tax rate. As far as the generators, Roberta stated that the Meeting House has problems with pipes freezing. Roberta said that the ice storm in 2008 came right at tax time so they could not receive payments or make payments. The money for the generators will be coming out of the Electric Light Trust Fund. Bob said that there is no tax impact for the generators. This will require a 60% vote and it is the taxpayer's money. Roberta made a motion that we post Article 8 to the warrant, seconded by Bob. If possible, Bob suggested that the warrant be for up to \$145,000. Roberta said that the Church may not be able to afford the 50/50 split for the generator. Approved 3-0-0

Articles 9-15: Jim made a motion to post these to the warrant, seconded by Bob. Bob had an issue with the wording of Article 12 and he thinks that it is confusing and he will not recommend it. Roberta stated that the land has lots of trails for snowmobiles. There could also be a trail that goes to the school. Jim gave an update on the property in Article 12. Kathy Van Dyke is going to trade 17 acres of property that abuts Wellington Field in exchange for 3.9 acres. This would which would add 21.1 contiguous acres of town owned property at Wellington Field. Bob stated that there will have to be an explanation for this Article. Approved 3-0-0

Article 18: Jim made a motion to post this article to the warrant, seconded by Roberta. Approved 3-0-0

Article 19: Bob stated that the Highway Dept. Equipment Capital Reserve Fund should be left to the decision of the taxpayer and we may be able to gain trust because there was some poor spending in the past. Bob is in favor of recommending this Article. Jim said that he is not in favor of this article. Bob

made a motion to put Article 19 on the warrant, seconded by Roberta. Approved 2-1-0

Article 16 - 17: Jim stated that he is not inclined to recommend either one of these two articles. Roberta stated that we can't use the revenues from the sale of Transfer Station permits because they can't expend the fund. It has to be expended with the approval of the legislative body. Bob said that the money in this fund keeps growing. Jim said that the fund has approximately \$80,000. Bob said that he will recommend both articles, Bob made a motion to put article 16 & 17 on the warrant, seconded by Roberta. Approved 2-1-0

Article 20: Bob asked if the tax map numbers were correct. Roberta confirmed that they are. Bob said that the property that is being discussed in the article is town property which is valued at approximately \$36,000. There are 2 abutters and the article gives all of the property to one abutter. Bob questioned why we are giving away a \$36,000 piece of property just because we want to discontinue the road. Bob thinks that the property could be split between the abutters, or retain the property and sell it at auction. Roberta stated that lot 16a is not buildable. It is less than an acre which includes part of the road. When the property was subdivided off lot 16 it says not buildable on the deed. Roberta said that the only lot that it can be annexed to is 9/1/4 without a survey. Jim stated that he thinks that \$36,000 is an exaggerated amount. There was discussion about the deed as well as the survey of the property. Bob said that he has no problem with the discontinuance of the road but he is not in favor of giving away an acre of land, Jim concurred. Jim said that he is not in favor giving this land to one person. Jim also said that he would like to take this article off the warrant, and Bob agrees. Article 20 is being scratched from the warrant.

Roberta suggested moving article 18 to 12 and 12 to 18 due to the importance of the article. All agreed to move the articles.

Articles 21-15: Petition warrant articles which will be on the warrant.

Jim will present articles 2, 5, 9, 18, 14, 12

Roberta will present articles 8, 16, 17, 4, 6, 11, 13

Bob will present article 19, 3, 7, 10, 15

Board of Selectmen Votes on Warrant Articles:

Article 2-7 Vote 3-0

Article 8 Vote 2-1

Article 9-15 Vote 3-0

Article 16 & 17 Vote 2-1-0

Article 18 Vote 2-0-1

Article 19 Vote 2-1-0

Article 20 no recommendation

Article 21 Vote 0-3-0

Article 22 Vote no recommendation

Bob made a motion that there be no recommendation on article 22, second by Jim. 2-1-0

Article 23 Vote no recommendation

Article 24 Vote 2-1-0

Gillian L. asked if the budget advisory committees vote will be on the petition warrant articles. Karl Pruter stated that they did not vote on any articles that did not have appropriations. Roni Hamilton asked why the Library Director wouldn't give other part time employees hours or give internships to FPU students. Karla McLeod stated that she would like to know if the library trustees favoring this article could be in the voter's guide. Bob said that if one elected body was given the authority to do this then other elected boards should have the same opportunity. Joe said that this is discretionary and Bob agreed.

Robert said that article 17 does not require a 2/3 vote. A 2/3 vote is not required in a SB2 town. Jim said that he found it. There was further discussion on the 2/3rd vote on Article 17.

4. Committee Updates

Jim said that there was a Teltech committee meeting on Monday the 21st. The discussion was on improving the internet access in the town.

Roberta said that in the minutes the voters decide whether the tax collector position is elected or appointed by reason of their vote. Jim and Bob both stated that they were not inclined to make the tax collector position appointed. Roberta said that the town should have a voice in how they would like the position to be staffed.

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Jim seconded.

Adjournment 8:10PM

Respectfully Submitted,

Michele Christian

Executive Secretary