



**Board of Selectmen Meeting**  
**Meeting House**  
**Wednesday, July 29, 2020**  
**6:00 PM**

### **MINUTES**

**Present:** Roberta Oeser, Chair, Bob Hamilton and Karl Pruter, Selectmen, Sara Gravell, Town Administrator, Lori Rautiola, Executive Secretary, Members of the Community

#### **CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The meeting was called to order at the Meeting House with the Pledge of Allegiance on July 29, 2020 at 6:00 p.m.

#### **GENERAL BUSINESS**

**Selectmen's Announcements:** Roberta welcomed the new Executive Secretary, Lori Rautiola. Roberta read a memo from the Board of Selectmen regarding Covid-19 Pay Authorization.

**Citizen's Forum:** Craig Clark asked if the Consolidated Communications contract had been signed and Roberta stated they would be signing it at this meeting. Mr. Clark suggested for those who are looking for information on how the fiber is installed they should look it up on YouTube.

**Changes to the Consent Agenda:** Added Library Trustee appointment.

#### **Consent Agenda**

##### **1. Approval of:**

- **Minutes 7-15-20**
- **Payroll 7-23-2020, 7-30-2020**
- **Accounts payable 7-23-2020, 7-30-2020**
- **Library Trustee appointment (Richard Isaacson).**

Bob made a motion to accept the consent agenda. Karl seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

## **2. Old Business:**

- a) Town buildings** – Status quo no change from previous meeting.
- b) CCI Contract** – Roberta noted that every house will have the choice to have fiber optics. Karl made a motion to sign the CCI contract. Bob seconded the motion and it passed 3-0. Karl suggested residents attend any and all presentations on the fiber optics if they wish to be informed and to learn when and how to sign up. Karl added the work will be done in segments throughout town and residents should contact the Town Office to see when the services will be started in their neighborhood.
- c) CEO Complaints** – Roberta stated due to time constraints the Board will revisit CEO Complaints after the public hearing.
- d) Covid Memo** – Roberta read the Covid-19 Pay Authorization memo which serves as a temporary addendum to the personnel and overtime policies of the Town of Rindge. This is in regards to the state of NH emergency order declared by the Governor due to the Covid-19 pandemic. The Board of Selectmen authorize the payment of the overtime hours for the Town's salaried employees to include Police and Fire who have accrued a surplus of hours due to the pandemic. Bob made a motion to adopt the addendum. Karl seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

## **New Business:**

- a) Secretary of State Election printer** – Roberta noted the Board will make a decision after the Department Head Meeting on July 30<sup>th</sup>.
- b) Police Department replacement cruiser** – due to time constraints the Board will discuss after the public hearing.
- c) Camper Permits** – Devin Saveall, 32 Atlantic Dr. Map 7 Lot 83. Bob noted the permit would be valid for 60 days and can be revoked if any issues arise. Karl made a motion to approve the camper permit. Bob seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.
- d) Miscellaneous:** Roberta stated the General Obligation Bond for the NH Bond Bank and payment schedule needed an approval signature. Karl made a motion to approve the General Obligation Bond. Bob seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

## **Public Hearing Crowcroft Pond Drawdown**

Roberta opened the Public Hearing at 6:15 p.m. Mr. Jason Paolino stated he was representing Crowpond Inc. He explained the pond is required to have an inspection completed every six

years. The State is requesting a partial drawdown as part of the inspection in order to inspect the inlet structure and to verify the structural integrity and operability. The partial drawdown will allow the water to drop about 6-8 feet in depth and there will be some maintenance dredging directly at the inlet. Mr. Paolino anticipated a start date of mid- August with an inspection date scheduled for August 20<sup>th</sup>. The water drawdown will be a gradual process. Mr. Paolino mentioned he spoke with Fire Chief Donovan about the dry well located nearby and the lack of draw anticipated from the hydrant that draws from Crowpond. They discussed the possibility of conducting some maintenance there since hydrant is in such close proximity to the pond it may be a good timing to do some maintenance dredging there as well. Mr. Paolino added there has been some preliminary discussion with DES on this matter.

Karl questioned how long it would take to refill the pond and Mr. Paolino stated it depends on inflows and the amount of rain, adding DES prefers to do the drawdown during this season because there is less of an impact to the species and fall rains are anticipated.

Judy Unger Clark asked for clarification on the location and Mr. Paolino responded you can see the dam from Route 119 but they would access the pond from Beach Road. Ms. Unger Clark also questioned the impacts downstream. Mr. Paolino stated they are working closely with NH Fish and Game and have requirements they need to follow.

Al Lefebvre questioned how deep the pond was and Mr. Paolino responded it was only about 10-12 feet. Holly Koski questioned where the inlet was located and if abutters were notified on Emerson Pond. Mr. Paolino responded the inlet was near the concrete tower at the northeast end of the pond and all abutters were notified in November 2019; adding Emerson may get a little lower than normal but did not anticipate it to draw down much. Betty Comerford questioned if the procedure could be stopped. Mr. Paolino stated yes, there is a gate that can be closed at any time and can stop the procedure within minutes. Ms. Comerford suggested they keep a watch on Emerson Pond and that she had concerns for the loons. Roberta noted the loons will most likely be gone by August.

Bob noted he had concerns with the hydrant not getting the draw and this would be a good opportunity to do the maintenance needed.

At 6:30 p.m. Roberta closed the public hearing.

**CEO Complaints:** Roberta reported she made a follow up visit to the property on Sportsman's Dr. and it seems to be worse with more unregistered cars and it looks like a junkyard. The owner was notified of the violation via certified mail and there has been no response. Roberta stated there have been issues with this property since 2015 and suggested the Board move forward with legal action.

Bob mentioned the NH Country School has cars that have been parked there for some time with out of state plates. Police Chief Anair stated the residents have 60 days to register their cars.

There are also two campers that may be lived in that have no permit. Sara will contact Tom Ciglar about the issues.

Roberta noted KFC has taken down the feather flags but Atlas, Verizon and Subway still have them out. Bob mentioned Town Administrator, Sara Gravel had contacted Lynda Hunt at the Rindge Chamber of Commerce to let her know they are not allowed and to pass the word onto their clients.

**Police Cruiser Replacement:** Police Chief Anair stated the Department was scheduled to replace unit #3 this year. The cruiser has 118k miles on it, paint is peeling and the car is starting to rust. There is a shortage of police cruisers nationwide but Chief Anair was able to locate one from CMG Colonial Manufactures Group; however, there are only two cruisers left so the Department would need act quickly. The vehicle is a 2020 Ford Police utility all-wheel drive, SUV with a cost of \$33,824.20. Chief Anair noted he was able to get a break on the graphics but outfitting the cruiser would be another expense of \$10,578. He was able to find some savings by going with a light bar located inside the vehicle vs. a roof mount which would save the Department \$1,300.00. The total cost of the vehicle and outfitting is \$44,412. There is currently \$58,000 in the Police revolving fund. Chief Anair requested a separate quote for a new radio as the current one is 15 years old. The intent is to move the current radio over to the new cruiser; however, it will need to be replaced soon. He received a quote for a Kenwood radio for \$2,200. Chief Anair mentioned he may need to purchase a new radio this year but was holding off for now and conducting research on a grant.

Bob asked what the delivery date for the vehicle was. Chief Anair stated it should arrive late September/early October. Bob made a motion to authorize Chief Anair to sign the purchase order for the 2020 Ford SUV. Karl seconded the motion and it passed 3-0.

**Other Business:** Roberta stated there have been some requests for tax payment plans. The Board will discuss those items at a later date in a non-public session.

The meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Rautiola  
Executive Secretary