



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
February 2, 2022**

Present: Karl Pruter, Chair, Bob Hamilton and Marybeth Quill, Selectmen; Amanda Urmann, Secretary; and members of the public.

Public session opened at 6:00 pm.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Swearing in Ceremony for Officers Ryan Aro and Scott Merrell.

Chief Malynowski presented a letter of commendation to Officer James McGeeney and spoke on his dedication and his accolades from the Attorney General Office and County Attorney's Office for his performance. She goes on to praise him for his professionalism throughout and his effort and commitment to his profession. He is being commended for the outstanding manner in which he handled this investigation.

Selectmen announcements:

Bob mentions the Deliberative Session that is on Saturday at Rindge Memorial School at 9am. Snow date is Sunday. Roberta Oeser asks about the weather the day before the Deliberative Session and wants to know about set up. Karl says that the worst of it will be Thursday and Friday and that there will be help just in case apart from the DPW to make sure things are set up in time.

There will be a Selectmen's meeting after the deliberative session as well in case something is needed to be added on.

Citizens' forum:

Roberta Oeser asks about \$55,000 that was encumbered December 30, 2021 for the rescue payment and wanted to know how it was going to be handled to see if it can be used for the warrant article since it will just fall in the general fund if it isn't used to make a payment. Karl states he will check with Laurie and the DRA.

Craig Clark apologizes for his letter from the last meeting. Bob thanks him for what he stated because what he pointed out helped look at the situation differently.

Craig Clark also asks about the \$30,000 that was on the warrant for the body cameras, the discussions that were had with Chief Anair and the federal money they were looking at doing

those, has it been decided to not go ahead with this? Karl states that this has not been discussed with the full board and is something that needs to be taken up with the ARPA funds.

Debbie Qualey mentions that Chief Rachel Malynowski is not yet on the town website as Chief and that Dan Anair was still listed as chief and that it should be updated. Chief Malynowski mentions that she just changed the Police website to be updated. Amanda Urmann mentions that she hadn't updated anything yet because she didn't have updates of positions until Chief Malynowski sent them to her for the Town Report.

Roni Hamilton asked about the Map Room and was wondering if it was open to the public. Karl says that it is open to the public but the office is in use during specific hours but it is open to the public.

Holly Koski brings up the article funds and how it needed to be on the warrant in order for it to be accepted? This is in regards to the \$30,000 for the cameras. Craig Clark says that Dan Anair if we were to get the ARPA funds and use them, he was hoping to get 6 years out of a 5 year contract and that we were putting money aside for that contract for when it renewed when the original contract was completed and that's why that \$30,000 was originally recommended by the CIP on their warrant.

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of:

- Minutes 1/18/2022, 1/19/2022, 1/26/2022
- Payroll 1/27/2022, 2/3/2022
- Accounts payable 1/13/2022, 1/27/2022, 2/3/2022

Bob motion to approve minutes 1/18/2022, 1/19/2022, Payroll 1/27/2022 and 2/3/2022 and Accounts Payable 1/13/2022, 1/27/2022 and 2/3/2022. Marybeth 2nd. 3-0-0

Minutes from 1/26/2022 were tabled and to be edited to label the articles so that they are less confusing when being read and to explain the changes better.

Marybeth mentions another payment to the school, which is just over \$900,000 for this month.

2. Old Business

a. Set up for Deliberative Session

Mike will be there to set up, but Leif may not be. Casey Burrage was asked by Karl if anyone at the Fire Department would be available to help and he said that it's possible but because of weather and roads, maybe not.

Charlie Eicher asks if he has the final warrant article and Amanda says she will send the final for the Deliberative Session after the meeting ends.

3. New Business

a. Discuss draft of Town Report

Bob recommends to get remove of all of the colored pages except for the front cover. He also recommends to add in the opponents in the Synopsis and clarify the write-ins and that there are dates, people and amounts that are in incorrectly still that need to be corrected. He also mentions that the In Remembrance Page should come before the In Appreciation.

Judy Unger-Clark brings up Paul McPhie and asks if he is going to be recognized as he passed away December 21, 2021. Bob apologizes and mentions that he was told that Paul passed away in 2022. Karl asks if she could send a little synopsis on him and a picture to Amanda so that he can be added to the Town Report.

4. Informational Items/Communications/Updates - None

5. Any other official business to come before the board.

Bob mentions the BTLA cases and that there is still no full paperwork on, but that they are not forgotten issues. Karl said that there were 2 documents in their binders on what Kevin Leen had sent and that it can be something that's discussed at the meeting in 2 weeks.

Charlie Eicher mentions that if there is a weather issue with the Deliberative Session, the session can be delayed not more than 72 hours so the postponed date can stay scheduled for Sunday.

Larry Cleveland asks that since the warrant is now on the website, does that mean that it is finalized and signed by 3 selectmen?.. Karl said it has been voted on as of last week but it's only been signed by 1 selectmen as of then, but since there will likely be modifications on Saturday, there will need to be a new one made out. Bob mentions he hadn't signed off on it due to dates on a petition warrant article. Larry then says that if it isn't the final, should it be up at all since it may cause confusion to voters if it is going to be changed. It is determined that the warrant article on the town website should be updated as a "draft" so that there is less confusion. Holly Koski mentions that the Voter's Guide is usually what voters should go off of rather than what the town warrant is, since the voter's guide explains more of the articles.

Kim McCummings mentions that the contact information for the BOA is incorrect on the town report.

Judy Unger-Clark asks if the conflict of interest ordinance will be available at the Deliberative Session. Charlie mentions that for petition warrant articles, it's usually up to the petitioner to bring the handouts for the article.

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Amanda Urmann
Executive Secretary