

*Selectmen's Meeting Minutes*

Monday, January 6, 2020

Present: Chairman Mike Darcy, Selectman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, and Selectman Megan Kondrat; T.A. Jill Collins and Kim Worden. Selectman Mike Carrier was excused.

6:00 p.m. Chairman Darcy called the meeting to order.

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Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to approve the manifests of December 30, 2019 and January 6, 2020 and the public and non-public minutes of December 23, 2019, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I and Kondrat-I; Motion passes.

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*T.A. Reports/Requests:*

T.A. Collins received a letter from Richard Johnson. There was also an article in the Sentinel. Chair Darcy noted that Richard is not running for Moderator and according to the Sentinel article, he has other aspirations. A copy of his letter was included for the minutes book.

T.A. Collins noted the properties to be auctioned. Notice will be sent to abutters. Tax Sale will take place at 10 a.m. on Saturday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at Town Hall. Highway Department will be asked to get access into the Masonic Hall.

T.A. Collins informed the Board that the Interim Administrative Chief, Andy Lavoie, started today and met with her. Today was Chief Faulkner's official last day.

T.A. Collins has a non-public re: personnel.

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Selectman Diorio noted a joint meeting with School Board and Budget Committee for Wednesday. He also has a non-public re: personnel.

Chair Darcy gave a membership form for Rod Lawrence to T.A. Collins for completion and submission.

James MacDonell, Tax Collector, indicated that payments were coming in nicely.

Selectman Rideout noted there has been a lot of chatter about the tax rate being lowered and agreed that we all want to do that. He asked how much would have to be cut to lower the municipal tax rate by \$3.00. The answer was: if the rate dropped \$3.00, over a million dollars would have to be cut. Discussion followed and the consensus was it wasn't possible. Discussion included increasing valuations and related scenarios.

Selectman Kondrat noted that the library is currently short staffed and could use some help.

Chair Darcy asked James MacDonell a question as to whether there is an RSA or state statute known re: impersonating a public official. Discussion followed.

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**Parks and Rec** members and Program Director, Matt Palmer were acknowledged for Budget Discussion.

**Summer Program** was first discussed at 73,639. Selectman Diorio noted that salary seemed to be the largest increase and that the budget was up about 10%. Selectman Kondrat questioned the ratio of Counselor I vs. Counselor II. Chair

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Darcy asked what is typically spent for a week of having counselors on board. Selectman Kondrat felt that counselors can be divided better. Ann Diorio responded to the question of average daily campers being 92 for July, 90 for August, with 112 being the highest and 62 the lowest. She suggested having 13 full-time and 3 part-time to fill in. It was noted that there were no Jr. Counselors last season. Ann also suggested that the Jr. Counselor program was made too rigid and the need to go back to basics, having helpers to help keep the ratio down. Kathryn Lynch suggested reintroducing using lifeguards to work as subs, utilizing staff that you already have. Last year this wasn't allowed. Discussion followed. T.A. Collins suggested cutting the line item for salaries to \$50,000.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to keep salary-related line (including FICA and Medicaid) flat with last year, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously. Salary line would be 52960, FICA at 3284, and Medicare at 768.

Selectman Kondrat questioned the Program Director on special events and asked if the zip line was added. It was added. She agreed it was nice but had concerns and suggested doing the zip line this year and not Bounce Springfield (swap those two for this year). Ann Diorio questioned which events benefit Middle School age and which benefit the whole camp. Kathryn Lynch questioned why campers are charged the same amount if Middle School Age group are going on trips. She suggested the trip attendees pay an additional \$10 per trip, if applicable. Ann Diorio suggested going to Winchester to swim for free vs. paying to go to Spofford. Discussion followed including scaling back and bus fees.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to leave Special Events at \$3710.00, second by Diorio. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; and Kondrat-No; Motion carries.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to tentatively approve the Summer Program Budget at \$68,392.00, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; and Kondrat-No; Motion passes. Matt Palmer noted that training will take place the week of 6/23-6/26 and camp weeks are the same as last year: six weeks.

**Municipal Pool** was discussed. Increases of around \$1500 were noted with salary increase of approximately \$3000. Also noted was safety equipment was down. Matt Palmer stated that last year the State mandated they put in a pH level sensor and moderator and there are unknown costs related to that. The addition of Personnel Manager and Facilities Manager in the budget were questioned by Selectman Kondrat. Matt gave his reasons for adding those positions to include Personnel Manager for people and snack bar and Facilities Manager for chemicals and maintenance. It was noted that formerly this was handled by head lifeguard. Chair Darcy understood the logic and merit for listing two positions. Ann Diorio asked if we would have to adjust the Program Director's job description now. The Parks and Rec Board was not given this information at their meeting.

Kathryn Lynch questioned the number of weeks the pool would be open and why the increase if there is now only one water aerobics position. Ann Diorio noted that the pool was open only eight weeks and she feels it should be nine weeks and gave her reasons, reminding all of the number of concerned citizens attending last year. She noted that the budget wouldn't have to be changed, perhaps be conscious of hours. Matt Palmer outlined the proposed schedule with an August 16<sup>th</sup> close date. He stated that he had tremendous trouble staffing the pool the last two weeks of last year. They were over on payroll with marginal attendance. Selectman Kondrat asked how many swimmers vs. staff and other information. Information was thought to be available through POS system. Matt offered to get the information but would need to make copies.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to table** the Municipal Pool budget pending receipt of attendance information, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

**Community Events** was discussed. Matt reorganized this. Miscellaneous is now a number of events. Selectman Diorio questioned the difference in salary. Matt noted it was the same two people, probably due to COLA and merit.

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Selectman Rideout made a motion to tentatively approve Community Events at \$23,117, second by Diorio. (All opposed this after discussion).

Kathryn Lynch asked to hand out information. She saw these numbers as well and didn't understand them. She went through all the figures and brought them down and justified them (shown in handout). She explained that Summer Kickoff was the only one up a bit and explained the reason. The ask vs. the budget request differed.

Previous motion was opposed. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to revisit figures**: \$360 Outdoor Hinsdale, \$150 Trunk or Treat (and Fall Festival), \$250 Easter, \$150 Chili Cookoff, \$1150 Summer Kickoff, and \$375 Art in the Park, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to tentatively approve Community Events at \$22,102.00, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously.

Kathryn was thanked for bringing in the additional information.

**Community Center** was discussed next. Following a question on the Salary line being down, Matt indicated it was due to different personnel.

Chair Darcy made a **motion to table** this for a discussion with the Program Director (non-public personnel), second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously. This will take place next week.

All were thanked for attending.

**Fire Department** budget was next discussed. The amount of \$242,288.00 was discussed with Chief Zavorotny. An Assistant Chief has retired and a vehicle allowance will be gone. There will be another Lieutenant position vs. Assistant Chief. Training and CPR were discussed. Currently there are three people in class and three will need to be recertified. Salary line was also discussed.

Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to tentatively approve the Fire Department Budget in the amount of \$241,088.00, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

**Street Lights** were discussed. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to tentatively approve Street Lights at \$28,000, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

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7:26 p.m. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (c) reputation with Tax Collector, second by Kondrat. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

7:32 p.m. Regular Meeting reconvened.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to seal** the non-public minutes, second by Kondrat. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-No; Rideout-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes.

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7:33 p.m. Selectman Diorio made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

8:11 p.m. Regular Meeting reconvened.

Selectman Kondrat made a **motion to seal** the non-public minutes, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Darcy-I; Diorio-I; Rideout-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

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8:12 p.m. Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to adjourn, second by Diorio. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden  
Secretary