

*Selectmen's Meeting Minutes*

Monday, June 29, 2020 remote meeting held at Millstream Community Center

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, Selectman Megan Kondrat, and Selectman Richard Johnson; T.A. Jill Collins and Kim Worden (all in person). Police Chief Rataj, Sarah Hudon, and Sean Leary, Julie Seymour and Ashley Pinger (all in person). James MacDonell and Smokey Smith participated via Zoom.

6:00 p.m. Chairman Diorio called the meeting to order. He noted the meeting was being held live at the Community Center and via Zoom for those who wish to participate that way.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to approve** the manifests of 6/22/20 and 6/29/20 and public and non-public minutes of 6/15/20, second by Kondrat. Selectman Johnson had a question re: the 6/25 Manifest and how the regional prosecutor was billed. T.A. Collins indicated that it was supposed to be monthly but seems like they do it quarterly. He also asked about First Choice Communications improvements and was curious as to what that was. T.A. Collins explained that it was related to the keyless entry system. Motion passes unanimously.

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*New Business:*

First presented were Petitions and Pole Licenses for Public Service of New Hampshire dba Eversource Energy and Consolidated Communications of Northern New England Company LLC re: Licensing 17 Poles on Monument Road, Licensing 1 Pole on Indian Acres Drive, and Licensing 1 Pole on Oxbow Road. Selectman Rideout had questions if licenses were done on the ones replaced on Plain Road, and if they are leaving small poles and additional wires stay. Selectman Johnson asked if these are for the tall poles. Discussion followed with the Town Administrator to include that BTLA had made a decision. T.A. Collins will review it and present it to Selectmen.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to approve** the Petition and Pole Licenses for the three locations, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Next presented was an Appointment of Carl Britt to serve on the Conservation Committee. Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** the appointment of Carl Britt to the Conservation Committee, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

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*T.A. Reports/Requests:*

T.A. Collins presented a Schedule of Pay for Cost of Living which was previously agreed at 1.9%. She indicated that Evaluations were going out to Department Heads to do their merit recommendations.

She is putting together material for budgets and expects to have that by the next meeting.

T.A. Collins informed the Board that Trash Pickup went out to bid and the only one received back was from Triple T and they went up. They are up \$48,648.00 for the first year and 2.5% increase thereafter. She noted that they have only taken an 8% increase in the last several years and have treated us well. She also noted that in the past, many years ago, Waste Management bid was \$120,000. The Triple T bid will be \$170,000 for the first year; \$174,000 for the second year; and \$178,600 for the third year. Selectman Kondrat asked what we paid last year. T.A. Collins responded with \$121,352. T.A. Collins noted that we received 90,000 to 110,000 on pay-per-bags. Cost is currently \$2.00 per large bag and \$1.00 per small bag. Selectman Kondrat indicated that she was fine with doing away with rubbish removal and felt there were plenty that don't use the service. T.A. Collins pointed out that if the Transfer Station is open full time, we would pay two people full time with benefits plus pay to haul trash out. Cost would be around \$250,000 to operate the Transfer Station. She indicated that Winchester pays around \$270,000 for a company to operate theirs. Selectman

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Diorio gave reasons he didn't want to see losing trash pickup with included more illegal dumping, more rodents/animals, infestation problems, more dumpsters in neighborhoods, hardship on many citizens, and it may discourage recycling. Selectmen Johnson added that with the bag system no-one is forced to buy the bags, they have the option to take rubbish to the dump themselves, or get a dumpster, etc. He thought that to come close to breaking even, he would be in favor of raising the price on pay-per-bags. Selectman Kondrat mentioned the current revenue from pay-per-bag as being \$89,821 and it was pointed out that this didn't include June. T.A. Collins noted that recycling has increased with pay-per-bags. Discussion followed on increasing the pay-per-bag fee. Selectman Johnson didn't think there was a need to offset totally. Selectman Rideout suggested raising the fee of large to \$25.00 a package (\$2.50 per bag) and the fee of small bags to \$15.00 per package (\$1.50 per bag). Selectman Diorio felt it was reasonable to have an increase.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to increase the cost** of pay as you throw (Pay-Per-Bag) to \$25.00 a package for Large and \$15.00 per package on Small, to take effect on the next bag order, second by Carrier. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; and Johnson-I; Kondrat-No. Motion passes.

Selectman Johnson mentioned and it was discussed that Pay-Per-Bag is not intended to pay for recycling and that in the past, it was found that the townspeople wanted curbside pickup.

Selectman Rideout **made a motion** to accept the bid and enter into a new contract with Triple T with increase, second by Carrier. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; and Johnson-I; Kondrat-No. Motion passes.

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Sarah Hudon, Program Director, was present to give an update on Camp. They had open registration on Friday for 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders and had 3 sign-ups. They extended registrations to 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders and are up to 12 sign-ups. Sarah indicated that Maryanne will have an after-camp program. They will open at 7:45 for breakfast (through the school) and have lunch (through the school). This will also be an open site for all for meals at the school. They have a list of staff and also support staff to clean and run. Training is almost done and this is a great group of counselors. Each group has totes for supplies, they'll have safety checks, first aid, thermometers, walkies. She has ordered shirts. They will do tie dye projects. There will be a routine test run. Parents have been talked to in person about expectations in detail. Camp will transition to after-care at noon. Sign-ups are low right now and feels it is due to unknowns and putting safety restrictions in place. Wednesday they will put notices on meal bags in hopes of more interest. If they don't have full enrollment for the first two weeks, they will include 4<sup>th</sup> grade too. Sarah was thanked for the update.

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Julie Seymour, Town Clerk and Ashley Pinger, ACO, were present re: Dog Forfeitures. Ashley indicated that she has been hand delivering renewals. There were 400 last week and now at 274. They are usually at just under 100. This Warrant for Unlicensed Dogs gives them 2 weeks and then she will issue forfeiture (giving them 4 weeks beyond the deadline). In response to a question from Selectman Rideout, if forfeited they will get fined.

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to sign** Dog Forfeiture letter (Warrant For Unlicensed Dogs), second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

Julie Seymour informed the Board that Smokey had called today asking how she was doing in getting prepared for the elections. She is trying to get together at the Community Center with various people to figure out what is needed (for ordering), and what the changes will be. She has invited T.A. Collins, Chair Diorio, Smokey Smith, and Supervisors of the Checklist. Julie would like to bow out and let someone else take over as she is in over her head with everything else she is doing. Discussion followed on timeframe, and GOFERR funds. Smokey noted that there are Zoom Meetings on June

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30<sup>th</sup>, July 2, and July 8<sup>th</sup> with sessions to update election officials. There is federal funding and he will do more research on that. T.A. Collins suggested it will be nice to know what the Secretary of State has to say and get together in the next couple of weeks. It was decided to tentatively meet July 21<sup>st</sup> at the Community Center at 6:00. Selectman Johnson thought and Smokey agreed that it is the Selectmen's responsibility to run the elections and Julie handles the clerk duties. Discussion followed to include that most agreed absentee voting will increase a lot. Smokey thinks they have modified the count timeframe on absentee ballots. That is one of the questions he has for the 7/2 meeting. Julie commented that she had absentee ballot requests already, which hasn't happened before. There was discussion on the possibility of the setup of absentee ballot time with the Supervisors.

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T.A. Collins gave quotes for heating bids (which include the school):

Barrows #2 and #1	\$93,285.25
Bob's Fuel	\$110,510.25
Sandri	\$117,912.35

Barrows	\$1.399 oil
	\$2.749 kerosene

Bob's	\$1.699 oil
	\$1.949 kerosene

Sandri	\$1.766 oil
	\$2.149 winter mix
	\$2.549 kerosene

Discussion followed to include that Barrows overall has been historically lower and we do have dollar credit with Barrows.

Selectman Carrier **made a motion for tentative town approval** to accept the bid and enter into a contract for heating oil with Barrows, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins asked if there was any comment on the "Hinsdale Town Hall Plan to Reopen to the Public" which she handed out at the last meeting for the Board's review. She indicated that Julie will schedule appointments on Monday and Thursday from 8-11 and 1-4. Rod and Kathryn will synchronize appointments on Tuesday or Wednesday. James schedule is unknown and Kim is depending on that determination. Welfare will be, in most cases, by telephone interview. It will be a gradual opening by appointment only. Chair Diorio asked if there was anyone working from home. T.A. Collins indicated that Kathryn works from home on Mondays. T.A. Collins noted that there will be stations for masks, sanitizer, and tissues. Plexiglass will be between customer and employee, and areas will be cleaned.

Sean asked when Planning Board could meet again at Town Hall. T.A. Collins suggested that Planning Board and Parks and Rec could meet at the Community Center. He would like to plan to meet once a month once the Emergency Order goes away.

Selectman Carrier asked when the Library might be opening. T.A. Collins said the Trustees had a meeting. They are looking at opening and how they are opening. There could be some curbside. Selectman Kondrat received an email. Selectman Carrier should be receiving the emails. T.A. Collins will let Alan know.

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Selectman Johnson asked if T.A. Collins was prepared to go over expenses tonight or at the next meeting. He is okay with the next meeting. T.A. Collins mentioned work on water tank in North Hinsdale, work on Glen St. wells, and work on North wells. She doesn't have figures with her. She indicated that Frank will have grader work at \$11000 with 8000 from this year's budget and \$3000 from next year's budget. Selectman Johnson agreed that numbers will be discussed at the next meeting and he would like a best estimate of expenditures and revenues so we know where we stand. Selectman Johnson noted that the more Department Heads look at how they're doing on a monthly basis, the better. T.A. Collins confirmed that they do. T.A. Collins informed the Board that the auditors are coming on 7/23 for testing and 8/31 for audits. Chief Rataj asked T.A. Collins when final bills should be in. She indicated Wednesday morning and to mark it that this should come out of this fiscal year.

*Board Comments:*

Selectman Rideout will have a non-public for later.

Chair Diorio had a meeting last week on the existing bridge project and noted nice designs and student ideas for the park. The State will rehab the two bridges and sidewalks will be gone. There will be accessibility for pedestrians, hikers, and bikers. Bids will probably go out next month for the regular bridge.

Chair Diorio noted that he recently participated in police officer interviews with Chief Rataj.

Chair Diorio also wanted to again thank Tim Nichols and Nichols Tree Care for swapping the 2020 graduation banners back to the patron banners.

Chair Diorio noted the first Farmer's Market last week went well. Chief Rataj was there and introduced himself and talked to vendors. Bathrooms were accessible to vendors.

Chair Diorio noted that Mary Major and family sent a Thank You card for the gift to the (Lewis Major) Scholarship Fund. He read the card.

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*Citizen Comments:*

Sean Leary mentioned that the State Task Force is looking at school reopening and will present recommendations to the Governor tomorrow. The District Team will look at it and present it to the School Board on 7/22 in order to get word out to the public so parents can plan for the school year.

Selectman Johnson ask if a joint meeting between Selectmen and School Board has been mentioned. Discussion followed to include September 21<sup>st</sup> as a suggested joint meeting and Sean would like to know the Agenda of items. Sean also suggested for 2021 Funding from the State, having a subcommittee with 2 Selectmen, 2 School Board Members and 2 Budget Committee Members. This could be put on the Agenda for the joint meeting.

Sean noted that Jill got him access to the Town Website. He did work tonight on the Business page and is reworking the design idea. He will follow with the Community page. Discussion followed re: reimbursement to Sean for Zooming meetings for Parks and Rec and Planning Board. It was agreed that he will be reimbursed for that.

Chief Rataj discussed nuisances re: a boat that was an eyesore and safety hazard at the setback. This has been removed and cost discussed. There is a camper there now. Complaints have been made and they have a plan to move. He also mentioned "Hungry Man" back at Runnings and discussed past issues. They are tracking the situation and have a plan. He mentioned COVID-19 and the cumbersome system to find out who has it and who doesn't. He gave an update on

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officers being certified (5) and on track for filling positions. He gave an update on the budget being in great shape and gave reasons for some line items being over and some under.

Sarah Hudon offered to help Theresa with the Farmer's Market. Two vendors used bathrooms, were appreciative, and they were cleaned. All produce was sold. The new Chief was interacting. There were high sales, high traffic, and three new vendors. She sent 75 free craft kits home, using 10% of Art in the Park budget as Art in the Park was canceled this year.

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Public portion of the meeting ended.

7:35 p.m. Selectman Kondrat made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) hiring, with Chief Rataj, second by Rideout. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; Kondrat-I; and Johnson-I; Motion passes unanimously.

7:43 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened. Chief Rataj left at 7:40.

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

7:43 p.m. Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to enter into non-public under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) personnel, second by Carrier. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; Kondrat-I; and Johnson-I; Motion passes unanimously.

7:53 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened.

7:53 p.m. Selectman Rideout made a **motion** to adjourn, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden  
Secretary