

*Selectmen's Meeting Minutes*

Monday, December 14, 2020 meeting held at PD Meeting Room

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, Selectman Megan Kondrat, Selectman Richard Johnson; T.A. Collins and Kim Worden. Chief Rataj, Frank Podlenski, Wayne Dingman, and Ken Howe also attended in-person. James MacDonell and Sean Leary attended via Zoom.

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

Chair Diorio went over guidelines re: The Emergency Order in place and noted that the meeting is taking place at the Police Department Meeting Room and via Zoom.

Selectman Rideout made a **motion to approve** the manifests of 12/14/20 and public minutes of 12/7/20, second by Kondrat. The vote is as follows: Diorio-I; Rideout-I; Carrier-I; Johnson-I; and Kondrat-I; Motion passes unanimously.

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*New Business:*

A Permanent Application for Property Tax/Credit Exemptions for Veteran's Exemption 12142020A re: Map 46, Lot 168 was presented. Selectman Rideout **made a motion to approve** Veteran's Exemption 12142020A, second by Kondrat. Motion passes unanimously.

A Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Troy and Rachael Benedict, Map 30, Lot 93, Plain Road; and a Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber for Cornell and Suzanne Foder, Map 16, Lot 23, Hilltop Hideaway were presented. Selectman Johnson **made a motion to approve the Intents** to Cut Wood or Timber for Benedict and Foder, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

A Report of Wood or Timber Cut was presented re: Troy and Rachael Benedict, Map 30, Lot 93, Plain Road. Selectman Rideout **made a motion to approve** the Report of Wood or Timber Cut, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

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*T.A. Reports/Requests:*

T.A. Collins had a Temporary Construction Easement re: the boat launch on Prospect Street. Selectman Kondrat **made a motion** to have the Chair sign the Temporary Construction Easement, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins mentioned a letter received from the Newmans re: burial concerns and stated that she looked into the concerns. She explained that in order to get the vault in, they had no choice but to park the tractor there temporarily. A tractor was used because the area was so close to the fence. She will write to the Newmans. Following questions from the Board and discussion on this, she was asked to read the letter from them.

T.A. Collins discussed the Municipal Work Zone Agreement and the Boat Ramp, Sidewalk, Landscaping and Lighting Maintenance Agreement from the State that she forwarded to the Board for review. She noted that these are in the attorney's hands and she gave Attorney Ratigan her comments on Section A, second paragraph. He is aware of that. Discussion followed on the areas of concern and the possible removal of concerning paragraph. It was noted that there will be a meeting on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> via Zoom at 1:00 and it would be a good idea to ask questions there and at the next bridge meeting.

T.A. Collins sent some information to the Board on Town Meeting and noted that Attorney Ratigan is also looking into alternative choices on that.

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T.A. Collins brought up the discussion last week re: suggested increases for the Fire Department. T.A. Collins noted there was money in the budget, as they have used half their budget. She did a quick spreadsheet which she handed out and explained. This showed a proposed rate with a 2% increase and a FYE 2022 proposed rate with 2.5% increase. She added that Terry had provided a formula with a 10% increase.

Following discussion, Selectman Kondrat **made a motion for a 2% raise** for the Fire Department, effective immediately, retro to December 1<sup>st</sup>, second by Johnson. Motion passes unanimously.

T.A. Collins received a Christmas Card and thank you to the Municipal Offices, which she did not have with her but wanted to mention. This was from the Leonard family.

It was explained to those who joined via Zoom that the Board would be going into a non-public and they could wait and join the meeting again if they would like.

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6:31 p.m. Selectman Kondrat 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.

7:17 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened and Frank Podlenski, Wayne Dingman, and Ken Howe left.

Selectman Rideout 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.

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*Citizen Comments:*

Chief Rataj informed the Board that he received a check in the amount of \$8000 from Nick Shaink and is excited to have the flagpole put in in the Spring.

Chief Rataj also noted a \$1900 amount left in the Walmart Community Relations Fund that has been offered as a one-time donation to cover the department's much-needed new winter coats.

He mentioned the Budget Committee's question about revenue for parking tickets. On October 13<sup>th</sup>, they started issuing tickets. Ninety-five tickets have been issued in the amount of \$2870.00. \$1670.00 has been collected so far. He indicated that they have ways to go after those not yet collected.

James MacDonell, Tax Collector noted that he received an email and phone call from Thicket Hill. They would like to demo and have us abate approximately \$21,000 with interest and fees on four mobile homes. They are in the process of taking possession now. James will bring in actual numbers and detail next week.

Sean Leary just came from a school budget review. They are working on that. There is a Planning Board meeting tomorrow at 6:30, completely remote. He added that Parks and Rec met earlier in the month.

*Board Comments:*

Selectman Johnson asked T.A. Collins if she could bring the job description in, discussed previously. She indicated that she was working on doing all of them.

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Selectman Kondrat added that downtown looks beautiful and well-decorated. She added that the Fire Department did a great job continuing on with their Christmas tradition.

Chair Diorio reminded all of the joint Budget and Selectmen Meeting on Wednesday night. He reminded all of the Existing Bridge Subcommittee meeting on Friday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. The subcommittee will be on Zoom at 1:00 and will definitely need input from NH residents. Information will be on the Regional Planning Commission website.

Selectman Carrier asked how many budgets will be discussed on Wednesday. T.A. Collins summarized and noted School Budget will be coming up and Warrant Articles for review in January.

Selectman Rideout asked whether there will be extra money if we have Town Meeting in May, and if not, what budget covers it. Discussion followed.

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

7:54 p.m. Regular meeting reconvened and Chief Rataj left.

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

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Discussion and suggestions took place on participating in meetings.

7:58 p.m. Selectman Johnson made a **motion to adjourn**, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden  
Secretary