

Select Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 12, 2024 meeting held at Hinsdale Town Hall

Present: Chairman Steve Diorio, Selectman Bernie Rideout, Selectman Mike Carrier, and Selectman Richard Johnson. Also present were Kim Worden, Town Administrator Kathryn Lynch, Finance Director Jodie Holmquist, and Bob Truesdell. Selectman William Hodgman was excused.

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

Selectman Carrier made a **motion to approve** the manifest of February 12, 2024 and the public minutes of February 5, 2024 second by Rideout. The vote was as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Carrier-aye; and Johnson-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

New Business:

First presented was a Water Abatement for 2023 4th quarter for Michael Terragna, 38 Plain Road, in the amount of \$150.87 due to read error. Selectman Rideout **made a motion** to approve the Terragna Abatement, second by Carrier. The vote was as follows: Diorio-aye; Rideout-aye; Carrier-aye; and Johnson-aye. Motion passes unanimously.

Next was a NH DRA 2023 Municipal Assessment Data Certificate for signatures. Selectman Carrier **made a motion** to sign the DRA Data Certificate, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

Jodie reviewed monthly financials with the Board. The information was distributed a week early as next week is a holiday and we are getting new software (hopefully GL is this week). She expressed excitement as this is month 7 of 12 at 58.3% and the general fund is 58.5%. This is spot-on right now as to where we need to be. Selectman Johnson added that we are on budget but to be mindful that taxpayers are still getting an increase. Jodie added that some payments like insurance are front loaded. Discussion followed to include the time needed to do payroll and accounts payable with ideas for improvements and productivity. This included changing payables to every other week with the Board's permission and the Treasurer's permission. Small payables could take place on the off weeks for necessary payments only. She would like to get them mailed earlier (than the following Tuesday) too to avoid late charges and penalties, giving examples of those. There was discussion on payroll possibilities including ACH payments. This can be looked at once the new software for payables is up and running.

T.A. Reports/Requests:

T.A. Lynch mentioned the Intent to Cut that the Tax Collector had been in to discuss recently. We have since received full payment for that Yield Tax.

T.A. Lynch informed the Board that the land on Old Chesterfield appears to be only 4 acres, not 12 as the Tax Card reads. There is no Book and Page found and a title search would be the best way to start to get the correct acreage and ownership. Accurate Title will charge \$495. This may hopefully avoid a survey. This needs to be done prior to any sale of the property. The Board members were okay with having the title search done.

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T.A. Lynch mentioned that Community Power is offering a blended extended contract for the individual, not group, which we are currently in. Current prices are 16.45 and 12.5 default. The blended extended would be .12 for 35 months. We could stay with the group and go out to bid in December which looks to be .10. She suggested staying where we are and the Board agreed.

T.A. Lynch informed the Board that a resident would like one of our cemeteries to join “Wreaths Across America” and explained it is volunteer and they would raise money; that no money is needed from the Town. They would contact the Cemetery Committee for a list of Veterans. Discussion followed and the Board would like more information on this.

T.A. Lynch and Superintendents have been going through the Water & Sewer Ordinances and propose a 3-year rate increase schedule. Ordinances will be sent out to the Town Attorney and put on the Agenda for a public hearing. Water is scheduled for 4.0% increase this year and 2.0% each of the two years thereafter. Sewer is scheduled to increase 2.5% for each of the three years.

She mentioned Monday being a holiday and asked if the Board would like a meeting. They recommended no meeting unless something urgent comes up. She discussed a workshop pertaining to the Transfer Station. Discussion followed. Bob and his guys will meet with the Board for a workshop on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall.

She is working on evictions for four manufactured homes and two residential homes. Letters will be served on the 28th with April 1st being the eviction date.

Board Comments:

Selectman Rideout will have a Planning Board Meeting a week from Tuesday.

Selectman Carrier attended a Conservation Meeting. He mentioned one resident posing questions on the dam removal and he understands the Conservancy will test for pollutants prior to any demolition. That was affirmed by T.A. Lynch.

Selectman Carrier visited area Transfer Stations with Bob, Wayne, and Marc. These were in Hancock, Chesterfield, and Swanzey. Bob added that he came up with a plan for moving forward and will need to find funds. He has a redesign so that recyclables can be taken: scrap metal, tin cans, cardboard (continuing) and baled aluminum cans. These can create revenue. Higher revenue can be achieved if they are able to ship larger amounts. This will involve 2 storage units at about \$1800 each and another compactor container. He is looking into this. He mentioned that glass involves more manpower to sort to avoid penalties. His plan is to start small and grow and feels it should balance out in order to offer taxpayers free recycling. He plans to open to the public for ½ day on Wednesdays, full day with late hours on Thursdays, 1/2 day for public on Fridays, and full day on Saturdays. If agreeable, he needs to know where monies will come from for lighting, shipping containers for storage, and msw container. Chair Diorio asked him to put this on paper with bullet points. Informal workshop will take place on Thursday at 6:00.

It was mentioned that there was concern as there are no sign-ups for Cemetery Committee.

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There was mention of going into a non-public. Members of the public left the meeting.

6:40 p.m. Selectman Johnson **made a motion to enter into non-public** session under RSA 91:A-3, II, (a)-personnel, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

7:10 p.m. Meeting reconvened.

Selectman Johnson **made a motion to seal** the non-public minutes, second by Rideout. Motion passes unanimously.

7:11 p.m. Selectman Johnson **made a motion to adjourn**, second by Carrier. Motion passes unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kim P. Worden,
Secretary