

**BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING  
DECEMBER 15, 2020  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** David Lage Chairman; John Veaser, Shawn Talbot  
Scott Butcher, Town Administrator, Susan Mallett, Land Admin  
Online: Jack Low, Jeff, Bob Romeril, Marc Fortier, John Schaumloffel, Jeff McCabe

**6:00 Open Meeting:**

It was noted that the tax rate is set at \$21.25 and that the tax bills are going out this week. If they are paid before end of December, it will avoid re-billing.

**Moderator Budget:**

Bob Roberil was here to review the budget for Moderator. Noted there will be 2 deputy moderators (Earl Somero and Lisa) this allows Earl to transition Lisa into the position as he has a lot of experience to share

**Election Budget:**

Becky noted a return to a single election year (this year had Presidential primary and general election in addition to town election. There will be an increase in supervisors payroll due to a requirement to do the 10 year purge of the voter rolls, which is required by the state. This will also require that letters go out to any voters whose status is not clear and this will require a postage charge as well that is normally on the budget. There was some further discussion on the maintenance cost for the voting machines. The pay rate for the Deputies, Assistant Deputies and the Ballot Clerks was also discussed, Selectmen Veaser and Talbot both agreed some increase is merited, but not the full increase that was proposed.

**Trustees of the Trust Budget:**

The conversation then moved on to the Trustees of the Trust budget. This was the same budget as was requested last year. The training requested last year did not happen due to COVID so they hope to be able to do it this year. This looks to be all set as it is with no updates.

**Parks and Recreation / Pool Budget:**

Shawna was in the room to review the budget. One change discussed was to increase the life guard salaries. It was noted that due to COVID, the budget was not all used as planned, so it might be worth while to purchase some of the pool supplies now to utilize the unused funds and get us ahead for next year.

- Shawna to look into the purchase of supplies on this years budget.

### **OLD/NEW BUSINESS:**

The fire budget was reviewed to determine if the changes discussed in prior meeting were able to be applied or removed. COVID testing was reduced as was the Comcast billing.

Jim Coffey was in the room to clarify the Assessors budget, and how to apply Contract Services, and whether capital reserve is part of an expendable trust.

- Dave would like numbers to put in the capital reserve and all agreed.

Some discussion of a home owner running a trucking business out of his home. It appears he is not doing any loading or unloading at the house, just parking the trucks there when he is home.

- Board of Selectmen needs to give written decision back to the complainants

Discussion was had regarding a letter from Keene regarding the Hazardous Waste program we have had in the past. Selectman Veaser feels we may not be fully marketing this service. Maybe we could use Facebook or a sign out front to remind residents.

- Selectman Talbot asked if we could research this before we commit to it for another year.
- Is there a way to find out the New Ipswich residents usage of the program?
- Why not dates past August for this program? Will there be more dates available?

Paperwork was reviewed and signed for the Municipal Registration Agent

Police wages were further discussed. Selectman Veaser to add the number to budget and Chief Carpenter can look at it and approve.

- Selectman Veaser wants to review the LGC at NHMA.gov site before the final decision.

Discussion of the Planning Boards request for COVID planning and meeting logistics was the next item to be discussed. It was discussed that re-arranging the room was a possibility, but would not yield much in regards to seating in a socially distant way. If the Planning board wants to move furniture, they can but are asked to move it back when the meeting is over for the next meeting. Other options discussed were that YouTube is available publically, perhaps looking into doing meetings via that for those who just want to observe (no interaction on those as there is on Zoom) Zoom allows interaction but there is a cap on the attendees. Both can be preserved for the record. A conference call system is not foreseeable in the near term so that is not an option just yet.

- A letter to the Planning Board will be drafted regarding the seating arrangement, Zoom, # people limits, spacing visitors, and using the Land Use Clerk to do a RSVP for meetings that are expected to draw a large crowd to limit the number in the room.

A citizen reports speeders is an issue on Timbertop and discussion was had that this has been an ongoing issue. Police have been doing directed patrols to try and reduce this issue.

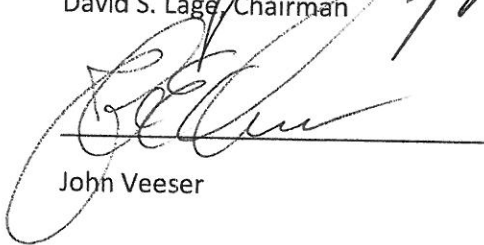
At (time) Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to adjourn the session. Selectman Lage SECONDED the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,  
Susan Mallett, Land Admin

Minutes approved by:  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN



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David S. Lage, Chairman



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John Veaser

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Shawn Talbot