

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

November 1, 2022

MINUTES

Present: Shawn Talbot (Chair), Jason Somero, Lou Alvarez and Debbie Deaton (Town Administrator)

5:00 Open Meeting in the Town Office with the Pledge of Allegiance at 5:00

5:02 PD Renovation bids:

Jason stated he told the remaining 2 contractors to submit new bids to include modified framing, the Town taking care of trash removal and adding a performance bond. The Board reviewed the revised bids.

Jason read an email from Monadnock Builders which stated his quote did not include the bond but it would add approximately \$2,500. He also read an email from Aho Construction stating his quote did include a Performance Bond.

Shawn stated the Aho Construction bid is \$86,000 and includes the bond and they could begin mid-December. Monadnock Construction's bid is \$69,383 and add approximately \$2,500 for the bond and could start immediately.

Shawn mentioned the funding source needs to be determined. Debbie stated the Police Detail Revolving Fund has a current balance of approximately \$89,000 and added Chief Abel had stated he needs to keep balance in there of at least \$30,000-\$40,000. Debbie also gave the Board the current (as of 10/27/22) police expenditures to date which has a balance remaining of \$292,000 with 2 months left in the year. The Board agreed Chief Abel should make the determination for funding.

Jason said he felt the reaction from the Public Hearing regarding the renovation, the public was in favor of it.

Shawn made a motion to award the bid to Aho Construction. Lou seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Jason will let Aho Construction know they have been awarded the bid and thank Monadnock Construction for their time and bid. Debbie will forward the signed contract to Anthony (Aho Construction) and save the email stating the bond is included.

5:50 Town owned properties discussion:

The Board viewed the revised list which included the properties which were reviewed by Bob Boynton for Conservation Easements.

Shawn stated the properties to be auctioned will be 11 Temple Road, 283 Greenville Road and 5.8 acres on Highbridge Road. The Board agreed.

Debbie did a rough draft of a letter to send to abutters of the small pieces of land to see if they want to purchase it. Shawn said he preferred to have an auction of sorts that way no one can say they didn't know about it. Basically have sealed bids and award it to the highest bidder. Debbie asked if we should have a reserve. Shawn replied we should because the land does have value. The Board will discuss the terms and date at a work session on November 12th at 8am. Debbie will post the work session.

Lou suggested having Chief Lund look at the old pump house property to see if it would be of value to the Fire Department.

Debbie asked if we could sell the land that is leased to Tim Jones & Deb Harrity to them. Shawn said the land was donated to the Town for use as more athletic fields so this can't be sold.

Jason asked about the status of the old highway garage property. Shawn stated he is still looking for an electrician.

Shawn suggested Debbie show the list to the department heads to see if they know any history on any of the properties listed as value to abutters. Debbie will re-do the proposed letter to abutters.

6:18 Old/New Business:

- Debbie provided a quote for the purchase of a 40' office trailer (provided by Peter) for the Fire Department as opposed to renovating the existing buildings. Shawn said he thought the existing buildings were worth repairing according to Chief Lund. Debbie will contact Chief Lund to set up a meeting regarding this.

Jason would like to take a look at the Government Buildings maintenance line item.

- Debbie informed the Board the tax rate is not set yet. At the Town Administrator meeting last Thursday, there was only 1 town that had their tax rate. The others think the State is waiting for figures from the school districts.

- NHMA sent a letter letting towns know they are disposing of all of the communications they have that are older than 2015 and if the Town would like them, they must request it by email. The Board agreed to request the files.

- Debbie also received a letter from Hillsborough County regarding the New Ipswich portion of the County Tax. There was an approximately \$40,000 increase over last year. Debbie will let Carlene know.

- Shawn informed the Board we received a call sheet from Chief Abel listing all of the calls they received for the past month and will giving it to the Board monthly. Shawn asked to have it added to the minutes each month along with the SVAS stats.

- Jason mentioned the Cemetery Trustees found the "missing" lot for a citizen request at the cemetery. Debbie gave an update on the Smithville Cemetery Easement situation. She received a hand written list of the names of the lots that still have a spot for a loved one and today received an email with locations for all persons buried in the easement. She asked to have the list narrowed down to only the lots that have space remaining for a loved one per the request of the attorney. When that is received, Debbie will email it to the attorney so this can be finalized.

- Shawn informed the Board we received an email with the resignation of Wendy Juchnevics-Freeman from the Zoning Board. He thanked Wendy for her 18 years of her thorough, thoughtful consideration of our community's needs and requests. Her dedication has been admirable. Shawn asked Debbie to write a letter to her from the Selectboard.

- Shawn said Rec basketball has started, the pool has been closed up for the season and the new filter for the pool will be installed in the spring, hopefully before the season opens.

- Shawn mentioned the DPW director stated they are still short 2 employees (with CDL's) and are short on plow drivers for snow removal this winter. Debbie will ask Peter if he would like plow drivers wanted posted on the website.

- Jason asked when the meeting is at the Transfer Station. Shawn replied on November 15th at 4:00pm. Monday, November 7th, the Board is meeting with the FAC at their meeting. Tuesday the 8th is Election Day at Mascenic from 7am-7pm. Saturday the 12th at 8:00am is the work session for Town owned property.

- Lou thanked the Board for appointing him as an alternate to the Zoning Board because Wendy resigned and Dave is on vacation so they'll still be able to have a quorum.

- Jason mentioned all Boards and committees are short of members.

6:15 Shawn said they'll take a break until 6:30 for the Driveway Permit discussion. The Board signed the minutes and manifest during the break.

6:30 Continuation-Nancy Clark regarding driveway permit on Currier Road:

Shawn thanked everyone for coming in. He stated we have the large plan for the Wetland Delineation provided by Ms. Elwell. Debbie told Liz Freeman she had asked the attorney her question regarding using the driveway for an illegal purpose and his reply was that they didn't need to get a permit because Jane didn't widen the driveway and the rocks that were moved were far enough from the entrance from Currier

Road. Our Driveway Permit application doesn't ask what the use is for and the driveway was existing. Nancy Clark stated the permit does ask whether the use is residential or business and if they didn't need a permit, they would have argued that she did. The Driveway Regulations state any alteration needs a permit. Shawn stated the Board will not be rescinding the Driveway Permit and this will end the discussion. Ms. Clark requested she would like time to examine the Site Plan. She examined the plan for several minutes along with Louise DelPapa. Nancy stated there are markings in highlighter and ink on the plan which was not put there by the engineer. Jason asked if those markings invalidate anything on the plan. Nancy replied "A Site Plan is an official document. Official documents do not have ink and magic marker on them not put there by the engineer. Shawn stated this is something that is before the ZBA in that aspect and the Wetlands Delineation plan has no bearing on the driveway permit. Shawn added she can take pictures if she would like. Nancy took several pictures.

6:40 Non-Public Session RSA 91:A 3, II (c)-Personnel discussion:

At 6:40 Shawn made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91:A 3, II (c), Lou seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. At 7:30, Shawn made a motion to return to public session. Jason seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. Shawn made a motion to seal the minutes. Jason seconded the motion and passed unanimously.

7:30 At the Finance Advisory Committee meeting on Monday, the purpose of the Board attending the meeting is for the FAC to instruct the Board on how to read the spreadsheet. The Department Heads will have an opportunity to present their budgets to the Board if they would like.

The Board will have a week or so to review the budget on their own and come up with questions to ask the FAC and/or department heads.

At 7:40 Shawn adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Deaton
Town Administrator

Minutes approved by BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Shawn Talbot, Chairman:



Jason Somero:



Lou Alvarez:


