

BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
APRIL 14, 2020
MINUTES

PRESENT: David Lage, Chairman; John Veeseer, Shawn Talbot
Town Administrator Scott Butcher, DPW Director Peter Goewey

Chairman Lage called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm at the Town Office and reviewed the agenda.

COVID-19 UPDATE

The Town Administrator reviewed three new emergency orders from the Governor's office released this week. Regulatory deadlines at some state agencies have been relaxed. There were emergency orders regarding how to handle the homeless population and temporary housing arrangements for first responders that have been potentially exposed to the COVID-19 virus and can't return to their family until being quarantined for a period of 14-days. The Town Office staff has been practicing social distancing skills and utilizing masks and gloves to perform some duties and interact with the public.

DPW SALT SHED BID SPECIFICATIONS

The Selectmen reviewed the draft of the Salt Shed RFP. The Town Administrator explained some of the updates to the language and specifications from the previous week. Chairman Lage stated he wanted to have the specification reflect the more durable fabric. He also asked DPW Director Goewey how he arrived at the dimensions for the shed and what size blocks he would be specifying for the foundation. Director Goewey responded that he would be using 2'x 2'x 3' blocks that would be used to achieve an 8' height when completed. The salt shed would be constructed on top of that foundation. Chairman Lage asked what clear span height Director Goewey wants. Director Goewey would prefer a 30ft. inside center height.

LED STREET LIGHT RFP

Chairman Lage asked about the status of the LED Street Light RFP. The Town Administrator reviewed the changes made to the RFP document and whether New Ipswich would want smart controls on the light fixtures. Chairman Lage wasn't sure if there would be a benefit to the smart controls. The Town Administrator stated that the controls would allow the town to adjust the lighting to control power consumption, but a cost-benefit analysis would be difficult to develop. Selectman Talbot was concerned the added complexity would eventually add to the maintenance costs. The Town Administrator stated that planning for the future was a concern since the town only updates street light fixtures every 20-30 years so any decision locks the town into a technology for a long period of time.

DPW FRONT-END LOADER DISCUSSION

Director Goewey said the current 1997 Komatsu front-end loader has an issue with the front bucket quick connect system that cannot be repaired easily. Because of the age of the loader parts are difficult to find. He is looking at replacing it with a 2014 Doosan DL200 that is currently being rented by the town. The dealer will credit all of the current rent payments toward the purchase of the unit. The Selectmen reviewed the other quotes for similar used units and discussed the options with Director Goewey who stated that all of them are approximately the same in capability.

Selectman Veaser stated that he felt the 2014 Doosan from Equipment East was the best deal. Selectman Talbot agreed. Chairman Lage said that the unit should be serviced again before the town purchases it. He stated that the Highway Capital Reserve Fund has a balance of over \$365,000 currently.

Chairman Lage also asked Director Goewey about the status of the dump trucks. Director Goewey stated one will need a new clutch and the other a new engine at an estimated cost in excess of \$17,000. Chairman Lage asked what training can be done so that the DPW employees know how to use the equipment properly.

The discussion turned back to the front-end loader. Chairman Lage asked if there were any more questions for Director Goewey. Hearing none, Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to purchase the 2014 Doosan. Selectman Talbot SECONDED the motion. Chairman Lage offered an amendment to include that the 2014 Doosan be fully serviced prior to delivery. The amendment was adopted. The vote to purchase as amended was unanimous.

OLD/NEW BUSINESS

Selectman Veaser asked Director Goewey if he had a chance to review the numbers for paving based on the previous week's paving recommendations from the Selectmen and Road Committee. The discussion included the cost of culverts and dealing with drainage issues. Director Goewey said he still needs to verify some information before finalizing the numbers.

Chairman Lage asked about hiring a replacement Transfer Station employee and what the status was. The Town Administrator stated the job had not yet been posted. Director Goewey said he had a candidate approach him and he would send him to the Town Administrator.

Chairman Lage asked about the status of the individual offered the Emergency Management Director position. The Town Administrator stated that she has verbally accepted the offer. A start date has not been determined.

The proposal from Gordon Services for landscaping services at the Town Office and other locations around town. Selectman Veaser wanted the Old Town Hall eliminated from the list of facilities to be serviced because there is effectively no town-owned land there to be maintained. Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to accept the proposal provided by Gordon Services with the changes. Selectman Talbot SECONDED the motion. The vote was unanimous.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION

At 7:12 pm Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to enter into a non-public session under RSA 91-A, II(a). Selectman Talbot ABSTAINED. Chairman Lage SECONDED the motion and the vote was 2-0 with Selectman Talbot abstaining.

The non-public session ended at 7:36 pm.

At 7:37 pm, Chairman Lage entertained a motion to adjourn. Selectman Veaser MOTIONED to adjourn the meeting. The motion was SECONDED by Selectmen Talbot and the vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Scott Butcher, Town Administrator

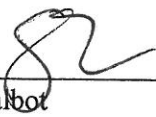
Minutes approved by:

BOARD OF SELECTMEN



David S. Lage, Chairman

John Veaser



Shawn Takot