

**TOWN OF NEW HAMPTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TOWN OFFICE, NEW HAMPTON, NH 03256**

Thursday, November 19, 2020

MEMBERS

Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake and Mr. Shaw were present.

PRESENT:

OTHERS

Town Administrator Mr. Irvine

PRESENT:

CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Mertz called the meeting of the Board to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

WORK SESSION

Manifests, bills, requisitions, purchase orders and leave request forms.

The board approved the following purchase requisitions: Fire Dept (), Hwy Dept ().

The board approved the following Building Permit application:

1. Frank & Mary Geis – Map R1, Lot 4

The board approved the following Occupancy Permit application:

1. Scott Provencal & Cheryl Campbell – Map R3, Lot 34C

The board approved the following septic system application:

1. Northstar Rt 132 Real Estate LLC – Map R11, Lot 22

The board approved the following Intent to Cut Wood:

1. Jessica Morgan – Map R1, Lot 31

APPOINTMENTS

Chief Lang was present.

6:30 pm

Fire Chief Lang

NON PUBLIC

SESSION

At 6:30 pm Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to go into Non-Public Session, according to RSA 91A:3 II (a) Personnel.

Roll call was taken, Mr. Mertz –Y, Mr. Drake-Y, Mr. Shaw – Y. Vote was unanimous.

PRESENT

Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Irvine and Chief Lang

Chief Lang presented an application to join the Dept. The individual currently has a CDL with tanker endorsement which would be an immediate asset to the Dept. Mr. Lewis has attended all trainings and meetings as required and demonstrated a good attitude towards the department and other members. He has indicated a desire to secure FF1 training.

**RETURN TO
PUBLIC SESSION**

At 6:34 pm, Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to come out of Non-Public Session. Vote was unanimous.

Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw to accept the recommendation made by Chief Lang to hire Mr. Stephen Lewis as a driver, with the plan to continue working towards becoming a firefighter. Vote was unanimous.

**NON PUBLIC
SESSION**

At 6:35 pm Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to go into Non-Public Session, according to RSA 91A:3 II (a) Personnel.

Roll call was taken, Mr. Mertz –Y, Mr. Drake-Y, Mr. Shaw – Y. Vote was unanimous.

PRESENT

Mr. Mertz, Mr. Drake, Mr. Shaw, Mr. Irvine and Chief Lang

**RETURN TO
PUBLIC SESSION**

At 6:59 pm, Mr. Mertz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Drake, to come out of Non-Public Session and seal the minutes for 5 years. Vote was unanimous.

DISCUSSION

- Email from appraiser relative to lots on Pinnacle Hill Rd for which zoning districts dissect the lots, a portion of each in the GR and MU districts, asking what would be allowed for appraisal purposes. The road frontage is in the GR district and the rear acres are in the MU district. Mr. Irvine reviewed discussion of the same with the Planning Board when the parcels were subdivided. At that time, they indicated that it appeared only the portion in the MU district could allow the uses permitted within that district. At the time there was hope the rear acres could be accessed by the Route 104 abutting properties.
- Discussion on Christmas tree lighting, 12/5 at 6:00 pm and how to hold the event while avoiding any close interaction. Fire Dept has offered to drive way and deliver a message to the children via loudspeaker. The board agreed to have Mr. Irvine work with the local pastor and to advise the PD.
- Memorandum of Understanding with NHDOT – Mr. Irvine advised that there is concern with development on Route 104 and the 55MPH speed limit could become a larger concern with issuance of more curb cuts. NHDOT issues the driveway permits without input from the town. NHDOT Administrator William Watson met with the Planning Board on 11/17 to discuss access management. The town would like to have the ability to get DOT to create turn lanes in some situations, and to reduce the number of curb cuts as documented in the town's Master Plan, by creating backage roads. NHDOT will supply some MOU examples for the town to consider.
- Water Quality Report from DPW location.
- Fyi - Reimbursement submitted for Absentee Ballots requested and submitted for the General Election.
- Copy of memo from Finance Officer to Treasurer requesting \$2,480.90 from the Special Revenue Fund to the General Fund, being the 5% match for the extrication tools.
- Mr. Irvine said as part of the general maintenance on town generators, it's been discovered that the generator at PWD may need some work and an estimate will be provided.
- NHDOT Prehearing Conference Notice for a Petition to close Smith's Crossing Bridge. This is a private crossing and doesn't affect the town.
- NHDES Deficiency Notice for Dickerman Pond Dam. Mr. Irvine said this notice was dated prior to the recent work done to remedy this issue.
- Mitchell Municipal Group 25th anniversary announcement.
- Pamphlet from Dana Meeting House Association, created as a charitable foundation to take ownership and responsibility of the meeting house.
- 2021 Budget discussion
Additional monies available for purchase of additional PPE, during pandemic. Ambulance payroll was submitted for GOFERR reimbursement at roughly \$34,000, so that money which had been budgeted for the payroll, will be moved to fund balance at the end of the year. As a result, the proposed warrant articles for 1) \$4,000 Fire Dept Training Expendable Trust, 2) \$15,000 for the Fire Hydrant Expendable Trust, and 3) \$14,000 to fund the newly created Town Equipment Repair Expendable Trust could all be funded by the extra monies going to fund balance,

reducing the town's rate by \$.10. The other option is offset taxes with the additional fund balance and let the voters decide on each of the 3 warrant articles with no impact to taxes. Mr. Drake pointed out that it was the board's intention to add the remaining \$6,000+ of the Fire Dept Repair Fund to go with the \$14,000 proposed to create the new fund, so it would total \$20,000. It will take voter approval to close the department's repair fund so it can go towards the town repair fund if that is approved, Irvine noted that it would be a pass-thru of Fund Balance as one Exp. Trust cannot be funded by another directly.

Next budget work session – 12/7/20 at 6:00 pm.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT**

There was none.

OTHER BUSINESS

- Mr. Drake questioned what appears to be a logging operation on Straits Road. Mr. Irvine said he would investigate further.
- Mr. Irvine said tax bills were sent.
- Mr. Irvine said there was a staff member at the New Hampton Community School that tested positive so the school will go remote for some period of time.
- Minutes of 11/02/20: Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw to correct the reference to the SAFER grant being for "2" years, when it should say "3" years. Vote was unanimous.
- Mr. Mertz said the signage for the Traveling Texas BBQ is still in place, Mr. Buitta's BBQ business is still operating though the business is supposed to be closed, and the RV business still has signage which doesn't comply with regs. Mr. Irvine to follow-up.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mr. Drake made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shaw, to adjourn at 7:27 pm. Vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,
Pamela Vose