**Selectmen’s Meeting Minutes**

**April 1, 2024**

**7:00 PM** Selectman Jack **Esposito** called the meeting to order. Also present was Selectman John **Quinlan** and Selectman Mike **Fimbel.**

Amand Young came before the board to discuss the terms of the library bond. Last week it had been discussed that we are going to do a 25-year level principal library bond. She is wondering if that is open to reconsideration or at the least an explanation of why we chose that over the other options. **Esposito** explained that the total cost of a level principal bond is less than a level debt bond. We are trying to balance what would be best for the tax rate and the town. The extension from 25 to 30 years did not lower the rate that much but it adds another 5 years of payments. A 20-year bond was too high on the tax rate impact. We are trying to be as conservative as we can be. Young asked if we would consider a level debt bond which has an even lower tax impact up front. **Esposito** explained that initially a level debt bond is lower on the tax impact; however, in the long run, it will cost $150,000 more in total cost over the life of the loan. The Board agreed to review the numbers again; we have until 4/26/24 to submit the application. Interest rates will be finalized by May 21st, we will get the bond proceeds by the middle of August.

Karen Mitchell, Trustees of Trust Funds, came before the Board to discuss the new Capital Reserve Funds voted in at Town Meeting. They need to open new accounts and she needed more information on what we need; liquid or CD investments. The Board discussed options.

The position of Building Inspector has been posted for a few weeks; n o one has applied. **Quinlan** motioned to appoint Interim Building Inspector Ray Bent as permanent Building Inspector seconded by **Fimbel. Fimbel** asked for details as he is newly elected as Selectman. **Esposito** noted that Bent has been a town resident for over 30 years and is in the building trades. He will stay current with all necessary training. All in favor of appointing Bent as Building Inspector.

The Board discussed meeting with the bond attorney next week. Joan will reach out to schedule.

The Board reappointed the following Committee/Commission members:

* **Quinlan** motioned to reappoint Jim Bird as Chairman of the Planning Board seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to reappoint Tony Immorlica and Jason Johnson to the ZBA seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to reappoint Joanne Draghetti to the Conservation Commission seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to reappoint Sean Mamone to the Garden & Beautification Committee seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.
* **Esposito** motioned to appoint **Fimbel** as the Selectmen’s Rep to the Heritage Commission seconded by **Quinlan.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to reappoint Rebecca Schwarz as Chairman of the Heritage Commission seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to appoint **Fimbel** as Selectmen’s Rep to the Historic District Commission seconded by **Esposito.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to reappoint Karolin Campbell and Mary Katherine McNamara to the Historic District Commission seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to reappoint Zoe Fimbel and Frank Oudheusden to the Lamson Farm Commission seconded by **Esposito.** All in favor.
* **Esposito** motioned to appoint Jay Wilson to the Patriotic Purposes Committee through 2025; Meg Baker through 2026 and Zoe Fimbel through 2027 seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.
* **Fimbel** feels that Heather Kennedy has done a good job as Rec Director and would like to give her the opportunity to continue. **Esposito** agrees. Eileen Naber suggested that we appoint through 12/31. Recreation ends with Tree Lighting and then there is nothing until the Easter Egg Hunt. That would give enough time for whoever fills the position to get ready for Easter and Spring Gala. The Board agreed that this would be best. **Fimbel** motioned to reappoint Heather Kennedy as Recreation Director through December 31, 2024 seconded by **Quinlan.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to appoint Tim Berry as an alternate to the Heritage Commission seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.
* **Quinlan** motioned to appoint David Cadorette as an alternate to the Planning Board and accept the resignation of Garth Witty seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor. **Quinlan** noted the resignation of Garth Witty and appreciates the service he has done for the town over the years. All in favor.

**Esposito** noted that we are going to try again to recycle #1 plastic. If it gets contaminated again, it will go to trash. There is not a date set yet for this, but it will be sooner than later and will be posted.

**Quinlan** noted that he will start attending the Mont Vernon Village School Board meetings. There is serious consideration on withdrawing our 7th-8th grade students out of AMS and make whatever changes at the MVVS to accommodate them.

On March 26, 2024, the MVPD received a reimbursement check in the amount of $12,564.00 for the 2022 CDS grant from the Department of Justice. This grant covered the purchase of a ballistics shield and new portable radios and required no match. **Quinlan** motioned to accept the amount of $12,564 from the State of NH for the above-mentioned purpose seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.

Joan **Cleary** read an email from Eric Schelberg, Director of Milford Ambulance Service, regarding a quote for EMS services to the Town of Mont Vernon. **Cleary** will forward to Chief Slavin and Chief Wilson for further discussion at the next department head meeting.

The Board reviewed the first quarter numbers of the 2024 budget.

**Quinlan** noted that they are trying to get the Library Building Committee Chair, Bill McKinney, Cindy Raspiller, Ben Crosby and the two contractors together to figure out a timeline as to when money will be required for the road/library project. **Esposito** stated that it is a town road and the town cannot be committed to anything until we get the bond funds. **Quinlan** stated that there is an alternate plan that does not include using town funds.

The Board reviewed the minutes of 3/25/24. **Quinlan** motioned to accept the minutes of 3/25/24 as written seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.

**8:05 PM** As there was no further business before the Board **Quinlan** motioned to adjourn seconded by **Fimbel.** All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Cleary