

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes January 7, 2019

7:00 pm Meeting called to order by Board Chair, John Quinlan. Also in attendance were Selectmen Jack Esposito and Kim Roberge.

- Board reviewed and signed checks and manifest.
- Board reviewed minutes of 12/27/18. Esposito motioned, seconded by Roberge to accept the minutes of December 27, 2018 as amended. All in favor.

Quinlan opened the conversation by stating the need for the Board to make a decision on a program to fix, renovate and repurpose the Town Hall, McCollom Building and the current Library building. A comprehensive program is what is needed and we can spread the cost out over several years.

Esposito said that he knows we need to do it, it should be one project, but how can we afford it?

Roberge said that she looks at it a bit differently; she sees that there are some jobs that can be done now to reduce the need for such a large bond. Also, does the McCollom Building really need an elevator if it is to house only the police station?

Quinlan said that the mechanism is designed as one project; we need to set up a new committee to task them with coming up with plans of what we want; actual plans and an RFP. How we use them and what they look like are still up to us.

Roberge asked if we would hold another meeting like we did in 2015 to get residents thoughts.

Quinlan said no, we did that then hired a professional to work with the Building Committee. We now need a small building committee with someone that knows the building trades and finance to head it.

Roberge said that she doesn't understand not doing one building at a time.

Quinlan said that it is a question of momentum – the project may not get done.

Roberge said that she doesn't agree – we won't want construction going on in more than one building at a time.

Esposito thought that the Town would not support such a big bond. The McCollom building is ok except for the interior remodeling.

Quinlan said yes, but it needs to be gutted and redone completely.

Roberge agreed, but doesn't believe there needs to be public access to the second floor.

Quinlan offered that we should have Bill McKinney come in on January 21st to look at the plans. This is Martin Luther King Day; the office is closed but we can still have a meeting. We can talk about what repairs can be done this year: waterproof membrane, repoint/repair the chimneys, etc. in the McCollom Building, and in the Town Hall the meeting room needs a fresh coat of paint all over, and new furniture.

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6:50 pm Donna Mombourquette, NH State Representative Hillsborough County – 5 New Boston / Mont Vernon came in to introduce herself to the Board. She would like to attend our Board meetings at least once a month, and wants to set up a direct line of contact so that we can reach her as needed.

7:00 pm Quinlan went back to the discussion on the building renovations. He believes we have enough money right now to do the windows, the chimneys and the waterproof membrane in the McCollom Buildings. He recommends adding \$50,000 to Repairs and Maintenance of Town Buildings this year.

It is decided to hold the public budget hearing on February 4th with an inclement weather date of the 5th.

Roberge relayed information from the budget committee: they would like to see the percentage increase of the proposed budget over last years budget. Also, she had asked the office to provide a breakdown of the amount requested for labor at the library. Brown handed in a spreadsheet from Bonnie Angulas detailing the hours worked and how they were spread out. The budget committee also wanted more information on the 2015 International Dump Truck. If it is such a "lemon" why wasn't more done to get satisfaction from Liberty International? They would like to know what the cost of repairs would have been if it weren't under warrantee. They thought the holiday pay for police officers was ok, but it shouldn't be able to be carried forward. No holiday pay for part-time secretary.

7:05 pm Mr. Cooper, a resident from Weston Hill Rd. came in at the Boards request to discuss the cleaning up of his property. Cooper was one of eight property owners asked to do so in Town. He said it was silly that the Town would send such an insulting and intimidating letter when the Town's own properties are not in order. He said that he has only one antique car on his property.

Quinlan said that we are just trying to get people to clean up their properties; If we find those conditions, we are obligated to uphold the law, especially if we receive a formal complaint.

Roberge explained that the State RSA does include other items than just autos. The Town would look for a 6' fence around the debris or vehicles being at least 300' from the road.

Cooper said that he had found mention of the cars, but could find no measurements allowed of other kind of debris, and that he knows his son Vic has a lot of stuff in his door-yard which he is going to get after him to remove.

Quinlan said that we aren't interested in fining anyone; we are just interested in compliance.

7:15 pm Quinlan asked Jason Johnson if there was anything new with Milford regarding MACC. Johnson answered that the 2year extension contract should be ready for signing tomorrow.

Police Chief, Kevin Furlong asked the Board for final approval to hire Jason Johnson since his background check had been completed. Esposito motioned, seconded by Roberge to approve the hiring of Jason Johnson as a part-time police officer for the Town of Mont Vernon. All in favor.

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Esposito mentioned that the Souhegan Regional Land Fill District would now like us to post their minutes on our website. Brown let the Board know that she was already doing so.

Brown brought up the prices we charge for residents to bring certain things to the transfer station and how it is no longer coming anywhere near covering our expenses for those items. Quinlan asked for a list of items and what we are currently charging for them for the next meeting.

Esposito said that the only paper that we are making money recycling is plain white paper; office paper. They will be putting a bin at the transfer station to separate the white paper from the mixed paper.

7:30 pm Budget.

Quinlan asked if line #419423 Repairs and Maint. to McCollom Building should be increased from \$8,000 to \$10,000 to accommodate the quote the Chief got to repaint the lobby.'

Roberge said that she does not want to increase that line.

Esposito agreed with Roberge.

After an in-depth look at what the Town Clerk is proposing for 2019 salary, Roberge came up with a proposal of \$19,880 of her own. She explained her rational to the Board and they agreed to reduce the proposed budget from \$26,115 to \$19,880 for line #414210 Town Clerk Salary. The Town Clerk has known about this for several weeks and was told to keep a time log, to prove she needs more hours to do the job, but has not provided the Board with one. She is scheduled to be open two mornings per week from 8am to 12pm.

Furlong has requested a 9% increase to coincide with his 5 year contract renewal.

Roberge said that he asked for 9% last year too and we gave him half – I am willing to give him the other half this year.

Esposito agreed.

Quinlan set the rate at \$80,000 (5.2%) and the Board agreed.

Furlong turned in a scenario for hiring another full-time officer. Roberge is against, Esposito is against, Quinlan said that he would have voted in favor.

Furlong added holiday pay into his proposed budget. Roberge and Esposito are in favor of paying the full-time hourly officers if they have to work a holiday. They are not in favor of salaried employees being paid for holidays. Quinlan did not weigh in on the issue of the Chief's holiday pay – he asked Brown to show him what the numbers would look like for next week.

8:15 pm As there was no further business before the Board, Esposito motioned, seconded by Roberge to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Brown