

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes October 21, 2019

7:00 PM Meeting called to order by Selectboard Chairman, John Esposito. Also in attendance were Selectmen Kim Roberge and Tim Berry.

Esposito lead the room in the Pledge of Allegiance.

DPW Director, Ben Crosby came before the Board with Jason Vaillancourt, our new hire on the DPW.

Berry motioned, seconded by Roberge to hire Jason Vaillancourt to work full-time for the Highway Department. All in favor. Board welcomed Vaillancourt to the Town.

7:05 PM Board addressed property owner, David Cruden. Cruden first let the Board know that his property has been cleared out of the automobiles stored by the pond. He said that there was one truck still stored there. Cruden was there to show the Board where the Town has encroached onto his property at the corner of Old Wilton and Upton Roads. He said that the Town funded a survey in the 90's that show this, although he did not have the survey with him. He also said that the Town had taken down an oak tree(s) along the Road that they were not given permission to do. Now the water has started undercutting the street. Board asked Cruden to meet with Crosby at the site. They will meet at 9:00 am on Friday the 25th of October to discuss it. Crosby to report back to the Board on his findings. On another note, Cruden reported that, around 1:00 pm today a huge 10-wheeler out of New Boston came barreling down Old Wilton Road at about 50mph. He suggested that the police should take note of the "No Through Trucking" signs and the speed at which they come through.

Mr. Cruden had one other request. Since the intersection of Upton and Old Wilton has been changed, his driveway now comes out onto Old Wilton Road, but is numbered on Upton. Can we correct the address?

Brown said that she will look into that for him; there should be no problem getting that done.

7:10 PM

- Board reviewed minutes of October 7, 2019. Berry motioned, seconded by Roberge to accept the minutes of October 7, 2019 as amended. All in favor.
- Board reviewed Public Hearing minutes of October 7, 2019. Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to accept the Public Hearing minutes of October 7, 2019 as written. All in favor.
- Board reviewed and signed an intent to cut for Thomas Naegeli.
- Board reviewed and signed a Timber cut bill for Eric Bonnem.
- Board reviewed and signed the Short-Term Disability contract for 2020. This insurance is paid by the employee.

7:15 PM Department Head Meeting Bonnie Angulas – Library Director

- DSK has come up with a 50/50 cost share of the final work done for the site. That totals \$14,000 for the Cemetery Trustees to pay instead of the \$12,000 estimate they originally had. The Trustees believe that the Cemetery Trustees are willing to pay the requested amount so long as they get a better breakdown of what they are being asked to pay.
- They have published the 2nd episode of the Podcast. Next month's interview will be with Dan Bellmore. The Friends of the Library received a donation to cover all of the Podcast expenses, including \$800 worth of equipment.

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- The NH State Library has launched its new Interlibrary Loan System.
- The Friends of the Library have sponsored the Library Halloween in the amount of \$500 worth of toys.
- Adam Steel, Superintendent of SAU 39, will hold a meet and greet on Tuesday November 12th at 7:00pm in the Mont Vernon Library.
- The Maple tree in front of the library is being taken down because of rot. Anne Dodd would like input into what kind of tree should replace it.

Ben Crosby, DPW Director

- Jason Vaillancourt will start his employment tomorrow.
- New truck should be available the second week of November.
- Mark Butcher is scheduled to be out of work beginning November 8, 2019 and for the next 6 months.
- Trying to co-ordinate the pouring of the concrete for the pad for the compactor.
- Looking to get a waiver on losing the grandfather clause for the pole in the transfer station.

Roberge asked if the lights could be on a motion sensor.
Crosby said maybe a timer.

- Someone broke into the transfer station a couple of times and smashed tv's and drove over the gate.
- Will be working on ditching and graveling Salisbury Road.

Roberge asked if he was going to ask about charging for driveway permits.

Crosby said that Amherst charges \$50/permit. Right now, we do not charge for the permit, plus we don't even require a permit for paving an existing driveway.

Roberge commented that we don't want to burden anyone but need to make sure our regulations are being followed. Board agreed to consider it.

Jay Wilson, Fire Chief

- Will be looking to increase the Fire Truck Capital Reserve at the March Town Meeting.
- Have 4 firefighters going through their CDL testing right now.
- Are going to make some quick repairs to the front of the Fire Station.

Heather Kennedy, Recreation Director

- The weather was perfect for Lamson Farm Day. We had 8 women sign up to be the pocket lady, and had the use of the whole field for our games. Kennedy put up a sign-up sheet at Souhegan and got 2 volunteers.
- Fire Department helped with the cooking of the chicken and it was delicious.
- Candy sorting will be Friday morning and Trick-or-Treat will be Thursday from 6:00 – 8:00 PM.
- The MVEA will give out candy from the gazebo.
- Tree Lighting will be December 6th at 6:00 PM.
- John Shuttinger reached out: There is a new, full-time PE teacher and they have been brainstorming doing some cross-advertising. Just on the Recreation page.
- The 2nd floor of the McCollom Building was left in a mess when the windows were replaced. Kennedy had to clean it up.

8:00 PM End of Department Head Meeting

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Crosby stayed to go over a few of his budget lines that he needs clarification on.

Gravel: should he increase his gravel line because he has needed more gravel in the last two years and because of the work needed on Beech Hill Road? Board agreed to increase it to \$17,000. Crosby asked about a dust control system, and explained that it would tighten up the roads and cause them to use less material in the long run. Berry asked how much it would cost. Crosby said that, including the storage tanks and applicator it would cost \$1.05/gallon if we entered a 3 year agreement. With 15 miles of dirt roads, we would need 16,000 to 17,000 gallons.

Roberge said that she is not comfortable adding \$17,000 in dust control after increasing gravel to \$17,000.

Crosby to get a price for the company to come out and apply the solution.

Roadside Mowing & Sweeping: Would like to increase that because only about 40% of the Town got mowed this year. Berry said he was fine with 1/3 of the town being mowed each year for 3 years. Crosby said that for almost what we pay for sweeping for a day we could buy a sweeper and do it ourselves. Board agreed to increase the line to \$7250. Crosby to look into Tools and Equipment to see if the cost of the sweeper is in there.

Telephone and Pager: Crosby is convinced that the pagers do not work properly and wants to go to cell phones.

He suggested giving the employees a stipend for them using their own phones when on call or getting another cell phone for on call use. Board will think about that, but feel that there is no need to increase the line item.

Board went through the Budgets that were turned in by the Department Heads and enumerated some questions that they would be asking next Monday night when the Department Heads would be there. It was decided to only see DPW, Police and Town Clerk next week and wait till November 4th for the rest. The Board discussed the Town Clerk's budget with regard to the Deputy line going over because there was a change in personnel and more hours were needed for training a new one.

Roberge wanted to make sure she knows that she cannot go over her bottom-line budget number.

Board also discussed the increase in Special Duty pay and how that will influence the whole budget. The reimbursements received for this Special Duty work does not go against the budget line, therefore, money will be tight and Department Heads have been notified to keep spending at a minimum for the rest of this year.

Roberge asked if the Conservation Commission and the Planning Board were going to present to the Board their progress on Carleton Pond and the Wetlands Ordinance.

Brown said that those questions could be asked on November 4th.

Brown cited an article from the NHMA regarding spending the extra money that the State was sending towns.

If the Board wishes to spend it this year, a public hearing must be held.

Brown brought the request from Eversource to hold a public hearing in order to take down a tree on Purgatory Road back to the Board. Purgatory Rd is a designated scenic road.

Brown to pick a date and have the Board hold both public hearings on the same night.

9:30 PM As there was no further business before the Board, Roberge motioned, seconded by Berry to adjourn. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,
Laurie Brown