

**Selectmen's Meeting**  
**Monday, February 7, 2022**

Chairman Les Babb called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were Selectmen Les Babb, Ernie Day, and Melissa Florio, and Ellen White, Town Administrator, who recorded these minutes. This meeting was held at the Town Hall.

Also, present were Rob Cunio, Justin Brooks, Jamie Mullen, and Don Johnson.

**Review of Mail, Sign Manifests, Approval of Minutes**

The accounts payable and payroll manifests were reviewed as well as the red folder containing correspondence.

Ernie made a motion to approve the minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting held on 1/28/2022, and Selectmen's Meeting and Non-Public Sessions held on 1/31/2022 and 2/3/2022. Melissa seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

**Discussion:**

Melissa requested a copy of the draft Hazard Mitigation Plan for review.

Brief discussion on the Effingham Planning Board meeting regarding the gas station at the former Boyle's Market. Green Mountain Conservation Group is reportedly suing the Town of Effingham. A request received from Paul Elie and other concerned citizens to meet with the Selectmen was discussed. The Board reviewed their decision to not get involved since they would only be granted abutter status and no legal standing from the regional impact. The Conservation Commission did not pursue any standing either. Ellen will respond to Mr. Elie's request.

Ellen confirmed legal counsel for Town Meeting has been secured. Les stated he received a call from John Ratigan who was in receipt of the Request for Proposal issued for legal services.

Les announced he attended a Zoom session on short-term rentals last Thursday. Room and Meals Tax is based on year-round population and properties converting to short-term rental will significantly impact the revenues received by the town. Last year's revenue from Room & Meals Tax was \$117,000.

Ernie suggested a letter be sent to Chuck Brooks thanking him for his years of service as a Library Trustee. Melissa stated Paul Mathiau will be taking over as Chairman.

Melissa questioned if the Freedom Old Home Week was able to find board members?

Melissa asked if Rob received any response on the value of the Rescue truck? Rob responded that he sent pictures to Brindlee Mountain and they sent back some comps but there were not walk-in units but the same chassis, newer, ranging in value from \$20k-35k. Rob will continue to research. The Rescue has a 10kW generator, light tower and 7.3L engine.

Discussion on the tent fire at King Pine's Pond Hockey event. Rob stated that the tent was not permitted or fire retardant and should not have had the sides on it.

The meeting recessed at 7:00 PM for the Budget Hearing and reconvened at 7:12 PM.

### **Department Head Updates**

Fire Department – Chief Rob Cunio reported normal call volume for the time of year including 2 medical aid, 1 motor vehicle accident, and 6 active Covid cases. The grant application for the cardiac monitors is awaiting Governor’s approval. The Derby Raffle winner will be drawn tomorrow at 6 PM at the Fire Station and will be broadcast live on Facebook. Rob discussed the hose testing contract which is up for renewal. The price has increased by \$0.05 per foot which is minimal. All hoses are checked within a half day and the company is reliable. Rob recommends a renewal of the 3-year contract. The Board was in favor.

Transfer Station – Justin Brooks reported it has been a slow winter and they have been busy cleaning out after each storm event. More issues are being reported since Littleton has taken over the hauling than ever reported when Scarborough was handling it. A flag is in need of replacement at the office.

Police Department – Chief Jamie Mullen reported he received a quote to have equipment swapped out for the new cruiser. A cage is a necessary expense and will be purchased out of the regular operating budget. The radio replacement is estimated to be \$5,245. Total for equipment swap over is \$8,079. Jamie will be researching alternative options for lettering the new cruiser. No trade value has been received yet on the Ford F-150. Jamie will continue to follow up and noted the mileage is much less than they thought. All else is going well; not super busy but investigations are taking a lot of hours. Routine vehicle maintenance is scheduled for this week. Jamie has a candidate in mind for the Administrative Assistant position and he would like to have the applicant come in to meet the Board on 2/21.

Town Office – Administrator Ellen White reported the main focus has been wrapping up the Town Report so it can go to print next week. The Town Warrant has been drafted and is still awaiting final legal review.

### **Appointments:**

Not applicable.

### **Public Input:**

None presented.

### **Non-Public Session(s):**

Les made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:24 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (l) for legal. Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Les-yes, Melissa-yes, Ernie-yes. All in favor, the motion passed. Les made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:33 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Les made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:33 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (a) for personnel. Ernie seconded. Roll call vote was taken: Les-yes, Melissa-yes, Ernie-yes. All in favor,

the motion passed. Les made a motion to reconvene public session at 7:43 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

**Discussion continued:**

A meeting will be scheduled for Thursday to review the Warrant Articles, make final recommendations and to assign them. Ernie will call with available times.

The Board requested an early meeting be scheduled for March 7 so they can attend the School Budget Hearing at 7 PM.

Brief discussion on the equalization ratio and valuation impact.

**Consent Agenda**

Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting – 1/28/2022, 1/31/2022 & 2/3/2022	Approved
Minutes – Selectmen’s Non-Public Sessions – 1/31/2022 & 2/3/2022	Approved
Accounts Payable – Week ending 2/4/2022	Approved
Payroll Manifest – Week ending 2/2/2022	Approved

**Correspondence**

Receipt – Tax Payment as Agreed	Reviewed
Receipt – Tax Payment as Agreed	Reviewed
E-Mail – Lucy Villeneuve re: Short-term rental restrictions	Reviewed
E-Mail – Paul Elie re: Request for meeting 2/14 regarding Meena Gas Station	Reviewed
E-Mail – David Hayes re: Shoreland Permit Application Filed, 173 Haverhill Street	Reviewed
Letter – to Janet Johnson -Acknowledging appointment to FAC	Reviewed
Docket – Motion for Periodic Payments – Perkins, 100 Burnham Road	Reviewed
Report – Facilities Update – 2/7/2022	Reviewed
Bulletin – NHMA Legislative Bulletin No. 07	Reviewed
Public Notice – Request for Proposals: Legal Services	Reviewed
Public Notice – Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Meeting – 2/8/2022	Reviewed
Newsletter – GMCG Watershed News	Reviewed

Being no further input, Ernie made a motion to adjourn. Les seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen N. White, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on \_\_\_\_\_:

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Leslie R. Babb

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Ernest F. Day, Jr.

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Melissa M. Florio