

Selectmen's Meeting
Monday, February 21, 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 Office.

Also in attendance were Justin Brooks, Jamie Mullen, Jeff Nicoll, Corey Lane, Don Johnson and Chuck Brooks.

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 and Non-Public Session held on 2/7/2022, Public Hearing of 2/7/2022, Selectmen's Meeting and Non-Public Sessions held on 2/10/2022. Melissa seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Ellen confirmed the request for bids for the 2016 Ford F-550 is being advertised in the Conway Daily Sun for 3-weeks, the Union Leader last week and the Boston Herald next week. It is also posted at all posting locations and on the website.

The cable franchise fees were received from Spectrum. It was noted that the base fee on which the town's appropriation is calculated was for over \$1.3 million.

The Board asked that the request for appointment received from Peter Keenan be forwarded to the ZBA for review.

Les made a motion authorizing Ernie to sign the Groundwater Management Permit Renewal Application for the Freedom Landfill. Melissa seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Department Head Updates

Police Department – Chief Jamie Mullen reported response to a rollover on Route 153 Friday. He is looking to revive the exercise room at the Public Safety Building. Interest has been expressed from both Police and Fire personnel. He will be working on cleaning the area out in preparation for equipment that may be donated.

Conservation Commission – Chair Jeff Nicoll was present to discuss the Meena LLC gas station proposed at the former Boyle's Market in Effingham. He presented the Board with a copy of a letter he would like to submit to the Effingham Planning Board with a request it be co-endorsed by the Board of Selectmen. Jeff stated that the FCC has been presented information at their meetings and received several letters of concern so a letter summarizing the concerns is inline with the FCC's responsibilities in protection the groundwater. Ernie questions if the Selectmen have any say on the matter only having abutter status and no legal standing, the same situation they were in with the campground expansion in Ossipee. Jeff responded that the Planning Board has yet to determine if there is regional impact. Porter resident and Ossipee Lake Alliance member stated that the towns of

Porter and Parsonsfield, ME are also sending letters. It is unknown if Ossipee has. Melissa stated that the Selectboard has also received letters and feels that the concerns should stay at the FCC-level unless it elevates to regional impact. Les agrees with this strategy which aligns with the Master Plan. Jeff responded that he will strike the Board of Selectmen signatures from the draft letter and send directly from the FCC. State Representative Jerry Knirk is also sending a letter stating that the Planning Board should address the development with regional impact allowing other towns to weigh in on the matter. Les stated that if regional impact is acknowledged the Selectmen will likely send a similar letter.

Transfer Station – Supervisor Justin Brooks reported an accident with the gate at the Transfer Station with damage caused by the backhoe. Repair has been ordered. The steel dumpster is scheduled for removal this week. It has been working well but still requires monitoring due to items being thrown in that do not belong.

Town Office – Administrator Ellen White reported the Town Report was submitted to the printer last week and the final proof is being reviewed. Reports are expected to be available on Monday, 2/28/2022.

Public Input:

Corey Lane thanked the Board for their consideration and stated that although some gas stations are grandfathered, others are not. This site lost its grandfathered status and there is another legal business within a ¼ mile.

Melissa questioned if there were any noted findings from the water test results from Green Mountain Conservation Group? Jeff responded that he should have them from Loon Lake and Round Pond within a month or so. The FCC will review and forward upon receipt. Other results received were overall well with the exception of the measurement of salinity levels at the new bridge. The FCC is awaiting recommendations for action, if needed.

Appointments:

Don Johnson and Chuck Brooks were present at 7:00 PM to discuss Town Elections and Town Meeting preparations. Don stated Chuck is the Moderator Pro Tem in the event Don is unable to attend. School dismisses at 3:30 PM and he has assembled a crew to move items from the Town Hall to the school prior to the School District meeting that evening. Upon adjournment, they will setup up for elections. Don will be providing a diagram of the layout. Polls open at 9 AM and election workers will be arriving at 8 AM. The Selectmen will have a table at the entrance to greet residents and Don Harris will be welcoming at the entry door to the gym. Melissa questioned if there is enough PPE available. Don confirmed. Rick and Jane Davidson will be superintendents throughout the day sanitizing tables and supply. Don reminded all that State Statute explicitly disallows anyone on the ballot from being inside the gate with the exception of the Moderator. Don confirmed there are plenty ballot counters.

The Board requested the meeting scheduled for 3/7/2022 begin at 5:30 PM to allow time for their attendance at the School District Meeting.

Don requested police presence due to elevating political concerns at the next two elections. Jamie confirmed he will accommodate this request.

Town Meeting is Saturday, 3/12 at 9 AM. Jackson and Spencer Ogren will arrive early to set up chairs. The wireless sound system worked out well last year and will be requested again. Don questioned if there should be an allotment of time for words of appreciation and then reviewed the article review process. Some articles may require more discussion than others due. Les requested he be allowed to provide an introduction as he has done in the past. Discussion on the School budget reduction and enrollment.

Old / New Business / Discussion:

Zoning Board of Adjustment Application Fees Review/Update – The minutes from the January ZBA meeting were reviewed. The ZBA recommends an increase in the application fee from \$65 to \$100 and \$15.00 for each abutter's notice with the applicant supplying the mailing labels. Les suggested an incremental increase to \$90.00 for the application fee. The Board was in agreement. Jeff stated the FCC reviews the applications for stormwater mitigation, tree cutting, etc. and often works off a scanned copy which is difficult to review. His request is for additional copies for FCC review.

Melissa announced she has been contacted to participate in the May 7 Valley Pride roadside collection again this year. The Board was in favor of her representing.

Melissa reported that the Broadband Committee attempted to meet on 2/15 but was unable to have a quorum so they are trying to reschedule.

Ernie stated he was contacted by Bill Carney regarding the Old Home Week parade with a request to use Albert Godfrey Road as a turnaround rather than Scarboro. All were favor.

Non-Public Session(s):

Les made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:36 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (b) for hiring. 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 7:42 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Melissa made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 7:42 PM pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, II (l) for legal. Les 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 7:54 PM. Ernie seconded. All in favor, the motion passed.

Discussion continued:

Brief discussion on appointing positions.

A request for abatement was reviewed. Ellen will follow up with the applicant to request further information.

Brief discussion on criteria for certificates of appreciation to be issued.

The Board requested copies of the Casella contract be distributed for their review.

Consent Agenda

Minutes – Selectmen’s Meeting – 2/7/2022 & 2/10/2022	Approved
Minutes – Selectmen’s Non-Public Sessions – 2/7/2022 & 2/10/2022	Approved
Minutes – Public Hearing – 2022 Municipal Budget – 2/7/2022	Approved
Accounts Payable – Week ending 2/11/2022 & 2/18/2022	Approved
Payroll Manifest – Week ending 2/9/2022 & 2/16/2022	Approved
Application for Veteran’s Tax Credit	Approved
Intent to Cut Wood or Timber – Camp Huckins (Map 1, Lot 16)	Approved

Correspondence

Minutes – Conservation Commission Meeting – 2/15/2022	Reviewed
Receipt – Tax Payment as Agreed	Reviewed
Receipt – Tax Payment as Agreed	Reviewed
Receipt – Cable Franchise Fee – Charter Communications	Reviewed
E-Mail – Kate Chaput re: FOHW events to commence this year	Reviewed
Wetlands Permit Application – Standard Dredge & Fill (Map 42, Lot 20)	Reviewed
Public Notice – Request for Bids: 2016 Ford F-550	Reviewed
Request for Appointment – Peter Keenan – Zoning Board of Adjustment	Reviewed

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen N. White, Town Administrator

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on _____:

Leslie R. Babb

Ernest F. Day, Jr.

Melissa M. Florio