



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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Fitzwilliam Town Hall
13 Templeton Turnpike, Fitzwilliam, NH 03447

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 1, 2023
6:00 P.M.

Selectmen Present: Brian Doerpholz, John E.F. Craig, Martin Nolan

Guests: Dana Pinney

AGENDA:

A. Call to Order

Mr. Doerpholz called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

B. Appointments

6:30 - Meet with Community Power Committee members

Susan Silverman, Kevin Woolley, and Eric Durmer met with the Selectmen to discuss their role. Mr. Doerpholz shared that Community Power is a new NH program that offers local governments an opportunity to purchase electricity at wholesale prices for their residents and small businesses. Community Power is a way for the Town to save and offers an opportunity to purchase electricity from renewables like solar, wind, and hydro. Ms. Silverman asked if the Town of Fitzwilliam was interested in any of this and is this only for finding out for individuals. Mr. Durmer shared that he attended a presentation by Standard Power in Rindge and companies are trying to beat Eversource's rate. It would include the Town as a whole and each resident would have the option to opt in or out. The service provider approved would be the default. Residents would just need to notify the provider. Ms. Silverman asked if Eversource was the only option. It was noted that Eversource is not the only option for residents. Mr. Durmer shared that residents can opt in and out with Community Power without penalty. Mr. Doerpholz shared that residents would need to opt out, if Community Power was brought into the Town.

Kevin Woolley shared that the committee meetings would need to be posted. It was noted that the meetings needed to be posted and minutes would need to be taken and approved. It was mentioned that Committee members could contact Southwest Region Planning Commission for guidance. Ms. Silverman shared that it would be hard to communicate to residents. Mr. Doerpholz shared that a public hearing would need to be held and that information could be included in the newsletter and on the Town's website. Mr. Doerpholz asked where Committee members wanted to meet. They thought it might be easier to meet at the Library. Mr. Doerpholz suggested coordinating with Library Director Kate Thomas. Ms. Silverman asked about Facebook and shared that for some people that is where they find out information. Mr. Doerpholz shared that if they used Facebook, to not allow comments. It would just be an announcement for the meeting and for information. Committee members would discuss. Ms. Silverman mentioned the Shopper News and looking at different avenues to get the word out. Mr. Doerpholz suggested that they put something in the newsletter about their meeting and mention where they would be posting information.

Committee members discussed and agreed to meet on Monday, February 6th at 7:00 p.m. at the Library. Mr. Craig thanked them for agreeing to be part of this committee. It was mentioned that Charley Kenison was also interested in serving on the committee. Mr. Woolley would reach out to Mr. Kenison to confirm.

C. Consent Agenda

- **Payroll and Vendor Manifests**
- **Minutes of January 25, 2023 – Public and Non-Public**
- **Minutes of November 30, 2022 – Public - AMENDED**

Mr. Craig made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Mr. Nolan seconded. Mr. Doerpholz – Yes, Mr. Craig – Yes, Mr. Nolan - Yes. Approved – 3-0

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - February 1, 2023

D. Continued Business

- **Review notice of Meal & Rooms 2023**

The Selectmen reviewed. Ms. Favreau shared that it comes in as revenue. Mr. Favreau mentioned that the amount to be raised by taxes is approximately the same as last year.

- **Discuss ARPA Projects**

Mr. Craig shared that we needed to go forward with the bid process for the plaster and painting work. This work wouldn't be done until after the roof was repaired. Mr. Doerpholz shared that we could start getting bids in order to get on contractor's schedules. Mr. Craig shared what Caleb Massin would do for the ceiling repair and the extra work that he identified. Ms. Favreau shared that we needed a certificate of insurance. Mr. Nolan felt that we needed a bond on the roof repair. Mr. Craig asked for permission to move forward with the figure that Mr. Massin had given. Mr. Nolan suggested putting off the foyer painting. Mr. Craig and Mr. Doerpholz felt that all of the painting/plastering work needed to be done now. Mr. Nolan thought that the steps and the foundation could be put off for another year. Mr. Doerpholz agreed that the steps could be put off. He thought that all of the painting and plastering work needed to be done at the same time. ARPA funds needed to be spend by 2024. Mr. Craig shared that if the projects are to be separate, he agreed with Mr. Doerpholz to do all of the painting/plastering work together. The Selectmen agreed to have Mr. Massin do all of the painting and plastering work, after the roof repair has been done.

Mr. Craig mentioned stone masonry work and suggested we move forward with all of the stone work. Mr. Nolan thought it could be put off another year. Mr. Doerpholz suggested that we prioritize the work. The Selectmen agreed for Mr. Craig to contact the contractors and update them on the start date for the work. Ms. Favreau has all of the bid information.

Mr. Craig liked what Mr. Doerpholz suggested in pinning down the numbers and prioritizing the work. Mr. Craig shared that Nathan Johnson would give an update on the roof work once he has been able to get on the roof.

Mr. Nolan shared that he has heard a complaint that \$25,000 was taken out of the ARPA funds for the police cruiser and \$15,000 was included in CIP. Ms. Favreau stated that for 2022 only \$5,000 was added to the expendable trust fund, knowing that \$25,000 was being allocated from the ARPA funds. Mr. Craig would put together a newsletter article to share how the ARPA funds are being spent.

Mr. Nolan shared that the water treatment materials have been received. The size of the water tank would be bigger but the cost is still under what the Selectmen approved.

E. New Business

- **Review legal invoices**

The Selectmen reviewed and agreed to pay.

- **Request from Planning Board on Construction Permits**

The Selectmen reviewed the e-mail from the Planning Board asking for a change in the instructions regarding wetlands. The suggested change would be made.

- **Sign resolution for sale of Argent Franchise**

Mr. Doerpholz shared that Argent is being purchased by Spectrum North East LLC and that nothing would change for the Town.

- **Review Town Common Rental Application - Fitzwilliam Farmer's Market**

The Selectmen reviewed the request to use the Common for the Farmers Market on the first and third Saturdays from May to October.

Mr. Doerpholz made a motion to approve the request and to waive the fee. Mr. Nolan seconded. Mr. Doerpholz – Yes, Mr. Craig – Yes, Mr. Nolan - Yes. Approved – 3-0

Ms. Favreau shared that Skip Hagstrom asked if we would be closing the Transfer Station on Saturday due to the extreme cold. Mr. Doerpholz shared that Richard Goodnow had mentioned to him that they would be open and would probably be spending time in the building due to the cold.

The Selectmen reviewed the Warrant Articles and made assignments for who would speak to the article.

F. Public Hearing – none

G. Other Business

BOARD MEETING MINUTES - February 1, 2023

H. Non-Public - If Necessary Non-public Session 91-A:3 II a, b, c, d, e, I

- Non-Public – Legal
Non-public Session 91-A:3 II(I)

At 6:59 p.m. Mr. Doerpholz made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(I). Mr. Craig seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Doerpholz – Yes, Mr. Craig – Yes, Mr. Nolan - Yes.

At 7:22 p.m. Mr. Doerpholz made a motion to leave non-public session. Mr. Nolan seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Doerpholz – Yes, Mr. Craig – Yes, Mr. Nolan - Yes.

At 7:22 p.m. Mr. Doerpholz made a motion to seal the non-public minutes as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of the person other than a member of the board. Mr. Craig seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Doerpholz – Yes, Mr. Craig – Yes, Mr. Nolan - Yes.

I. Adjournment

Mr. Craig made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 p.m. Mr. Doerpholz seconded and the motion passed. 3-0

Submitted by:

Sheryl White
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

Brian Doerpholz, Chairman

John E.F. Craig

Martin Nolan
Board of Selectmen