



**BOARD OF SELECTMEN**  
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**BOARD MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 12, 2018**  
**7:00 p.m.**

**Selectmen Present:** Susan Silverman, Nancy Carney, Daniel Baker

Ms. Silverman called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

**PRIMARY:**

**7:00 MEET WITH JOHN TOMMILA**  
**Re: School Funding Formula**

John Tommila met with the Selectmen to discuss the school funding formula. Mr. Tommila shared that he had attended the meeting on Saturday and asked if there was any way that the Town could support them monetarily. They have a lot of volunteer work but there is a cost to the signs. The group would be getting letters out and communicating with other towns that would be impacted.

Discussion was held on spending taxpayer money on something that hasn't been voted on, an information handout to be included in the newsletter, and the impact on Fitzwilliam taxpayers, if approved. The information was posted on the Town's website and Mr. Baker felt the Selectmen have gone as far as they can go without crossing the line. Robert Young asked if an informational message could be put out to other towns and shared that he has done some research and would like to get some statistical information out. Ms. Silverman mentioned that Mr. Tommila had made an appointment to meet with the Selectmen and she shared that Mr. Young could make an appointment with Selectmen in other towns, which might be more effective than a letter. Mr. & Mrs. Young thanked the Selectmen for their suggestion and mentioned they would be looking at the list of voters who could do an absentee ballot, if they winter in the south.

The Selectmen thanked Mr. Tommila for meeting with them.

The Selectmen reviewed the letter that Ms. Favreau had drafted.

**7:15 MEET WITH CHARLES MICHAL**  
**Re: Engineer**

Charles Michal meet with the Selectmen to discuss the steeple project. Mr. Baker mentioned the bracing that was done to the columns in front of the Town Hall. Ms. Silverman shared what has been done to secure the steeple in the meantime. Mr. Michal asked if we needed grant writing assistance if we were going forward with a grant application to raise the funds. Mr. Michal discussed the LCHIP grant and shared with the Selectmen the projects he has been working on and what his role has been. Mr. Michal and the Selectmen discussed at length the need for the Selectmen to have someone guide them through the process of hiring, actual repair work and guidance on making decisions for problems and questions that may arise, and assistance with the LCHIP grant.

Mr. Michal shared there would be a smaller group of steeplejacks that have worked on LCHIP grants. They would have to provide a cushion for unknown conditions. Mr. Baker hoped they would provide a range for unknown conditions. Mr. Michal asked if Jay Southgate had already documented the steeple. Mr. Baker replied that he has and has written a narrative.

Ms. Silverman shared that the Town has funding put aside for the project and can only get funding at Town meeting. Ms. Silverman mentioned that steeplejacks won't be available until 2019. Mr. Michal asked what was going on the warrant this year. Ms. Favreau explained there was a General Government Building Expendable Trust Fund for all building maintenance and the Selectmen were asking to put in another \$120,000. Mr. Baker stated it might be possible that the steeple would need to come down this year and not be worked on for a year. Mr. Michal mentioned he needed to talk with Ted Fellows to find out if there was a repair that could be done in place that would stabilize it.

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### 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Michal stated anything put out to solicit for proposals would rely on all they have learned from everyone and to restate it and get another round of proposals. Mr. Michal shared the Selectmen could go ahead and get all of the materials that would go with the LCHIP grant and while the grant was in process, steeplejacks could be lined up. Mr. Michal shared what his standard commercial rate would be and mentioned he had a standard contract. Mr. Michael stated if the Selectmen were interested in working with him, he couldn't do anything for a month, as he has to finish up his current projects. The Selectmen agreed that it wasn't a problem. Ms. Silverman shared that Ms. Favreau would work on the LCHIP grant and would need assistance on it.

The Selectmen thanked Mr. Michal for meeting with them.

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**APPROVE MINUTES**  
- February 5, 2018

Ms. Carney made a motion to approve the minutes. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

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**APPROVE MANIFESTS**

Ms. Carney made a motion to approve the manifests. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0

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**REVIEW SIGNATURE FOLDER** – The Selectmen reviewed and signed.

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**CONSTRUCTION PERMIT**  
**Map 4, Lot 43-7**

**Map 4, Lot 43-7** – Ms. Carney made a motion to approve the Permit for Map 4, Lot 43-7. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Ms. Silverman - Yes. Approved – 3-0  
The Selectmen agreed that an Occupancy Permit wasn't needed.

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**REVIEW LETTER FROM DRA ASSESSEMENT RATIO**

Ms. Silverman shared the Town was at 98.3% equalized valuation. Mr. Baker asked if it had changed much. Ms. Favreau replied that it hadn't.

Ms. Favreau shared that she checked with Mark Stetson, Avitar and he reported that towns were not required to do a measuring list. Ms. Favreau noted that Swanzey does a third of the Town each year. Ms. Favreau shared that it was being fair to your taxpayers. Ms. Favreau mentioned the Town of Troy's process. Ms. Favreau reported that at the assessment review the DRA monitor does a sampling of properties and if they notice errors on the assessment cards, it is written into the report and if gross errors are found, the DRA can appeal to the BTLA and the town could be ordered to do a revaluation.

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**REVIEW TOWN REPORT – NOTICE UNPAID TAXES**

Ms. Favreau asked the Selectmen to review the information that she has added to the end of the Tax Collectors report. The Selectmen discussed what additional information should be added. After discussion, the Selectmen agreed to add: Upon the advice of NHMA, these names are not being published. More accurate and up to date information is available at nhtaxkiosk.com.

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**REMINDER – MEETING NEXT WEEK – TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 20 2018 AT 6:00 P.M.**

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

The Selectmen reviewed the Warrant and signed.

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**7:00 p.m.**

Mr. Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed. 3-0

Submitted by:

Sheryl White  
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

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Susan Silverman, Chairman

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Nancy Carney, Vice Chairman

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Daniel Baker  
Board of Selectmen