



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Selectmen Present: Nancy Carney, Daniel Baker

Selectmen Absent: Charles Kenison

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

PRIMARY:

***** APPROVE MINUTES**
- September 10, 2018

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the minutes. Ms. Carney seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes. Approved – 2-0

***** APPROVE MANIFESTS**

Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the manifests. Ms. Carney seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes. Approved – 2-0

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

7:15 MEET WITH ROBERT AND BARBARA YOUNG
- School Funding

Robert and Barbara Young met with the Selectmen to discuss and review the funding tool that the Monadnock Funding Committee had created. Mrs. Young gave an overview of the work done by the committee. Mr. Young wanted to lobby for Fitzwilliam to make some gesture in willingness to make a compromise. Mr. Young thought that the 50/50 formula may be brought up again and discussed the opposing views. Mr. Baker shared that he looked at the actual data and to him it seemed as though they were looking for some sort of bench mark to adjust to, to make it more equitable but none were significant. Mrs. Young shared that in the beginning, the committee spent time trying to keep Roxbury in the district as they are paying a lot in per student cost. Mr. Young felt that some committee members thought it was an opportunity to make a political statement that everyone should pay the same. Mrs. Young gave an overview of the committee's last meeting. Mr. and Mrs. Young decided to meet with Select Boards on their own to get feedback. Mr. Baker stated that by regulation we could only have a certain formula and he felt there was a good faith effort by the committee.

Ms. Favreau shared MRSD's Agenda, which indicated a presentation by Jennifer Cesaitis on the work of the Monadnock Funding Committee was scheduled. Ms. Carney asked where Fitzwilliam's School Board Representative's stood on this issue. Mrs. Young shared that she wanted to be careful in having discussion with them. Ms. Carney shared that as School Board members, they are the ones to do something and both are very approachable. Ms. Carney would like communication between Fitzwilliam's School Board Representatives and Mr. and Mrs. Young to be held. Ms. Carney stated to start with them and they would have advice on who to go to next. Mr. Baker discussed the interest in the beginning to have an at-large committee work on a formula. Mr. Baker thought that Mr. and Mrs. Young should meet with the School Board, discuss what happened and put forth the tool. Mrs. Young asked the Selectmen to reach out to them if they have any ideas.

Ms. Favreau thought the Selectmen could write a letter, if Mr. and Mrs. Young present something to the School Board.

The Selectmen thanked Mr. and Mrs. Young for meeting with them. Mr. and Mrs. Young thanked the Selectmen for their time.

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7:30 MEET WITH SUZANNE GRAY

At 7:40 p.m. Mr. Baker made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c). Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes.

At 7:48 p.m. Mr. Baker made a motion to leave non-public session. Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes.

At 7:48 p.m. Mr. Baker made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c). Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes.

At 7:59 p.m. Mr. Baker made a motion to leave non-public session and seal the minutes as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of the person other than a member of the board. Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney – Yes.

***** DISCUSS EVERSOURCE APPEAL**

Ms. Carney reported that EverSource has now brought their appeal to Superior Court. According to Mark Stetson, Assessor with Avitar, EverSource is doing the same to other Towns. The Selectmen and Ms. Favreau discussed getting together with other Town's to help share the legal costs. The Selectmen agreed to contact Attorney Joseph Hoppock to have him file the response to the Court. Mr. Baker discussed the possibility of filing a counter claim for attorney costs. The Selectmen discussed the FairPoint case.

***** REVIEW VETERAN'S TAX CREDIT**

At 8:00 p.m. Mr. Baker made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c). Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes.

At 8:02 p.m. Mr. Baker made a motion to leave non-public session and seal the minutes as disclosure would adversely affect the reputation of the person other than a member of the board. Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 2-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney – Yes.

***** FOLLOW-UP DISCUSSION OF CELL PHONE STIPEND
- REVIEW CELLULAR PHONE POLICY**

Ms. Favreau shared that the Selectmen had asked her to do more research and she was able to find one town who pays \$35 for a basic cell phone, and \$75 for an iPhone. Mr. Baker found a good cellular phone policy and Ms. Favreau modified it for Fitzwilliam. Ms. Favreau noted that for the IRS, we need to prove it is not income so an employee would have to submit a copy of their cell phone bill to prove that the employee isn't receiving more than they pay for their service as it would be considered as income. Mr. Baker asked if \$50 sounded reasonable. Ms. Carney agreed that \$75 seemed high. The Selectmen agreed that \$35 for a basic cell phone and \$50 for an iPhone was reasonable. Mr. Baker shared that he reviewed the policy and it included employees who were willing to accept calls after hours. Mr. Baker noted that people would have to agree to take calls. The Policy included a provision if the employee terminated their employment with the Town, they would need to notify the Town Administrator to stop the stipend.

Ms. Carney made a motion to adopt the new cellular phone policy, as amended. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes. Approved – 2-0

***** REVIEW APPLICATION FOR RENTAL OF TOWN PROPERTY**

Ms. Carney reviewed the Application for Rental of Town Property request from Caroline Tremblay for the Fitzwilliam Fantasy Faire on October 6, 2018 on the Town Common. Ms. Tremblay has contacted the Police Department. Ms. Favreau would follow-up to see if Chief DiSalvo wanted to have a special detail for this event. The Selectmen would revisit the request once they hear from Chief DiSalvo.

***** REVIEW NEWSLETTER ARTICLES – The Selectmen reviewed.**

***** DISCUSS OCTOBER MEETING SCHEDULE**

The Selectmen agreed to hold their meeting on Tuesday, October 2nd at 9:00 a.m. and to cancel the October 1st meeting. The other meetings would be held as scheduled.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 17, 2018

OTHER BUSINESS:

- **REVIEW RESPONSE FROM ATTORNEY GENERAL – SELECTMEN’S LETTER TO CONSOLIDATED COMMUNICATIONS** – The Selectmen reviewed and discussed.
- **HEALTHTRUST PUBLIC HEARING – SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 – RATE SETTING & SURPLUS RETURNS** – The Selectmen reviewed.
- **A NEW HARD ROAD TO TRAVEL WORKSHOP (NHMA) – OCTOBER 4, 2018** – The Selectmen reviewed. Ms. Favreau would be attending.
- **INVITE TO GROUND BREAKING CEREMONY – MAPLE WOOD NURSING HOME – SEPTEMBER 20, 2018** – The Selectmen reviewed.
- **SWRPC FALL MEETING – OCTOBER 9, 2018** – The Selectmen reviewed.

Ms. Favreau shared that she would be out of the office on Thursday and Friday.

Ms. Favreau mentioned working on the wage scale for next year, in order to get the budget ready. Mr. Baker mentioned social security was national but wages were regional. Mr. Baker felt that so far the adjustment to the wage scale was a good thing. Ms. Favreau discussed the longevity pay she had worked on. Mr. Baker mentioned Town-wide building maintenance.

Ms. Favreau shared that she had pulled a letter that was received from the State last year, indicating that there was still a lot of contamination at Meadowood and it was put to Meadowood to manage the contamination. Ms. Carney didn't think that it would be good for the Town to take the water side of the property. Mr. Baker mentioned that if they were a defunct non-profit we needed to tax the land. Ms. Carney shared that the property could be given to another non-profit or the municipality and if the property wasn't wanted, then they could sell the property. Mr. Baker shared his impression was that the Recreation Commission didn't really know how big this was. Ms. Favreau and the Selectmen discussed the management of the building. Ms. Carney shared that she was uncomfortable with the contamination of the dam. Ms. Favreau would get the additional contamination information to Cindi Beede.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

- **STEEPLE PROJECT** – Mr. Baker shared that he wanted to schedule a meeting with Jay Southgate.

September Meeting Schedule: 7:00 pm – Monday, September 17, 2018
7:00 pm – Monday, September 24, 2018

Mr. Baker made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 p.m. Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed. 2-0

Submitted by:

Sheryl White
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

Nancy Carney, Chairman

Daniel Baker
Board of Selectmen