



BOARD OF SELECTMEN
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BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Selectmen Present: Nancy Carney, Daniel Baker, Charles Kenison

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

PRIMARY:

***** APPROVE MINUTES**
- October 8, 2018

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

***** APPROVE MANIFESTS**

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

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

***** CONSTRUCTION PERMIT**
- Map 23, Lot 26 – Extension
- Map 10, Lot 23
- Map 6, Lot 40-14

Map 23, Lot 26 – Extension Request – Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the Construction Permit Extension request for Map 23, Lot 26. Mr. Kenison seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0
The Selectmen agreed that an Occupancy Permit wasn't needed.

Map 10, Lot 23 – Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the Construction Permit for Map 10, Lot 23. Mr. Kenison seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0
The Selectmen agreed that an Occupancy Permit was needed.

Map 6, Lot 40-14 – Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the Construction Permit for Map 6, Lot 40-14. Mr. Kenison seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0
The Selectmen agreed that an Occupancy Permit wasn't needed.

***** OCCUPANCY PERMIT**
- Map 28, Lot 7
- Map 23, Lot 26

Map 28, Lot 7 – Mr. Baker made a motion to approve the Occupancy Permit for Map 28, Lot 7. Mr. Kenison seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

Map 23, Lot 26 – Mr. Kenison made a motion to approve the Occupancy Permit for Map 23, Lot 26. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2018

7:15 MEET WITH WALTER DESMOND
- Timber Tax Doomage Penalty

Walter Desmond met with the Selectmen to discuss the amount of his timber tax doomage penalty. Mr. Desmond explained the deal that he had set up with Jason Hill. Mr. Desmond shared that he isn't familiar with how timber works and Mr. Hill had told him he would take care of it. Mr. Desmond signed a paper from Mr. Hill regarding the amount of wood to take off of the property. Mr. Hill told Mr. Desmond to sign and send to the State. Mr. Desmond shared that he received a call from Doug Miner, who told him a lot more wood was cut than reported. Mr. Desmond shared that he didn't know much and he called Mr. Hill who told him not to worry about it, that everything was fine. Mr. Desmond stated it turns out that there was a lot more cut compared to what Mr. Hill had given him to sign. Mr. Desmond shared that he now understands that he has to pay the timber tax because he signed the form. Mr. Desmond called the person who cut the hardwood, they came down, and their numbers were the same as the Town's. Mr. Desmond shared that not only does he owe the tax, he owes a double penalty. Mr. Desmond asked the Selectmen if they would waive the penalty and he would pay the tax. Mr. Desmond shared that he doesn't have any money. Ms. Carney asked if it was a State penalty. Ms. Favreau confirmed it was the Town's. Mr. Desmond stated that he could pay the first portion but he was unaware of his responsibility and he made the mistake. Mr. Desmond asked if the Selectmen were willing, it would help him out. Mr. Desmond stated he couldn't pay the full amount, he would have to make payment arrangements. He shared he would pay but if the Selectmen could cut it in half, it would help. Mr. Baker asked what the Selectmen's preview was. Ms. Favreau shared the Selectmen have the option to charge doomage. Mr. Baker shared he would consider having it paid and then waive. Mr. Desmond shared that he doesn't have the money but if the Selectmen could write a letter to waive, then he would pay right away. Ms. Favreau shared that it would be an abatement and would go to Jane Wright, Tax Collector. Ms. Favreau shared that doomage was double the amount of taxes and she would need to look into to see if the Selectmen could waive a portion of it.

Mr. Desmond stated he would have to borrow the money but he guaranteed he would pay, if the Selectmen would write a letter. Mr. Desmond asked the Selectmen to look at how he has paid his taxes since 1985. Mr. Kenison asked if he had logging done on the property in addition to what Mr. Hill did. Mr. Desmond shared that Mr. Hill hired someone to do the logging. Ms. Favreau shared the original report of cut was submitted in February but not signed by Mr. Desmond and was sent back for signature. The signed report of cut wasn't received until July 30th, which was past the original deadline of April 15th to submit. The State came and looked at it. Mr. Desmond stated he was at a loss and he didn't get any money out of the deal, only a worthless trailer and Mr. Hill would receive the money for the wood. Mr. Baker asked who submitted the false record of cut. Mr. Desmond stated he signed it because Mr. Hill had told him to sign and the next paperwork he received was from the State. Mr. Baker asked if the logging company didn't give him any paperwork. Ms. Favreau stated that was worked out with Mr. Hill.

Mr. Kenison made a motion to abate the doomage penalty with the condition that the taxes were paid. Ms. Carney seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

A letter would be written up for Mr. Desmond and he would pay the taxes immediately. Ms. Favreau shared that Mr. Desmond could pay the \$4,798.17 and once payment was confirmed, Ms. Favreau would do an abatement.

Mr. Desmond thanked the Selectmen.

7:30 MEET WITH SUZANNE GRAY AND STEVE FILIPI

At 7:35 p.m. Mr. Baker made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(c). Mr. Kenison seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes.

At 8:27 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. Mr. Kenison seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes.

8:00 MEET WITH POLICE CHIEF LEONARD DISALVO

At 8:27 p.m. Mr. Baker made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(b). Ms. Carney seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes.

At 8:44 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. Mr. Kenison seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes.

***** REVIEW LETTER FROM AVITAR**
- NNETC Appeal

Ms. Carney noted the letter from Gary Roberge, Utility Assessor with Avitar regarding NNETCs appeals.

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 15, 2018

Ms. Favreau asked if the Selectmen had read the letter and discussed Mr. Roberge's suggestion that the Town, rather than continuing to incur legal fees for the appeals, try to settle the appeals. The Town's refund to NNETC for both years would be \$1,219.77.

Mr. Kenison made a motion to approve the recommendation from Avitar. Mr. Baker seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

*** DISCUSS TAX PAYMENT PLAN AGREEMENT

Ms. Carney reviewed the tax payment agreement from Estele Bumbarger. Ms. Favreau shared that the Selectmen had met with her previously with the agreement to pay off once her house was sold. Ms. Favreau stated that Ms. Bumbarger didn't do that and was asking for another payment arrangement. Ms. Carney shared that Ms. Bumbarger would pay \$450 for Map 42, Lot 1-76 and Map 42, Lot 1-4. Mr. Baker asked how far back the taxes went. Mr. Baker also asked if Ms. Bumbarger was in jeopardy of going into tax deed. Mr. Baker shared that as long as she is ahead of it being taken for tax deed, she can pay how she chooses and he didn't see why the Selectmen would agree to anything. Mr. Baker would like Ms. Bumbarger to continue making payments.

Mr. Baker made a motion to deny the payment agreement as the Selectmen felt there was no need and to continue to pay off. Mr. Kenison seconded. Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes. Approved – 3-0

*** DISCUSS HEALTH INSURANCE RATES

Ms. Favreau shared the rates have gone up a lot and she has a call into the Town's Health Trust representative. Ms. Favreau shared she doesn't think we can justify the increase without making some kind of change. The increase based on the current plan, would be \$12,000 per year. Ms. Favreau also shared there were nine employees on the plan and she stated the Town has a really good plan. Ms. Favreau mentioned that through Health Trust, the Town could sign up for an employer funded HSA, this account could be set up where the Town picks up a portion of the deductible.

Ms. Favreau asked the Selectmen if they would like her to find out more information on the HSA. Ms. Favreau shared it was a 10.5% increase. Mr. Baker reviewed the spreadsheet that Ms. Favreau had created, showing the breakdown of the cost. Ms. Favreau noted that employees pay 12%. Mr. Baker asked about the deductible. Ms. Favreau shared the current plan has no deductible but with the HSA, the Town could pay up to 50% of the employee's deductible. Ms. Favreau stated she doesn't know how this plan would work and she has a call into the Town's representative. Ms. Favreau reviewed the current plan and an option. Mr. Baker asked if there had ever been a meeting with the Town's employees. Ms. Favreau shared that when the plan has changed, employees get all of the information.

Ms. Favreau would arrange for the Health Trust representative to meet with the employees to review the changes from the old plan to a new plan. Mr. Baker shared he was trying to figure out the needs of the employees. Ms. Favreau would get the information on a plan and have a meeting with employees.

Mr. Baker asked if 10% was more than the Town was willing to spend. Ms. Favreau felt it was a large increase and we were already giving a 3% COLA. Discussion was held on the aggregate of all of the changes – County cost increase, health insurance, and COLA. Mr. Kenison asked if Ms. Favreau knew what type of plan employees had.

Ms. Carney asked Ms. Favreau to gather more information. Ms. Favreau shared it was a municipal, towns, and schools pool of groups of 50 and under. Mr. Kenison asked if this was who offered training sessions. Ms. Favreau shared it was Health Trust and the company was Blue Cross.

Ms. Favreau would work up some figures showing the employee cost increase and the Town's portion of the increase.

*** DISCUSS CHESHIRE COUNTY TAX BILL

Ms. Favreau shared that the increase was up \$225,000 from last year. Ms. Favreau spoke with a County Representative who gave her the reason for the increase: 3.8 million dollar bond payment for the nursing home – county expenses are based on the percentage of equalized evaluation and Fitzwilliam's went up 15% because of the revaluation.

Mr. Baker asked who the Town's representative was.

*** DISCUSS PLANNING BOARD ITEMS FROM BOARD REPRESENTATIVE CHARLEY KENISON

Mr. Kenison felt they were addressed earlier.

*** REVIEW NEWSLETTER ARTICLES – The Selectmen reviewed.

**BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 15, 2018**

***** NON-PUBLIC SESSION RSA 91-A:3 (c) – ELDERLY EXEMPTION**

At 9:01 p.m. Ms. Carney made a motion to go into non-public session under RSA 91-A:3 II(b). Mr. Kenison seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes.

At 9:03 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. Mr. Kenison seconded and the motion passed 3-0. Roll Call vote: Mr. Baker – Yes, Ms. Carney - Yes, Mr. Kenison - Yes.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Mr. Kenison asked about the CIP member. Ms. Favreau would follow-up with Carl Hagstrom.

Ms. Favreau stated capital expenditures at a minimum.

Ms. Favreau shared that she had talked with Chief DiSalvo about the garage and he was fine changing the purpose of the fund.

ON-GOING BUSINESS:

- **STEEPLE PROJECT** – Mr. Baker shared that he would be meeting the engineer that Jay Southgate uses at the Town Hall at 10 a.m. tomorrow. He would do drawings to stabilize the bell tower.

**October Meeting Schedule: 7:00 pm – Monday, October 15, 2018
7:00 pm – Monday, October 22, 2018
7:00 pm – Monday, October 29, 2018**

Mr. Kenison made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:06 p.m. Mr. Baker seconded and the motion passed. 3-0

Submitted by:

Sheryl White
Secretary to the Board of Selectmen

Nancy Carney, Chairman

Daniel Baker

Charles Kenison
Board of Selectmen