Selectboard Meeting Minutes

Meeting Location: Town Offices

Date: May 14, 2015

Meeting Opened: 7:00 pm
Meeting Adjourned: 9:45 pm

Jay Jacobs, Chair  ☑ present  ☐ absent
Charles Michal  ☑ present  ☐ absent
Andrew Maneval  ☑ present  ☐ absent

Selectmen met with Harrisville Fire Department officers Wayne Derosia, Dave O’Neil, Joe Bright who reported on declining membership roster (now 17), and low turn-out rates by membership. Wayne suggests an incentive program of sorts – saying we should consider paying a minimum of 2-hours pay for responding a call. Are we short handed due to people not reporting for calls? Several experienced members are expected to move out of town in coming years. Wayne faults no one specifically, everyone is trying he says. Wayne notes he has tried many things – literature distribution, meetings, etc – to keep membership up and the volunteer fire department healthy. In discussion, Selectmen noted that 100 calls, and average call turnout rose to 4 per call, would generate 800 payroll hours – these would not be all on top of current base estimates. Selectmen discussed pros and cons of such a trial, and approved a policy of minimum two-hour compensation per call for the balance of this fiscal year. Selectmen will reconsider this policy next fiscal year after the Fire Department can report on its success.

Selectmen met with Alan Sari who said he took issue with last week’s meeting with the Selectboard. He criticized the Board for not reporting more of their activities regarding the Highway Barn in their minutes. He brought up paving of Hancock Road, he mentioned that radar signs showing speeds were effective in his view for slowing traffic. He then wanted to talk about his past comments and observations to the Selectboard that the Town needs a new library building. He suggested he is considering offering a $100,000 matching grant for such a project if $100,000 can be raised from other citizens, which the Selectmen noted was a very generous stance. Alan has yet to discuss or introduce the ideas to the Library Trustees. He has send them a packet of information he has collected, along with a summary of his ideas.

Documents signed and reviewed:

Selectmen signed cash disbursements for the week ending May 16th 2015. Charles took the submitted Draft Auditor’s Report on Financial Statements for his review and will report back to the Board.

Department Items:

Assessor and Tax Collector— Selectmen signed the Tax Warrant for the first half of 2015 (taxes due June 30th, 2015). Andrew suggested implementing a regular review of property taxes that were in arrears (review of all unpaid receivables from past tax warrants). Selectmen will request Laurie Blanchard attend an upcoming Selectboard meeting to decide on whether to file tax deeds in one or two instances.

Safety Committee – Submitted Meeting Minutes for May 7, 2015 – there are repairs that need to be completed to satisfy safety requirements. These will be addressed at a future meeting. Jay noted that we need to find again a number of vendors/tradesmen who can be called to handle minor projects.

Recycling Center- Selectmen signed the 2014 Annual Facility Report Discrepancies to be submitted to NH DES.

Conservation Committee – Email correspondence between Ryan Owens, Winston Sims, and John Cucchi. Also follow up communications to the Planning Board regarding concerns with John Cucchi’s property provided by Winston.

Highway Department— Wes noted that it is impossible for Eversource to maintain streetlights as they are too old. Selectboard asked Wes to request an Eversource representative meet with the Selectboard to look for solutions. Selectmen then discussed the Design Development review set of drawings for the new Highway Garage, and prepared notes to be sent to the architect. Selectmen selected Center Hill Barns, Ingram
Construction, Wesfield Construction and Hutter Construction as contractors to receive invitations to bid once final engineering drawings are prepared. The firms invited to bid have either successfully completed work for the Town in the past or are recommended by both the architect and at least one member of the board of Selectmen.

Legal: Letter received from Town Attorney Silas Little confirming he submitted to the Court a Motion to Extend Time regarding John Cucchi v. Town of Harrisville Zoning Board. No response yet received from the Court.

Other Business:

The Fire Department request for the preparation of a small format town road map is deferred as it has a low priority against other items on the Selectmen’s agenda.

South Road Bridge: The Easement for South Road Bridge was signed by Patrick and Judith Gagne. Once a similar easement has been obtained from Deborah McWethy the Board will have both filed with the Registry of Deeds and copied to Dubois and King.

The 2015 Town Meeting Minutes need to be in PDF form so that they can be placed on the web site.

Upcoming Meetings:

May 19th – Blood Borne Pathogens at the Harrisville Fire Department; 7pm
May 24th – Memorial; Service at 11am
May 25th – Town Office closed
June 11th – Linda Willette from HHI will be meeting with the Selectmen at 7:00pm regarding 119 Main Street.
July 3rd – Fireworks!!!
July 3rd, 4th, & 5th – Old Home Day Weekend
July 5th – Town Office Closed