

**TOWN OF EPSOM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
940 SUNCOOK VALLEY HIGHWAY
EPSOM TOWN OFFICES
APRIL 8, 2019
6:00 PM**

**Hugh Curley
Virginia Drew
Cheryl Gilpatrick**

Approved _____

Staff Present: Nancy Wheeler; Dawn Calley-Murdough

Other Attendees: Deb Sargent; Joni Kitson; Scott Elliott; Len Gilman; David Deane; Meadow Wysocki

Hugh called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Pledge of Allegiance

Hugh asked Scott Elliott to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Review and Accept or Amend the Agenda

Virginia motioned to approve the agenda as presented, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Scheduled Appointments

7:00 PM Scott Elliott – Road Postings

Hugh noted since Scott was early, they would hold his discussion.

Scott noted that the roads are posted. He has contacted all the abutting road agents regarding their roads being posted. He would like to pull the posting as of Thursday. The Board agreed with Scott's decision.

Scott noted that Jill Lavin from BCEP contacted him asking if they could have the remaining rock not being used on the roads. Cheryl asked if that was normally done. It was discussed that Scott could utilize the product on the dirt roads. It was determined to not give the product to the BCEP at this time.

Scott asked about the policy for purchasing the used truck. Nancy noted that they would need a purchase policy and discussed what might be included.

Cheryl noted that the truck Scott is interested in includes all the equipment. Hugh suggested that the truck be inspected by others also. Scott noted he had contacted other dealerships and this was the only one that responded with the truck he was interested in.

Hugh asked if the truck would have to go back to Vermont for service. Scott thought it probably would have to return to Vermont. It was noted that the warranty would only be for one year.

Hugh asked what Scott had put out for specs for the truck. Scott noted that he put out for a 6-wheel truck. Virginia noted that when people obtain them, they keep them.

Hugh was concerned with the truck being from Vermont. Len discussed that after the 12-month warranty there are dealerships in New Hampshire that could service the truck.

Hugh asked Scott to give the Board the specs sent out to the dealers with the list of dealers they were sent to. Hugh asked if there was a way to transfer the warranty to a dealer in New Hampshire. Scott will check on this.

Cheryl asked to set criteria for the truck purchase. This included if taxes had to be paid in Vermont, they would be included in the amount approved in the Warrant Article and a New Hampshire mechanic complete a safety review of the truck before taking ownership.

Nancy asked if the Town committed to the truck now and find issues when it is available in August can the Town reject it. Hugh noted that Scott could say that they are interested, but are concerned. It was discussed that the Board could have a special meeting to discuss if needed.

Cheryl noted there was a purchase order for magnesium that was exempt from the policy limit. Cheryl also noted there was product at the Highway Department that was not covered and has gotten wet and unable to be used. She noted that Scott would have to pay to remove the product.

Finance Report

Nancy will be meeting with Val Long on Wednesday to discuss application for a Moose Plate Grant. Nancy noted there were some new vendors being used by Departments, she noted that usually Department Heads should go to their liaisons to before using a new vendor.

Nancy asked if a Department Head meeting was scheduled and who would be present. Hugh reviewed the list. The meeting is scheduled for April 15.

Nancy noted that the Library Trustees have given out pay raises. She noted that she needs an approved payroll sheet for the auditors. Hugh noted that these were the smallest raises requested in the budget.

Virginia motioned to approve the 2019 pay rates that include the Library changes, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Nancy had done a spreadsheet for the default budget. Hugh had a concern as there was some additional funds for the Fire Department part-time personnel. Hugh was concerned that the Police Department was conducting a hiring process for an employee. Hugh was concerned if the Department had funds to send a second person to the Academy. Virginia discussed this officer was a goal of the town. Hugh reviewed the pay lines being concerned if there were enough funds to cover 6 officers.

Nancy thought she had budgeted for 6 officers for a full year and will check the numbers. Virginia noted that there was 80% of the funds remaining. Virginia noted that it is difficult for any Department to obtain officers and feels this is a very important thing. Hugh did not know if the Chief would be having one or two personnel in the April class.

Signature Items

Accounts Payable and/or Payroll Manifests – Signed

Appointment Deputy Fire Warden

Dawn noted there were appointment papers for the Board to execute.

Virginia motioned to approve Jeffrey Lopresti and Joel French as Deputy Fire Wardens; Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

OMHRC Donation

Hugh noted there were two donations for the Old Meetinghouse Trust Fund.

Virginia motioned to accept two donations totaling \$500.00 for the Old Meetinghouse Trust Fund, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Assessing Signature/Approval

Abatement U04-39-1

Cheryl discussed the assessment for the property that was completed by using the income approach.

Cheryl motioned to approve the abatement and refund for U 04-39-1, Virginia seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Abatement U09-2-80

Virginia motioned to approve an abatement credit for U 09-2-80, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

LUCT (2)

Virginia motioned to approve the LUCT for Tax Map R15-4-37 and Tax Map R15-4-8, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Discussion:

Default Budget

Appointments for Conservation Commission, Emergency Management & ZBA

Hugh noted that for the Conservation Commission they would put an item on the Website.

Current members also have ideas of people to recruit.

Deputy for Welfare

Virginia motioned to appoint Celeste Decker as Deputy Welfare Director for one year, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Emergency Management

Virginia motioned to appoint Richard Bilodeau as Emergency Management Director for one year, Cheryl seconded the motion.

Virginia motioned to appoint Christopher Bowes as a member of the Emergency Management team for one year, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Virginia motioned to appoint Allison Parodi-Bieling, Sarah Barnum and Calvin Preston to three-year terms on the Conservation Committee, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Virginia motioned to appoint Glen Horner to the ZBA for a three-year term, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed. Virginia noted that Glen does an exemplary job on the ZBA.

Property Tax Payment Plan

Dawn indicated that this was tabled at this time.

Deed Waivers & Payment Plans

Hugh discussed that he would like to have a payment plan to resolve the issues in the shortest time possible.

Dawn noted that the tax collector has determined that June 17th is the date she would like to deed properties.

CNHRPC – Traffic Count Survey

Hugh had some locations for potential traffic counts.

Approval of Minutes

Public 3/25/2019

Virginia motioned to approve the minutes as amended, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Non-Public 3/25/2019

The default budget was discussed with its total being \$3,630,498 that includes Warrant Articles that passed. The Default Budget was signed by the Board.

Nancy noted the amount on the payroll line for full time police officers includes \$19/hour for the year for two new officers. There is approximately \$35,000.00 that will be remaining that will be available to offset overtime at the end of the year.

Virginia motioned to go into non-public per RSA 91-A: 3 II 1, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed with Hugh voting yes, Virginia voting yes, Cheryl voting yes.

The Board went into non-public session at 8:05 PM, returning at 8:13 PM.

Virginia motioned to return from non-public session, Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Virginia motioned to seal the minutes of the non-public session; Cheryl seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Selectmen Reports

Virginia noted she heard from the Police Chief. There is a DARE graduation at the school on April 17th. The Department will be live with Merrimack County Dispatch at the end of May. The Police Department will hold a Drug Take Back Day on April 27th. He is looking at what he will be doing for a new vehicle based on the default budget. She noted that Jeep Country participated in a Make a Wish program for a child. She was very pleased with the response by the public also.

The Police Department is still receiving complaints regarding partying on the railroad bed. She discussed ATV's using the railroad bed with the Snowmobile club not being pleased.

Cheryl noted the Highway Department is getting a dumpster from Ricky Belanger to dispose of items. Cheryl attended a meeting with Department of Corrections for using the workers. Scott is already having them work. She noted they could also work at the Meetinghouse. Scott is working with Nancy regarding tools and equipment missing from the Highway Department. She has received calls from residents as to how quickly road issues are being repaired. She discussed there is a \$500.00 general fund that Scott could use to purchase water for the workers.

Hugh discussed the BECP meeting last week. They have approval to remove the brush pile that was never composted that includes cat litter and other materials besides brush. They are working with DOT on the facility exit. Hugh would like Scott contact Lisa Stevens as they have crushed glass that can be used for municipal projects only.

The CDFA grant for Kingstowne was noted. It will be one application for four parks.

5 Minutes for Public Discussion

Len asked where the money for the MRI report on the Police Department came from, Hugh did not remember.

David Deane commented that the overtime for the Police Department would never go away. He noted you want to hire the best officers you are able. In Nashua they would not let a new officer go out alone on the street for 12 months. He noted they would spend \$100,000.00 before an officer would be out on the street.

He noted that there are issues on Jug City Road with Scott having repaired what he could. He noted Scott was responsive. Regarding the budget he thanked the Board for approving raises for the library staff. Virginia noted that the Trustees determined the raises and would cut other items.

Mr. Deane noted the Police and Fire are important assets to the community.

Mr. Deane noted Webster Park should have plantings. Hugh noted that a plan is being developed for tree plantings.

Cheryl and Virginia attended a Right to Know Seminar; Virginia noted they asked a lot of questions with the Seminar being very informative.

Cheryl clarified her involvement with the Meetinghouse that she could work directly with some members as long as Virginia was not involved with what she was doing.

Joni noted that Scott had a short window to look at the truck and appreciated the questions the Board asked.

Mr. Deane noted there would be wear and tear on the truck until they got it in August.

Rob noted he was writing up comments regarding a law suit. Hugh noted he could send it to Dawn and she would circulate to the Board.

Hugh noted that two or three years ago there was a chance to purchase a used truck. The Road Agent had each Selectman look at the truck.

Virginia noted they are having Department Head meeting with everyone coming in at 6:00 PM next Monday. Nancy suggested that Dawn send a notice to each Department Head.

Dawn noted the items in the FYI file.

Other Business (as agenda is subject to change)

Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A: 3 II (a, b, c, d, e, f, g, h, i) as needed

Correspondence – FYI:

ZBA Application Info

Road Posted Question

PB Resignation

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Info

Cheryl motioned to adjourn, Virginia seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Hugh adjourned the meeting at 8:28 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Betsy Bosiak,
Recording Secretary

Please note that all Board of Selectmen meetings /hearings/sessions are held at the Selectmen's Office, 940 Suncook Valley Highway unless otherwise noted.