

## Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting

### September 10, 2019

Members Present: Lynn Sweet, Chairman, Bryant Scott and Scott Young  
In Attendance: Barry Schraufnagel, Joe Haas, Building Inspector David Copeland

Appointments Scheduled: 6:00 Barry Schraufnagel  
6:15 Joe Haas

The General Operations portion of the Selectmen's Meeting was called to order at 5:28PM.

Ms. Sweet opened the September 10, 2019 business portion of the Selectmen's Meeting at 5:52PM, introducing the members of the Select Board, the Town Administrator, and recorder.

### **Appointments**

6:00 – Barry Schraufnagel was in attendance continue his discussion with Board members about the drainage problem on his property on Lake Shore Drive. Road Agent Greg Messenger had reported that he did not see changes that would create such a significant drainage problem. Neither Mr. Schraufnagel nor the Selectmen had any immediate solutions to moving the water from his property. The Board made several suggestions. He should work in cooperation with his neighbors to seek a remedy and perhaps seek the advice of a soil scientist who might perform a hydraulic study. Mr Schraufnagel could pursue the matter in civil court if he believes it to be the fault of the developer. They also suggested that with the unusually wet fall and spring last year, perhaps this year will be better. Mr. Schraufnagel understands it is too late for any action this year and that he has quite a bit of work to do to prepare for this winter.

6:15 - The Selectmen introduced themselves to Mr. Joe Haas who was in attendance to discuss with the Board what he believes to be illegal taxation. Mr. Hass has spoken at numerous meetings and with boards of several towns, hoping to gain support for his campaign of unlawful taxation by towns for services not rendered. He addressed local taxation versus a statewide tax and his frustration that his ideas are not gaining traction. Mr. Hass cited several RSAs to support his assertions and appealed to the Board for their support, outlining some of the steps that might be taken. The Selectmen thought it best if they investigate this matter for themselves if they believe it will be feasible and/or beneficial for the Town of Strafford. The Selectmen strongly reproved Mr. Hass for purposefully making personal information public in some of his communiques as a form of retaliation.

### **Continuing Business**

Reports from a recently conducted Administrative Inspection were briefly reviewed. At an upcoming meeting they will review the reports in more depth and then will seek legal counsel in determining how to proceed.

## **New Business**

It was brought to the attention of the Selectmen's Office that a home owner had removed a stone wall that was a boundary line on an official subdivision plan. Per RSA 472:6 it is not permissible to remove a stone wall without mutual agreement with abutters; the Town is an abutter and has not been notified. Permission was given to remove a portion of the wall for the driveway. The Building Inspector will contact the property owner to discuss the matter with him and learn of his intentions.

The Selectmen discussed a situation involving a property owner who has not complied with local zoning requirements and Planning Board requests, and who continues in the operation of an event venue. Issues of public safety have not been fully addressed, nor proper permitting sought. With advice from legal counsel, the Selectmen will issue a Cease and Desist Order for the upcoming weekend event.

The Selectmen reviewed and approved payment of bills and payroll. Board members read, amended, and approved minutes from the August 27, 2019 Selectmen's Meeting. A pole license was signed, welding work at the Recycling Center approved and Notice of Pay Rate.

Members of the Bicentennial Committee will attend the next Selectmen's Meeting to discuss plans and funding for the 2020 Bicentennial celebration. The Selectmen will hold a work session on Tuesday, October 1<sup>st</sup> at 5:30. They will meet for a regularly scheduled meeting on the 8<sup>th</sup> of October.

There being no further business to conduct, it was moved and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 7:34PM.