Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting March 5, 2024

Members Present: Lynn Sweet, Chairman; Chris Garcia; Brian Monahan

In Attendance: Winthrop Hayes

The meeting was called to order at 5:30PM. The Selectmen approved payroll and the payment of bills. The minutes of the February 20th Selectmen's Meeting were read and approved. An estimate for the mowing was considered and approved. The flyer for "Hazardous Waste Day", May 4th 2024, was reviewed and is posted on the Town website. The Selectmen considered and approved a request of posting an event flyer at the Town Hall. Other miscellaneous correspondence was read and discussed.

The Selectmen turned their attention to the upcoming Town Elections and the Town Meeting. The meeting's agenda was settled; the PowerPoint presentation was reviewed with slight modifications made. Procedural matters for the Town Meeting were determined as well.

The Board addressed one of the Town's current ordinances which was discussed at the Selectmen's Meeting on February 20, 2024. Some concerns were raised in the wording of the amendment of the ordinance and it was agreed to revisit this topic at the Work Session scheduled for March 12th at 2PM.

The Board was given an update on the legal matters with two separate properties. A letter to the State legislature was read, approved, and signed voicing the Board's disapproval of HB1640 which eliminates governmental immunity.

Though the Town website (www.strafford.nh.gov) continues to be the best source for information, the Selectmen acknowledged the need for improving communication from the Planning and Zoning Boards to the community. The Board considered and approved their usage of Facebook for informational purposes only, similar to the Town Hall's postings.

The Board recognized that many sub committees have been formed now that the Master Plan has been completed. With this, the Board may see more requests, ideas, and presentations. These committees should be reminded that they are fact finding entities only and cannot make determinations as committees are incapable of speaking for the Board of Selectmen. The Selectmen furthered their discussion concerning an email from a committee member requesting the use of the conference room at the Town Hall to hold meetings. The Board was in agreement that the room can only be used if the Planning and Zoning Boards, or the Board of Selectmen are not utilizing the room and that the meeting concludes by 7PM to coincide with the Town Clerk's business hours.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Chris Garcia and seconded by Lynn Sweet to adjourn. A vote was taken:

Lynn Sweet – Aye Chris Garcia – Aye Brian Monahan – Aye

The meeting adjourned at 6:45PM.