

Minutes of the Selectmen's Meeting August 6, 2024

Members Present: Lynn Sweet, Chair; Chris Garcia, Brian Monahan
In Attendance: James Vantassell

The Selectmen's meeting was called to order at 5:30PM. The Selectmen approved payroll and the payment of bills. The minutes of the July 23, 2024 were reviewed and approved. Two Intents to Cut were considered and approved. A resignation letter was reviewed. Miscellaneous correspondence was also reviewed.

James Vantassell, Parker Mountain Road, met with the Board to voice concerns over excessive water in his yard since the State paved. He has had multiple conversations with the State and is frustrated with their lack of response to his concerns. Because this is a State matter, the Board has been in contact with the State. The State has a plan as to what they will do. Mr. Vantassell stated he is not in agreement with the State and that plan. After a lengthy discussion, Chairman Sweet suggested she set up a site visit with the State and Mr. Vantassell where she too would be in attendance to discuss the situation further. Mr. Vantassell also requested any information the Town has on the culverts the State installed years ago, specifically the easement for the culverts. After discussion, it was agreed that the culvert by the Community Garden should be checked to determine this is not compounding the issue. Mr. Vantassell thanked the Board for their time and Chairman Sweet will be in contact to set up the appointments.

The Board received correspondence from a resident requesting to name a specific area of Town "Dynamite Corner Village" similar to Bow Lake Village. After the review of information provided to the Board from the Historical Society, it was the consensus of the Board that the Historical Society reach out to the resident directly.

At this time a motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Brian Monahan to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Roll call was taken as follows:

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

The Board entered non-public session at 6:27PM.

A motion was made by Chris Garcia to leave non-public session and seconded by Brian Monahan to return to public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

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

Public session reconvened at 6:40PM.

No votes were taken or decisions were made during the non-public session.

A motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Chris Garcia to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

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

The Selectmen reviewed and approved quotes for the floors at the Town Hall to be stripped and waxed and the carpets to be cleaned. Three current use tax penalties were reviewed and approved.

At this time a motion was made by Lynn Sweet and seconded by Brian Monahan to enter into a non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Roll call was taken as follows:

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

The Board entered non-public session at 6:41PM.

A motion was made by Lynn Sweet to leave non-public session and seconded by Brian Monahan to return to public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

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

Public session reconvened at 6:44PM.

No votes were taken or decisions were made during the non-public session.

A motion was made by Brian Monahan and seconded by Lynn Sweet to seal the minutes of the non-public session. Roll call was taken as follows:

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

The Selectmen read a letter from a resident regarding the veteran tax exemption amount. The consensus of the Board was that changing the amount of the exemption would require a petition article to be submitted and approval by a vote of the Town. A petition article is submitted by a registered voter including the signatures of 25 registered voters or more from Strafford in order for the petition article to be included on the warrant for consideration and a vote at Town Meeting.

The Board discussed an amendment to the employee contract. The administrator will write the amendment for the Board's approval at the next meeting.

Ongoing legal matters were updated and discussed concerning several properties. Having received confirmation in the change of ownership of a property on Tasker Hill Road, notification to remove the ruins was sent. The Board signed a settlement agreement concerning a property.

The Board reviewed initial correspondence from the Town's lawyer and are waiting for an additional response concerning a right of way on a property.

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made, seconded, and voted on to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 7:25PM.