



Selectmen Meeting 12/27/2016

Approved Minutes

Present: Selectmen Bernie O'Grady, and Acting Chair Charles Moser; Kathy Wile, Brenda Wiley; members of the public

Called to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:31 PM by Charles Moser.

Approvals:

- Noted the payroll and check manifests had been signed.
- Minutes of the Dec 13, 2016 Selectmen Meeting could not be approved, as Charlie had not been at the meeting and Louise was not in attendance this evening.
- An administrative abatement form was presented; researched and approved by the assessor for parcels E-36 and E-38, which had mistakenly been listed as owned by Society for Protection of NH Forests instead of the Town of Mason. The request was signed by selectmen.
- 2 tax credit applications were reviewed – one for a standard veteran's credit (\$500), the other for a disabled veteran credit (\$2000). Both applications were signed by both selectmen.

New Business:

- Meeting with Church Trustees regarding taxation on their lot was postponed until the Jan 10, 2017 meeting when Louise could be in attendance. Charlie will recuse himself as a member of the church and their auditor.
- Devine Flooring had submitted an estimate for the main room of the Mann House. Kathy will check on cost of pad, which was not included in the quote.
- Bob Bergeron, on behalf of the Highway Department Building Committee, brought a proposal for a new building which would incorporate the current office space. He asked the selectmen consider asking for this at Town Meeting 2017. It was agreed it would need a bond article, and over \$100,000 would be a special warrant article. Window for holding a public hearing on this article would be Jan13-Feb 27. It was agreed to target the Jan 24th selectmen meeting to include the public hearing.
- Encumbrance amount for Highway Dept budget was discussed. Brenda reported that \$23,342 had been encumbered from 2015, and used first for work completed in 2016. There is currently \$9160.74 to be carried over to FY 2017. After discussion, Charlie made a motion to encumber the amount \$9160.74 for paved roads restoration to 2017. Bernie seconded, both voted to encumber that amount.
- Forestry Fund was the next item discussed – specifically, the warrant article voted on in 2011 to move \$9500 to the general fund, but not used. Brenda said that, according to our DRA advisor, in order to move it back to the Forestry Fund, we need to show a clear audit trail. We could do it as a warrant article, but that is not necessary. Discussion followed, including as to whether or not the Forestry Committee has authority to spend the money in the fund. Charlie will follow up by contacting town counsel.

- Brenda reported that rooms and meals tax amount coming in would be \$71,000, about \$10,000 more than expected.

Old Business:

- Air quality testing at the Mann House – Peniel sent a recommendation and estimate, involving fairly extensive work. They also recommended having an air quality testing service in – this is the route that was decided on, Kathy to follow up.
- Rail Trail Policy – this was approved by the Conservation Commission, questions remaining are how to change policy/ordinance to allow personal mobility devices, and if there needs to be different language for the quarry vs rail trail. Charlie will follow up with town counsel.
- Internet at Mann House – Latest email indicates Microtime is waiting to be told the Highway department is laying the conduit. Kathy and Dave will coordinate with them.
- Town report – second bid in , decision made to continue with current printer.

Informational Items:

- Conservation Commission submitted copies of 5 Monitoring Reports (properties with easements) – it was noted that it was a huge effort on their part to get those done. Barbara Devore, on behalf of the CC, noted there were no concerning violations on any of the properties. Dave Morrison noted that he was working with the Grovesteens regarding drainage along Jackson Rd through the Ted Stewart Easement.
- Town of Pittsburgh, NH sent information regarding municipal control of local roads in light of activities relating to the Northern Pass project. Selectmen will not actively work on that; Barbara Devore asked for a copy for CC to look at.

Public Forum:

- Bob Bergeron asked if there had been an intent to cut filed for Old County Rd. There has been, he said it is not posted anywhere he can see. Charlie will follow up with a drive by there to look.
- Deb Morrison mentioned that only slightly over \$150,000 of taxes due remained outstanding.
- Highway Department was looking for permission to plow Scripps Lane only beyond the last driveway, and avoid possibly getting stuck further down. Bernie and Charlie agreed the entire Class 5 section needed to be plowed. Dave also presented an estimate for complete repairs to the grader. Discussion of estimate, total repair budget projection for HD for 2017, and life expectancy of the grader followed, ending with a decision to begin with essential repairs, and see if some of the minor things could be done locally or by department members.
- It was determined that the Highway Dept capital reserve fund has \$3100 in it, following discussion about adding to that for future equipment purchases.

Adjourned:

Charlie made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Bernie. Both voted to adjourn the meeting at 8:57 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Wile