

SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 1, 2017

Present: Doug Niles, James Cross, Jonathan O'Keefe, Marty Frizzell, Kean Galunas, Bruce Rolfe, Bill Hawkins, Peder Pederson, Stacey Roese, Mark Castonguay, Margaret Machinist, Brandy Goulet, Reno Gervais, Robert Dexter, Jefferson Tollman, Michael Strait, Joel Cope, Lucille Stevens, Ralph Wilkins, Ray Fontaine, and Teresa DeBonville.

Chairperson, Doug Niles called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Update Agenda: Doug informed the board that the only update to the agenda was David Martin's property concerning water and sand run off.

Public Comment: The water/sewer board, along with the water department employees, were present to discuss the proposal from Utility Partners. Doug Niles went on record as being in favor of the signing with Utility Partners with the stipulation that the current employees be brought on board. Doug wanted it noted that this idea of looking into a new contractor had nothing to do with the work that the employees do, as he feels that they do a wonderful job. This was just to add more man power, as Utility Partners is a bigger company that has the ability to disperse workers where needed, and the fact that it will save the town a few thousand dollars. Also, with Utility Partners, the current employees would be offered a better benefits package. As with any new company they are a few downfalls. The biggest being that the current town employees, who work for Piscataqua, are not willing to work for Utility Partners. Marty Frizzell stated that he would not continue on as an employee if the town decided to contract with Utility Partners. When asked, Kean Galunas and Bruce Rolfe also stated that they were very happy working with Piscataqua and would not continue on as employees if the town decided to switch. Lucille Stevens and Ralph Wilkins stated that they felt that the Water and Sewer board were kind of left out of the discussion on this matter and asked that the board consider re-opening the idea of getting bids from other contractors before a decision is made. The board agreed that they were willing to do this and will pursue the idea of putting this out to bid and discussing this together with the Water and Sewer board before any decision is finalized.

Reno Gervais, on behalf of the ATV club was present to discuss the ordinance with the board. In some confusion with the process of trying to get Island Pond as an ATV destination it seems that no one was quite sure where things were left and wanted clarification on everyone's behalf. Reno stated that they were asking to open all roads but at this time in speaking with Police Chief Noyes that he was not in favor of this. Mr. Gervais then asked the board if they were willing to open all of Alder Street and all of Cross Street at this time on a trial basis to see how everyone manages this and then proceed from there. A motion was made by Jonathan O'Keefe to open all of Alder Street and all of Cross Street to ATV traffic and to rewrite the town ordinance to state this. Doug Niles seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried. In the meantime, the board has decided to get together and discuss wording on a non-binding survey to send out the residents to see their opinions on opening all roads or just some roads, etc. so they are able to collect how everyone feels about the issue. The select board would then be willing to re-open the discussion on this topic following the outcome of the survey to discuss opening more roads at a later time.

Margaret Machinist and Brandy Goulet were present to inform the board that as co-chairs of the recreation committee, that they were planning a Maple festival for April 1, 2017 and asked the board about insurance coverage for the event. The board agreed that they would help with the insurance cost if need be. Joel will help the ladies get established with this.

Building and Maintenance: Doug told the other board members that he spoke with Jason Lefebvre about the tractor's condition. Jason told Doug that it is in pretty rough shape and that the town would probably be able to get more money if they decided to sell it outright instead of trading it in. The board is in agreement to try to sell the tractor outright.

Ray told the board about the savings in the LED fixtures that he has replaced so far and discussed replacing the fluorescent lights in the town hall with them. Ray will look into this more.

Joel told the board that he has received three quotes for the gym lights, but is unclear if everyone's bid is including the same work. Joel will write up a spec on exactly what we are looking for and send it out so that everyone is on the same page.

Roads: Joel gave the board paperwork that he received about a Grant thru the Silvio Conte Reserve to work on the Henshaw Road. The board will review this more and get clearer information on what the town would be responsible for before they agree to sign the grant.

Joel gave the board a copy of a letter sent by Tom Hanlon on the condition of Pleasant Street and the Head of The Pond Road. Mark has taken care of this complaint.

Joel told the board about a complaint received by Craig Goulet on the potholes. The road crew has taken care of this as well.

The board discussed the hydro seeder MOU contract. At this time because enough information has not been collected, the board decided to not jump on board with this. Once the questions have been answered then they may be willing to commit.

Mark told the board that the grader is now fixed.

Doug told Mark about a complaint that he received from David Martin about the water and sand run off from Middle Street pooling in his yard by his garage, and was wondering if there was anything that the town could do to fix this problem. Mark will go up and see if he can come up with a solution for this problem.

Overweight permits: A motion was made by Jonathan O'keefe to allow the chairperson the sign the overweight permits for United Natural Foods, Gould's Well drilling, and Gil's Construction. James Cross seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Pay orders: The board signed the pay orders for the general account and the road account.

Approve previous minutes: The board reviewed the minutes of the February 15, 2017 meeting. A motion to accept the minutes as printed was made by James Cross. Jonathan O'Keefe seconds the motion, all in favor, so carried.

Other business: Joel informed the board that bid requests for the wetlands construction were out.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.