

TOWN OF SANBORNTON
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Old Town Hall
19 Meeting House Hill Rd
Sanbornton, NH
2.28.24 - 5pm

The Board of Selectmen convened in regular session. In attendance were: Selectman Bob Lambert, Selectman Brandon Deacon, Selectman Glenn Frederick and Town Administrator Trish Stafford.

1. Public Comment – None

2. New Business

a. Transfer Station updates – Transfer Station Manager Shauna Goutier presented proposed price list updates for items such as televisions, gaming consoles, hoverboards, etc. Selectman Frederick suggested adding a revised date on the price list before posting to the website. Selectman Deacon made a **motion** to approve the changes to accepted items and price list for the Transfer Station as presented on February 28th, 2024 effective immediately. Selectman Lambert **seconded** the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Shauna explained that poison ivy control is needed around Old Town Hall; the landscaping crew is allergic. TruGreen sprayed for it last year and provided an updated quote for 2024 in the amount of \$2,500 for four applications. Selectman Deacon asked if other quotes were received and Shauna stated that she contacted another company that did not respond and not many companies handle commercial accounts. Selectman Deacon asked her to contact TruGreen and ask for more information on what the chemical is that will be sprayed and also try to find other quotes; Selectman Frederick asked to get timeframes for the spraying as well.

Shauna requested that no solicitation be allowed at the Transfer Station moving forward; recently a resident was handing out information on SB2 without permission and rather than choosing which organizations can be on the property she would rather eliminate it altogether. Selectmen were in agreement that residents can still hand out information, campaign, etc. outside the Transfer Station gates. Selectman Deacon made a **motion** to implement a policy effective immediately that prohibits solicitation of any kind on Town property. Selectman Frederick **seconded** the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Highway Dept updates – Highway Dept Director Johnny Van Tassel provided a contract extension from GMI; he is in favor of approving this and feels that this would save money versus going out to bid for jobs. Selectman Deacon made a **motion** to approve the contract extension for GMI for the Highway Dept for three years at the rate of the current contract and allowing the Highway Dept Director to sign the contract on behalf of the Town. Selectman Lambert **seconded** the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Johnny stated that GMI provided a proposal for Dr. True Rd which totals \$900,000; this could be broken into phases which would take years and he feels it is more than is needed for that road which is not a main artery, though he knows there is more traffic in the summer months. GMI also provided a quote to do what has been done on other gravel roads, adding fabric and twelve inches of gravel, for around \$190,000 and he feels this would help with the sit runoff into the lake. For another \$20,000 some of the ditches could be raised, new driveway culverts could be installed where needed, and places where silt can settle before getting cleaned out. Asphalt could be added later on.

Ron Hilbrunner stated that not all the basins have been cleaned out because not all have been marked; Johnny responded that sometimes they are not marked. Ron stated that there are fifty homes on the road and half are full-time residents.

Selectman Deacon suggested asking the engineer used by Winnisquam Watershed Network what the expected silt runoff reduction will be with this plan; if it's only a 5% reduction then spending \$200,000 may not be worth it. Selectman Lambert asked how long the project would take and Johnny responded that Dr. True Rd would take a few days, with improvements to ditches and culverts taking longer.

Johnny stated that the total CRF for Roads and Bridges will be \$2,420,509 if related articles pass at Town Meeting; he would like to do the same box-out process on other roads such as Shute Hill and Calef Hill and also replace the bridge on Prescott Rd which he estimates costing around \$1m. He would like to work on a bulk mailing explaining to people that cleaning out their driveway culverts is their responsibility.

c. Library pay increases – Library Trustee Ginny Blackmere stated that the library submitted its budget in October but since then they have looked at a comparison of staff salaries compared to other towns. They are proposing to increase the salary of the Director and Asst Director to those that are comparable of the Deputy Town Clerk and Town Clerk and have moved other items around to accommodate the changes, so no added funds are being requested. Library Director Rebekka Mateyk stated that she has looked at comparable libraries in the state including New London which has a population of 4,600 and hired a director several years ago at \$83,000. The Library Trustees have approved increasing the Asst Director salary from labor grade 11, step 9 at \$43,443 to grade 12, step 8 at \$45,281.60; the Director position will increase from labor grade 15, step 7 at \$61,880 to grade 18, step 1 at \$65,374.

Selectman Deacon stated that he does not think library pay is in the purview of the BOS, as the Library Trustees have authority. Selectman Frederick asked what the line-item reductions are to compensate for the higher pay and Ginny responded that they are reducing the proposed hours of the Library Assistant position by four hours and are not going to hire a bookkeeper which has been hard to find anyway.

d. Article 8 – Selectman Deacon made a **motion** to not recommend the passing of Article 8, implementation of SB2, RSA 40:13, to allow official ballot voting for all voting on the second Tuesday of March. Selectman Lambert **seconded** the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Town Park RFP draft – Members discussed the RFP language for obtaining a surveyor for the Town Park. Trish stated that she can get it in the newspaper this Friday and also on some recreation-related listservs.

b. School District Meeting mailing – Nina Gardner provided members with a draft letter that she discussed at the last meeting related to the proposed formula change that will be voted on at the district meeting on March 23rd. She requested that this is sent out as soon as possible to residents and also asked that the Selectmen consider sending a newsletter periodically for residents with important information.

4. Town Administrator's report – Trish provided a lease renewal contract for the postage machine. Selectman Deacon made a **motion** to approve the Town Administrator entering into contract on the Town's behalf with Quadient for a new postage machine. Selectman Lambert **seconded** the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Trish stated that property owners are still calling regarding abatement requests and she would like to give them until March 25th to submit these. She proposed choosing a day to meet with property owners about their requests and Selectmen agreed.

The Town Report has been sent to the printer and will be posted to the website. Trish will work with Selectmen on preparations for Town Meeting such as who will make motions for which articles. Rowell's is coming tomorrow to pump the septic at the Old Town Hall.

5. Selectboard reports – Selectman Frederick stated that he has spoken with Fire Chief Paul Dexter regarding Town Meeting; he will be in attendance to speak to the article regarding a CRF for air packs. He has spoken with an attorney about tax dispute and the attorney requested that tax cards for years 2018 and 2019 are pulled regarding this case. The attorney is willing to meet with the Selectmen regarding this.

Selectman Deacon explained that representatives from the USDA and DES spoke with the Planning Board regarding changes to the Wetlands Conservation District ordinance. The Planning Board has been discussing either matching the State’s requirements for wetlands setbacks and buffers or requiring different setbacks depending on soil type. The public hearing regarding SB2 was held on February 20th and about forty people were in attendance. Selectman Frederick stated that he called into that meeting but could not hear anything; Selectman Deacon asked that the person who presented last year about audio solutions for the Old Town Hall provide information again.

Selectman Lambert stated that the Highway Dept has posted the roads. He thanked Shauna for updating the price list for the Transfer Station.

6. Signatures – A check in the amount of \$28,552.32 to HealthTrust was signed.

7. Minutes – Selectman Deacon made a **motion** to approve the minutes of February 14th. Selectman Frederick **seconded** the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm. Town Meeting will be held Wednesday, March 13th at 7pm at Sanbornton Central School and the next regular BOS meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 27th at 5pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Audry Barriault, Secretary

Selectboard Signature: _____ Date: _____