

TOWN OF SANBORNTON
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Sanbornton Town Office
573 Sanborn Road
Sanbornton, NH
3.4.2022 – 5pm

The Board of Selectmen convened in regular session. In attendance were: Chairman John Olmstead, Selectman Bob Lambert, and Town Administrator Trish Stafford. Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Public Comment

a. Solid Waste Committee – Andy Sanborn stated that there is an item on tonight's agenda regarding supply chain issues at the Transfer Station but the SWC was not made aware of this. He explained that the group was designated by the legislative body as an advisory committee to the Selectboard but it has not been involved enough in decisions regarding the Transfer Station including the budget review process which is a problem; the Transfer Station budget has increased \$100,000 in the last four years and only one budget was reviewed by the SWC. Chair Olmstead stated that the Selectboard will take this under advisement and will get back to the SWC.

2. New Business

a. Fire/Police staffing updates – Fire Chief Paul Dexter stated that the full-time firefighter candidate that was given a conditional offer for employment was not successful in CPAT training, so there is still an opening for that position. With the one full-time firefighter on medical leave and less per-diems being able to cover shifts this has put a strain on staffing. Chief Dexter explained that he will not be asking for additional full-time firefighters on the floor at Town Meeting but this will come along in next year's budgeting process. Until then, he has made adjustments that include scheduling shifts from 8am to 8pm, and 8pm to midnight. He has implemented a 4-hr minimum for callouts after midnight so that staff are paid for a minimum of 4 hours if called out. The changes will go into place April 1st and he has already had positive feedback from staff on the changes.

Police Chief Steve Hankard explained that his senior patrolman will be leaving for a department in southern NH; he has been with Sanbornton for 5 years and is leaving for higher pay and family reasons. The next officer that has been on the department for 3 years is considering leaving for UPS which pays \$2 more per hour and is also transparent on what their employees will be making each year. Chief Hankard stated that moving away from the Town's pay matrix is detrimental because employees do not know if or when they will be getting a pay increase.

Decreasing staff from 6 to 4 will put stress on the other officers and increase overtime pay; in the next budget cycle he plans on requesting three new vehicles so that officers can take their patrol cars home with them which is an added benefit. Chair Olmstead asked if police officers have contracts to stay on a certain amount of time and Chief Hankard responded that they have a 3-year minimum and if they leave before that then they need to pay back their training costs.

b. Town Report dedication – The Board notified Nina Gardner that they have dedicated the 2021 Town Report to her and thanked her for her years of service.

c. Transfer Station supply chain issues – Transfer Station Manager Shauna Gautier explained that the company she orders large and small bags from is experiencing supply chain issues; in order to get more small bags they will have to have a different town name and color until the supply issues are resolved. The Transfer Station currently has 5 months' worth of small bags but needs to place an order soon. Chair Olmstead made a **motion** to authorize Shauna to order 8 cases of small green bags that will say Waste Management – Marquette, Minnesota. Selectman Lambert **seconded** the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

3. Old Business

a. Dulac Land Trust – Town Administrator Trish Stafford stated that she learned the regulations regarding abating past taxes has been updated and therefore the BOS can abate prior years' taxes; she has spoken to Selectman Dick about this and he was in favor of abating the past taxes on Tax Map/Lot 20-013-X which was discussed at the 2/2/22 meeting. Because this lot number is part of the exempt property there will be nothing to abate moving forward so it would be considered a straight refund if the BOS chooses.

Andy Sanborn stated that he feels the land trust should be requesting an abatement of all the property taxes since the land trust was formed as it was technically a 501 (3)(c). Trish responded that the deed states differently; the tenant was responsible for taxes on the home and not the parcel and she feels that this is a fair compromise.

Selectman Lambert stated that the BOS should make a motion for this one refund request but more information can be brought to a future meeting if the land trust wants to do so. Selectman Lambert made a **motion** to refund \$6,636 to Dulac Land Trust. Chair Olmstead **seconded** the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

4. Town Administrator's report - Trish explained that the 2021 Town Reports are available in the lobby as well as at the Transfer Station, library and voting day as well as Town Meeting. Wayne Sanborn will be doing the audio for the Town Meeting and Paula Gile of the Congregational Church will do the opening prayer. Eastern Pipe will be in Sanbornton on Monday 3/7 to put a camera scope in the sewer line and clean it. This will total around \$2,000 and is paid for by the people who use that sewer line. The company will also provide guidance on how to best maintain it.

Trish stated that Allan Michael LLC has been in communication with Planning Board Assistant Steve Laurin about completing a site plan after several letters were sent. The Town has received an abutter notice from the Pittsfield due to a cell tower being built. She noted that she and Julie Lonergan cleaned out some filing cabinets last week and she will be asking boards and committees to provide guidance on what documents need to be saved or can be tossed.

5. Select Board reports – Chair Olmstead stated that there is nothing new to report from Planning Board. Selectman Lambert stated that the Historic District Commission is requesting use of the Old Town Hall on May 21st.

6. Select Board signatures – The BOS signed a new Veterans Tax Credit application and a letter to the Judds to finalize the BOS decision on road reclassification on Old Range Rd. Payroll checks were also signed.

7. Approval of minutes - Chair Olmstead made a **motion** to approve the draft minutes of 2/16. Selectman Lambert seconded the **motion** and the motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:33pm. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 16th at 5:00.

Respectfully submitted,

Audry Barriault, Secretary

Selectboard Clerk: _____

Approval Date 3.16.2022

(These minutes are in draft form and are subject to review & approval at the next regularly scheduled Selectmen's meeting. Meeting minutes are not official unless they are viewed on the Town's website www.sanborntonnh.org or are on file with the Town Clerk.)