

SANBORNTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MINUTES

September 30, 2020

Town Office

The Board of Selectmen convened in regular session and in teleconference: in attendance were Selectman John Olmstead, Selectman Jim Dick, Selectman Tom Salatiello and Town Administrator Trish Stafford.

Pledge of Allegiance - Those in attendance recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment – Michael Bean of Morrison Rd said it has been 6 weeks since he brought up his concerns at the August 19th BOS meeting regarding installing speed bump or rumble strips to slow the traffic near his home. He said since then, he has not heard from anyone. Mr. Bean said he had some paperwork for the BOS. Selectman Olmstead said they had received a petition signed by 25 people stating they had no problem with Morrison Rd and Hale Rd. Selectman Olmstead said the police had done radar a few times and that Town Legal Counsel advised against any speed bumps as the Town would be liable for any accidents/occurrences, etc. Selectman Salatiello made a few comments/suggestions. Chief Hankard will conduct more radar checks and give tickets to speeders even though he has already personally done radar checks during morning hours. Selectman Dick reiterated the petition with 25 residents having no issues. Mr. Bean said that the BOS will hear from his attorney.

New Business –

Public Hearing – BOS conducted a public meeting to consider a Discretionary Preservation Easement Application Renewal pursuant to NH RSA 79-D for a barn located at 754 Sanborn Rd and owned by Nathan and Christine Hersham. No abutters were present. Selectman Salatiello stated that it is important to continue the preservation of barns in the State and is a good example to set. Selectman Olmstead made a **motion** to approve and sign the covenants of the Discretionary Preservation Easement Deed for Tax Map 22 Lot 7-2A in the Town of Sanbornton. Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion. All in favor, ayes have it. **Motion carries.**

WRBP – Winnepesaukee River Basin Project -

The Winnepesaukee River Basin Program (WRBP) is a state-owned sewer system serving portions of the New Hampshire Lakes Region communities of Center Harbor, Moultonboro, Gilford, Meredith, Laconia, Belmont, Sanbornton, Northfield, Tilton, and Franklin.

TA Stafford said that Ray Korber of P.E.KV Partners LLC and Richard Head, Attorney from Rath, Young, & Pignatelli are asking BOS to give their support to change the current legislation to form a commission. They presented an update and alternative path going forward and reasons why they have been in discussions with the State. Bottom line is that one of the key components is that State transfer their assets at no cost. The Towns

09/30/2020

BOS APPROVED Minutes

are less inclined to get involved due to cost. This will require a change in state law. The group met over the summer and devised an alternative and would be run as a state agency.

Selectman Dick asked why the state hasn't turned over the assets that were bought and paid for. Reps said that they did not have an answer and no justification for that and this has never been done before and the challenge that we have as communities is for the next 30 years. They have been pushing for community operation. Best opportunity to reduce cost is for the community to take over management. Selectman Salatiello said they should have the original legislation and asked who put forth this idea. It was a unanimous opinion from the Advisory Board in 2009. The State announced their intention to spend 60 million dollars and presented that to the Advisory Board and the next day there was a headline in the Laconia Daily Sun saying the taxes were going up and towns were going to fund it and a 6-million-dollar disinfection facility. One member presented an alternative and the State did not want to hear about it.

Chief Dexter asked a question concerning the project. Selectman Salatiello said he is opposed to this and that this was originally a federal project and the State has a habit of violating RSA. He said he thinks there should be legislation as they own 75 percent of this program, not the Town. This will cost the Town a lot of money. He stated that if he were a representative, he would file a bill to have legislature appropriate the money and operational cost that goes with this program.

The new agency was presented. the proposal would reduce the layer of bureaucracy and paid through the communities and goal is to provide control to the communities. The proposal removes the Advisory Board and covert that to a governing commission that is part of the DES. The communities want to make the decisions. The budget would be approved by the Commission and state employees that run it would continue. With the organizational chart, they are creating a commission with a director to let the communities be the decision makers. (Note that an initial draft was handed out). We are looking for your support. Selectman Dick asked if there is another example of an approach like this within the State government. Ray Korber stated that there are several other organizations within the State that use this same approach. It takes the rate payers from the back seat to the front seat. The Town currently pays into four different accounts to pay our share of the costs. We pay the State and the State makes all the decisions. Selectman Salatiello said that piece could be changed by legislation. Selectman Dick said the greater the chance the State is going to do this, so do we wait another year for the State to take fiscal responsibility for ownership or do we do this now and have it within our control to impact, influence or direct going forward. He said he thought that where they are right now, he didn't think any legislation that is going to add to the State's cost would pass and is probably going to be DOA. He agreed that Selectman Salatiello had a good point about trying to get the State to take fiscal responsibility, but with the new initiative it's probably better to get control of the money and make sure it's being spent. Selectman Olmstead said once this is done, we can't go back. TA Stafford said that other

communities are in agreement to go forward. Selectman Olmstead thanked the reps for coming in and discussing this initiative. The Reps are asking for a vote to move forward with initiative. Selectman Dick made a **motion** that the Sanbornton Board of Selectman support the new governance initiative for the WRBP. Selectman Olmstead **seconded** the motion. **Selectman Olmstead and Dick voted YES. Selectman Salatiello voted NO. Motion carries.**

Change Order-Fire Dept - Chief Dexter said Gilford Well was in last week it to look at prepping for where the water filtration system was going to go, and where we had to cut the concrete. As everything got moved out of that corner where the water filtration system was going to go, it exposed the bottom half of the pressure tank. The pressure tank has probably been there for 25 years and the bottom was rotting out. Chief Dexter asked them to give us a Change Order to the project from BPS to replace the water pressure tank for total of \$1,914.72. Asking BOS approve Change Order. Current cost for the project is \$163,000 and some change and the town meeting vote was for \$175,000, so we have the wiggle room for this change order. Selectman Olmstead made a **motion** to approve the Change Order #001: CE #001 Replacement of the Water Pressure Tank to the Life Safety Building in the amount of \$1,914.72 with funding to come from the already approved appropriation from the Town meeting. Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion. All in favor, ayes have it. **Motion carries.**

On another item, Chief Dexter said we had a problem with a Freight Liner Engine #1. They noticed a small leak out of the pump, had it looked at and it was leaking badly. There was a steady stream so they took truck out of service and 6-inch manifold pipe is completely rusted through. The repair requires fabricating an entirely new manifold. Asked vendors for cost of refurbishment and get full evaluation and determine which of 2 trucks will be more feasible to keep and repair. Timeline would be approximately a month to get the truck back in service. The budget will not sustain this kind of cost for this truck and looking to take from Capital Reserve Fund.

Project has started on the Life Safety Building, Floor dug up, plumbing is in, water filtration coming, pouring concrete, crew has been outstanding.

Emergency calls are up 50 calls from last year, year to date.

Participated in a conference call with the State Emergency Management, Fire Marshall's Office and Dept of Natural Resources. Due to the drought and even with the rain we received it has not taken care of the drought. Last week I restricted all outside burning Cat 1 and Cat 2 camp fires and Cat 3 burning permits. No burning allowed at this time. Chief Dexter found out that has control over fireworks and can determine if the conditions are poor enough that he can restrict municipal fireworks and will post on website etc., restricting all till further notice. It could be months until we recoup with the rain.

09/30/2020

BOS APPROVED Minutes

Highway Quotes – Crack Sealing and Salt – Highway Director Van Tassel presented 2 quotes for crack sealing of Shaw Rd and Weeks Rd from NICOM and Shoem Roadway Sweeping. Director Van Tassel recommends approval of the lower quote from NICOM quote and it's in our budget. Selectman Olmstead made a **motion** to approve the proposal from NICOM not to exceed \$10,000 to crack fill the roads in the Town of Sanbornton with funding to come from Line 4312.685 Crack Sealing. Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion. All in favor, ayes have it. **Motion carries.**

Director Van Tassel received 2 quotes from Granite State Minerals, Inc and Morton Salt. He requested to approve both quotes so that he will have enough available for use as a backup source same as we have done in the past. Selectman Dick made a motion to authorize the Highway Director to sign contracts with Granite State Minerals and Morton Salt for the 2020-21 season. Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion. All in favor, ayes have it. **Motion carries.**

Director Van Tassel finished up a project for the re-crowning on 11 roads and also a few small projects, \$49,105.30 from line 4909 and from operating budget (including 2019) we spent \$30,436.30 for a total of 79,541.60. We purchase \$8,817.92 of material and very pleased with the way it went. The magnesium worked really well on the roads. Selectman Dick said Director Van Tassel talked with Pike Industries and connected with the Hilbrunner's and said they would be willing to come up with a cost estimate to put it in a Warrant Article. We already have an estimate that Johnny has done and now we have Pike, we will have a 3-number spread. Selectman Dick can work with them on the language for the Warrant Article. Selectman Salatiello thinks that they will be pleased with it and feels that it was a good decision. Johnny will work with the Hilbrunner's and meet with them. Selectman Dick said this will be a be in a plan for next time.

Transfer Station Update – Manager Douglass presented a Maintenance Request Form to keep requests organized and the new form was discussed. Selectman Dick suggested adding a line to keep track of manhours. TA Stafford will also put the form on the website.

Manager Douglass said that on Wed Oct 14th he will be moving the storage container. Page Street Policing will charge \$125 an hour so we are looking at \$375 to \$500.

TA Stafford said she had talked to Rec Director about the container and she will move things around to accommodate payment for the trailer. Selectman Dick said Amanda shouldn't have to pay for the trailer and the funds are encumbered. The \$900 payment came out last year. But this \$375-500 is the part that will have to be paid for.

Tax Collector Update – Tax Collector Julie Lonergan gave an update – 409 residents requested absentee ballots with more to enter. Changed polling place to the school and need to send an email for training for election workers. We should consider an ad in the

paper with the changes of polling place. Deeding properties deadline is Oct 22, had 3 on the list. One will be paid leaving 2. Tax bills paid is 96.7 % of 2020 P-1 and 19- 1 and 2 liens on and percentage of paid is 97.33%, \$133,000 owed for liens 2019 and \$164,000 owed for 2020

P-1 so revenues are good. Voting registration has been very good. TA Stafford said the CARES Act money came back and said we had more absentee ballots than stated on the form, so we emailed them back and there's apparently a difference in what the State has for figures.

Old Business – A request was received regarding the Sept 2, 2020 Board of Selectman meeting minutes for a comment made from a resident stating that the statement was untrue

Selectman Dick said Ms. Wright is taking exception to what TA Stafford was told. There are 3 parties to this. He wanted to be clear that TA Stafford's statements were accurate and that she was simply relaying what she was told – not maintaining a judgment that the statement was true or not. With that being said, Selectman Dick made a **motion** to amend the minutes from the Board of Selectmen meeting of September 2, 2020 by removing the following statement: **“TA Stafford said the homeowner of the other property complained that their neighbor was harassing them and taking pictures of their activities and TA Stafford advised them that this would be a civil matter.”**

Selectman Olmstead **seconded** the motion. All in favor, ayes have it. **Motion carries.**

Town Administrators Report –

Town Vehicle Inspection – Undercoat Spray – TA Stafford said the Town car was inspected and Chief Hankard suggested an undercoating at a price of \$250 for first spray then \$175 for future sprays. TA Stafford will check with Chief to see if it was sprayed previously. Selectman Dick said that it's worth doing to keep cars in good shape.

Audit Questions – TA Stafford said the auditors will be here next week. I will send BOS governance questionnaires.

CARES Act sent the Town \$70,000 this past week.

TA Stafford is working on the MS 434, but still questions from the DRA on where the amounts were coming from and allocated on the revenue side. Selectman Dick said there was a revenue line and had \$100,000 in there, but it wasn't clear what that revenue was. We learned the 434 is last chance to adjust revenue for the year and get this finalized.

Civic Plus – Website – TA Stafford said we paid our bills but they have a name change request/acknowledgement and license service agreement that needs to be signed by BOS.

RSA 91-A Request – Related to General Welfare – TA Stafford received a request for information. Selectman Dick says there seems to be some gaps in the information

09/30/2020

BOS **APPROVED** Minutes

received in what TA Stafford was given and seems to be incomplete in the general state of the program. Selectman Salatiello asked TA Stafford to ask the auditors about these expenditures when they are here and how other towns approach this. Selectman Dick is recommending giving some specific questions to the Welfare Director and get answers and discuss the program. Seven items in question looking for receipts and documentation spanning from Dec 2016 to Feb 2020 and other information. Looking for list of payments etc. Selectman Dick said that after asking the Town Attorney there is certain information that cannot be given under RSA 165. TA Stafford wondered if we should be giving gift cards out to people in need. Selectman Salatiello said we should ask the Auditors about this. There should be restrictions and guidelines updated as they go back to 1985. He objects to Welfare Director using the credit card, gifts cards and assisting with mortgage payments and feels it's not the Towns obligation. He went on to discuss how rental payments, etc., should be handled. There are other programs and outside resources such as fuel assistance programs that are available. In other towns the Selectman make the decisions on welfare issues and applications. Maybe consider a warrant article to change the job from elected to appointed or set up an expendable trust like some other towns. TA Stafford has been trying to get invoices and vouchers for services. Welfare programs in other towns and how they operate were discussed as well as the fact that NHMA guidelines will be updated this year. Reporting requirements were discussed. BOS would like to see what we have expended monthly and regular updates and have a discussion with the Welfare Director. TA Stafford will put this on the agenda for next meeting.

Selectboard Report's-

Selectman Olmstead had a Planning Board Meeting. BB Scoops has put in a request for the old Daniel Wells Bldg. Their site plan was approved for ice cream, food and take out restaurant on Sept 17 (no eat in). We have the Solar Garden site plan review again. We are a year away from renewal of their PILOT agreement. The Rec Commission said Trunk or Treat is in question due to pandemic conditions.

Selectman Dick said CIP met on Monday. Andy Sanborn is going to be the Chair again. They laid out a schedule to get through the department and board reviews and to have their recommendations in by the first week of Dec. He asked TA Stafford to update the volunteer policy as that includes one-year appointment to the committee. They worked out a phase in schedule and becoming a 3-year schedule. Will work with Nate Douglass and help him with a plan for transfer equipment. Budgets are due on Friday, Oct 2. Reminder that reviews will start 21st. The 14th will be a regular meeting and 21st will be budget review day. Building Construction Committee is pressing along, they have finalized the concepts for renovations to the Town Building as far as safety and quality of life issues. We did get new bond rates yesterday. 20 yr. was 1.67 which will change in July but could set up options for less than 3 cent tax rate impact. The final school budget tax rate was cut down to 70 cents vs \$1.65, which was good news. Building Committee will meet again tomorrow night to get the plans from architect and set up series of meetings and do presentations and have public hearing with the Board first week in Dec.

Selectman Salatiello said were heading in the right direction this year. I think we all agree that Julie and Gloria have been doing a great job.

Selectboard Signatures-

Authorize Payroll, Accounts Payable Registers, Assessing Forms and or PAF's.

Completed signatures on Payroll & the Accounts Payable Register. The Selectboard signed payroll registers for September 23, 2020.

BOS signed checks for the following: \$5,000 to Cross Country Appraisal Group, \$23,607.40 for Health Trust, \$10,252.87 to Pike Industries, \$32,400.24 to NH Retirement System.

Approve Meeting Minutes- Members of the Board reviewed the BOS meeting draft minutes of September 16, 2020 with any corrections. Selectman Olmstead made a **motion** to accept and approve the draft meeting minutes with any corrections of September 16, 2020. Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion. All in favor, ayes have it. **Motion carries.**

Next Meeting(s) – The Board of Selectmen's next meeting will be held at the Town Office on **Wednesday, October 14, 2020 @ 5:00 p.m.** at the Sanbornton Town Offices.

Adjournment – Selectman Salatiello made a **motion** to adjourn the meeting at 8:24 p.m. Selectman Dick **seconded** the motion. Ayes have it and the **motion passes.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Smith
Administrative Specialist

Selectman's Clerk _____
Approval Date 10.14.2020