

Selectmen's Meeting
Meeting
Albany, NH
 February 1, 2017

Members present: Cathy Ryan, Rick Hiland and Joe Ferris
 Public: Dorothy Solomon and Steve Knox

Call to Order: At 4:05 p.m., Chairman Ryan called the Selectmen's meeting to order.

Pledge of Allegiance:

New Business:

- **Approval of the January 25 minutes:** Selectman Hiland made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, Selectman Ferris seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- **Approval of consent file:** Selectman Hiland made a motion to approve the consent file as presented, Selectman Ferris seconded the motion. Selectman Hiland suggested that when signing the Reach the Beach relay, Chairman Ryan should notate it was approved pending receipt of the liability insurance certificate. It was duly noted by Chairman Ryan. A vote was taken and all were in favor of approving the consent file as presented.

Signed checks	\$6,300.05
Approved request for leave	
Signed one Timber warrant & certification	Map 7 Lot 115
Approved one Land Use Change Tax Warrant	Map 2 Lot 3
Approved Reach the Beach relay	Pending submission of insurance
Approved four pistol permits	
Letter to Dan Sdankus thanking him for his service to Albany	
Letter to SEC	

Town Administrator's Report:

An e-mail was sent to NHDOT inquiring if they received Albany's application for state aid. There has been no reply yet.

An e-mail was sent to NHDOT requesting an explanation as to why the Covered Bridge remains on the red list each year. The response was because of its weight limit.

Dave Dascoulias will be submitting a quote for the electrical work to be done on the town hall and the Clerk's office.

Ed Alkalay is able to moderate the public hearing for the proposed budget Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m. Selectman Hiland made a motion to hold the public hearing for the 2017 proposed budget and warrant on Wednesday, February 15 at 7:00 p.m., Selectman Ferris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

A letter still needs to be drafted for Selectmen's review and discussion to have the rumble strip project removed from the 10 year plan. Selectman Hiland thought Tara Taylor should be invited to a meeting as she is a professional in the field and could offer insight. Chairman Ryan would like more facts before deciding whether she would sign the letter or not. Selectman Ferris said he knows people who avoid Albany's section of Route 16 because it is dangerous.

Review proposed 2017 Municipal Budget:

The road budget will increase to \$200,000 per Curtis. He noted this winter has required a lot of work and money.

The Historical Society line item is zero.

After reconfiguring the health insurance quote from NH Schoolcare, adding in the 2017 premium holiday, there is a difference of \$301 compared to the Healthtrust quote. The NH Schoolcare is a better policy. The Town Administrator requested staying with NH Schoolcare. The Selectmen would like to look further into health insurance cost in 2017. The Cadillac tax may begin in 2018, costing the town thousands. Washington D.C. controls a lot of this stuff. Selectman Hiland suggested the creation of a committee to look into it. The committee should include someone with expertise in insurance. It should be put under old business after town meeting.

The Bank of NH returned with an interest rate of 2.65%. The Board will put \$4,000 into the interest on TAN line item. The timeline for needing the loan may be moved up because of the higher budget last year. The Board discussed the need for timely assessing reporting.

Selectman Hiland would like to decrease the Mount Washington Valley Economic Council line item to \$50. He thinks it is still supportive and Albany should not be paying the same amount as a business with 150 employees. Selectman Ferris agreed. Chairman Ryan does not. She felt being a part of the Economic Council is important and the role they play in the valley is important. Selectman Hiland replied the Economic Council doesn't benefit the public in general. It has more of an impact on business in town. We should be a member but at what amount of support.

Selectman Hiland would like to add the cost of the NH Conservation Commission Association into the budget. There may be beneficial education workshops.

Selectman Ferris would like to decrease the Sheriff Department line item. Chairman Ryan is against it. Selectman Hiland wants to go on a ride along with a deputy before deciding.

Selectman Hiland noted the North Country Council's increase this year is equal to 21.5%. He requested their most recent audit as well as a profit and loss statement as of 12/31/16. They reported a loss in fiscal year 2015-2016 and \$43,000 so far in fiscal year 2016-2017. The audit was fine. Everything they do, they charge for. They don't have a legal department for the Planning Board to lean on. They don't provide educational opportunities. Selectman Hiland thinks \$1100 is a lot. Selectman Ferris agreed. Selectman Hiland would like to ask them to reduce it by 50%. A lot of their activity is not in this area. We need to separate the wants from the needs. Chairman Ryan did not have any facts to refute Selectman Hiland's statements. Chairman Ryan would like to ask Rob Nadler for some facts about the North Country Council. She said maybe they didn't interact with us directly but wonders if there is a bigger picture not being seen and the Board doesn't know about it. Rob is on different committees for the North Country Council. Conway just joined the North Country Council.

Selectman Hiland would like to increase the emergency management line item to \$410. It may be needed in case of an emergency and the town hall is opened as a shelter. The Board discussed the need for providing an emergency shelter.

Selectman Hiland asked if the property liability insurance also covered bonding. The Town Administrator replied yes.

Steve Knox asked if the Fire & Rescue line item was a set price as the contract was initially set to expire in 2016 but was extended through 2017. The Town Administrator said the contract was extended and signed and yes, they will honor the same price for 2017.

Appointments: None

Old Business:

- Chief Solomon's recommendations-Safety Sweep extended the chimney.
- MWVEC & NCC meeting-no action taken.
- Red listed bridges-Selectman Hiland wanted to be sure NHDOT received our application for state aid. We don't want to be saving for our 20% of the project only to be told the application was never received.
- Semi-annual billing-Selectman Hiland would like to leave it under old business and take it back up after town meeting.
- Fiscal year budgeting-Selectman Ferris would like to develop a timeline. Selectman Hiland suggested taking it up after town meeting as we have a lot on our plate right now. Selectman Ferris would like to pitch something at town meeting.
- Meeting with state reps.-Selectman Hiland reached Representative Mark McConkey who said Mondays and Fridays are the best days for the State Representatives. The Board agreed on a date of February 24 at 7:00 p.m. with a backup date of March 3 at 7:00 p.m.
- Review Fish & Game contract-The Selectmen would like to tour the buildings and then make any necessary amendments to the lease.
- Generator purchase/grant-Dave Dascoulias is submitting a quote for the electric panel hookup.
- Planning Board, ZBA and Deputy Health Officer appointees-no action taken.
- Discuss the establishment of a Heritage Commission-June Johnson, the only active officer of the Historical Society wrote a letter to the Selectmen asking the town to take it over. She will do inventory in the museum. The balance in their account is approximately \$3,000. The Town will have to find out how this could be transferred to a trust fund legally. Selectman Hiland would like some legal guidance to see if money spent from the town's budget to the Historical Society should be refunded before moving the funds to a trust fund.
- North Country Council update of Regional Transportation Improvement Program and Ten Year Plan for Fiscal Years 2019-2028- invite Tara Taylor in to discuss the removal of rumble strips.

- Road Agent cost of upkeep on Fish & Game winter maintenance-no word from Curtis Coleman yet.

Steve Knox asked if the Selectmen will put the video of meetings on the warrant. Selectman Ferris replied they would. Steve added he spoke with Ed Comeau of governmentoversite.com and he would charge \$75-\$100 per meeting. The \$3,000 per year from the other company was much more feasible.

Other Business (Board reports):

Chairman Ryan will not be able to attend the Conservation Commission meeting next Tuesday. Selectman Ferris will go in her place.

Selectman Hiland received an e-mail from Town Counsel, Matt Serge, regarding receiving gift and grants. Approval would have to come from the Selectmen for the acceptance of gifts and grants before the Conservation Commission may accept them.

Selectman Hiland would like the Board to give him permission to ask Matt Serge a few more questions regarding the Conservation Commission's authority to sign a lease/contract and their authority to manage the farmland. The Selectman gave permission for Selectman Hiland to contact Matt Serge.

Selectman Hiland forwarded information regarding the drafting of warrant articles that was put forth by the NH Municipal Association.

After town meeting Selectmen Hiland would like to work on a policy to clear up misinformation and misconceptions of the office hours and overlap with the Town Clerk office. He would like to see it discussed.

The Town is applying for another grant that will pay for 50% of the panic hardware installation on the town hall doors. Selectman Hiland and the Town Administrator worked on the grant narrative over the phone and it was submitted to Homeland Security Department.

Selectman Hiland is going on a ride along with a Sheriff's Deputy next Tuesday.

Selectman Hiland announced there is a NH Municipal Association webinar on April 11 dealing with volunteers. On February 11, they will hold a right

to know workshop. On March 8, they will hold a workshop on tools to add value in public service.

Selectman Hiland discussed a few different legislative bills in committee in Concord that may affect Albany.

Correspondence: Letter from Historical Society

Public Comment: None

Chairman Ryan recessed the Selectmen's meeting at 5:40 p.m.
Chairman Ryan called the Selectmen's meeting back to order at 5:56 p.m.

NonPublic Session RSA 91-A:3 II (c):

At 6:00 p.m. Chairman Ryan made a motion to move into nonpublic session citing RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Selectman Hiland seconded the motion and all were in favor. Roll call, Chairman Ryan, aye, Selectman Hiland aye, Selectman Ferris, aye.

At 6:14 p.m., Chairman Ryan motioned to move into public session, seconded by Selectman Ferris, all were in favor.

At 6:15 p.m. it was determined that the minutes shall not be publicly disclosed. Chairman Ryan motioned to seal the minutes, to not publicly disclose the minutes because it is determined that divulgence of the information will likely affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the Board. Selectman Ferris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

NonPublic Session RSA 91-A:3 II (c):

At 6:16 p.m. Selectman Ferris made a motion to move into nonpublic session citing RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Selectman Hiland seconded the motion and all were in favor. Roll call, Chairman Ryan, aye, Selectman Hiland aye, Selectman Ferris, aye.

At 6:35 p.m., Chairman Ryan motioned to move into public session, seconded by Selectman Ferris, all were in favor.

CR____
RH____
JF____

At 6:36 p.m. it was determined that the minutes shall not be publicly disclosed. Chairman Ryan motioned to seal the minutes, to not publicly disclose the minutes because it is determined that divulgence of the information will likely affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the Board. Selectman Ferris seconded the motion and all were in favor.

NonPublic Session RSA 91-A:3 II (a) & (c):

At 6:37 p.m. Chairman Ryan made a motion to move into nonpublic session citing RSA 91-A:3 II (a) & (c). Selectman Hiland seconded the motion and all were in favor. Roll call, Chairman Ryan, aye, Selectman Hiland aye, Selectman Ferris, aye.

At 7:00 p.m., Chairman Ryan motioned to move into public session, seconded by Selectman Ferris, all were in favor.

Adjournment:

At 7:00 p.m., Selectman Ferris made a motion to adjourn, Selectman Hiland seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Vizard
Town Administrator