



BOARD OF SELECTMEN / BOARD OF ASSESSOR
Meeting Minutes
April 5, 2016
6:30pm

Call to Order

Selectman Ganiere called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

I. Roll Call and Pledge of Allegiance

Board Members Present: Selectman Edward Ganiere, Selectman Mark Pendergast and Selectman Joshua Plante.

Staff Members Present: Town Manager Stephen Eldridge and Town Clerk Patricia Murray.

Selectman Pendergast moved to appoint Selectman Ganiere as Chair Pro Tem for the duration of the April 5, 2016 Board of Selectmen Meeting. Selectman Plante seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3-0.

II. MINUTES

- a. **Minutes from BOS regular meeting, March 15, 2016, and BOS Special Meeting March 29, 2016.**

Motion: Selectman Pendergast moved to accept the minutes as written. Selectman Plante seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3-0.

III. FIRST PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Bill Langley, Cranberry Meadow Road, spoke. Mr. Langley questioned the Town stating that \$500.00 were expended to pay for tire removal. He said the Town charges \$3.00 to take tires at the Transfer Station and sells the tires for \$1.50 so he doesn't see how there can be a \$500.00 expense. Town Manager Eldridge explained that for the expense there is a revenue so he would need to look at both numbers. Mr. Langley asked if the Town was juggling the books and stated the Town is lying. Town Manager Eldridge replied he would look at the line item.

IV. PUBLIC HEARING

- a. Maine DEP; Jon McPhedren and Paul Gregory

Mr. McPhedren, Maine DEP, presented [a request of consideration](#) by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection for the management of the invasive aquatic plant European Naiad in Northeast Pond through the application of Diquat dibromide, an aquatic herbicide.

A public hearing is scheduled for April 19, 2016 at 6:30.

V. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

a. **BCTV Committee** - none

b. **Envision Berwick Committee (EBC)**

Mr. Frank Underwood reported that James Bellissimo will take the lead on the AARP Age Friendly program. Mr. Underwood stated EBC will hold its business meeting on the 14th. The Unitil meeting is scheduled tomorrow. EBC is looking at a housing partnership with Portsmouth and the possibilities of using the Estabrook School and the Catholic Church for elderly housing. EBC has joined the Somersworth Chamber of Commerce. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled on April 14 at noon on the Greenway at the Prime site. The Brownfields is ready to out to bid. A site walk has not been scheduled yet. Mr. Dennis Dupuis and Ms. Nicole Fecteau, Berwick Riverfront, spoke. They are working towards Phase 2; wheelchair access. Plans for a kayak day this summer are in the works. They also have goals for a race. Opening day is scheduled for mid-May. Mr. Dupuis will look into signage for invasive plants.

VI. APPOINTMENTS/PRESENTATIONS/OTHER GUESTS

a. Deputy Treasurer

- Lisa Huestis

Motion: Selectman Plante made a motion to accept Lisa Huestis as Deputy Treasurer. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

b. Deputy Tax Collector

- Lisa Huestis

Motion: Selectman Plante made a motion to accept Lisa Huestis as Deputy Tax Collector. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

c. Emergency Management Director

- Dennis Plante

Motion: Selectman Plante made a motion to accept Dennis Plante as Emergency Management Director. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. **Pay as You Throw Program/Recycling Committee** – no update.

VIII. COMMUNICATIONS

IX. APPROVAL OF WARRANTS

03/31/2016	A/P Warrant #1640	\$ 52,891.83
03/31/2016	Water Warrant #0638	2,464.96
04/07/2016	Payroll Warrant #1641	43,645.88

Motion: Selectman Plante made a motion to accept the Payable Warrants as presented. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

X. NEW BUSINESS

a. **Draft Annual Town Meeting Warrant Acceptance**

Chair Pro Tem Ganiere read the draft Town Warrant. The Board will sign the Warrant at the April 19, 2016 meeting.

Motion: Selectman Plante made a motion to not include the proposed article presented as “2016 Selectmen Warrant Article” for the appropriation of \$60,000.00 from the Unassigned Fund Balance to be used for the purpose of the demolition of the Collection and Neutralization Facilities on the Town owned land abutting the Prime Site. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

b. Bids for printing Town Report

Town Clerk Murray presented the bids for the printing of the 2015-2016 Town Report. She stated three invitations to bid were sent out. She received one bid and asked for the Board’s acceptance of the bid from The Snowman Groups in the amount of \$2,664.92. This company has printed the last four Town Reports and the estimate is \$20.00 more than last year.

Motion: Selectman Plante made a motion to accept the bid from The Snowman Group for the printing of the 2015-2016 Town Report. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

c. Personal Property Tax Exemption Policy Draft

Town Manager Eldridge reported the policy provides for business exemption of personal property that has a specific valuation. Under this policy a business will not be required to file an annual personal property declaration if the market value of specific equipment is under \$10,000.00. Any business that has business equipment or personal property used for their business and is valued over \$10,000.00 must file a declaration annually as required by the Town Assessor.

Motion: Selectman Plante made a motion to accept the Personal Property Tax Exemption Policy as presented. Selectman Pendergast seconded the motion.

The motion carried unanimously: 3 – 0.

d. 2016-17 Paving Bid Draft

Town Manager Eldridge informed the Board of the Invitation and Request for Sealed Bids for paving which will be released April 20. The roads include Diamond Hill, Beech Ridge, Pond and Wentworth. The Board will be asked to approve at the April 19 meeting.

XI. QUITCLAIM DEEDS AND/OR INSTALLMENT CONTRACTS - none

XII. ABATEMENTS/SUPPLEMENTS - none

XIII. SECOND PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. David Dow spoke. Mr. Dow stated that CMP is randomly turning off people’s electricity in apartments.

Town Manager Eldridge stated Mr. Dow should call CMP since the Town has no control over this situation.

Mr. Dow stated he did contact CMP and it is still happening. Town Manager Eldridge reiterated that Mr. Dow should call CMP.

XIV. EXECUTIVE SESSION - none

XV. OTHER BUSINESS/NON-AGENDA ITEMS - none

XVI. ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting adjourned at 8:24pm

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Murray
Town Clerk

The April 5, 2016 BOS Meeting Minutes – Signed as approved at the Board of Selectmen’s April 19, 2016 Meeting.

On behalf of the Board
