

Office of Board of Selectmen

143 Main Street, P.O. Box 310, Belmont, New Hampshire 03220-0310 Telephone: (603) 267-8300 Fax: (603) 267-8327

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 14, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Belmont Mill, Tioga Meeting Room

Chairman Ruth Mooney called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Also present were Selectman Jon Pike, Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., TA Jeanne Beaudin, Assistant TA Alicia Jipson, DPW Director Craig Clairmont, Kevin Sturgeon, Sharon Ciampi, Police Chief Mark Lewandoski and Fire Chief Mike Newhall.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectman Jon Pike moved the minutes of the meeting held on February 7, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing

Chairman Ruth Mooney opened the Public Hearing in accordance with RSA 31:95-c at 10:00 am to take public comment on changing the purpose of the Special Revenue Fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund. To see if the town will vote to amend the vote taken on Article 7 at the 1999 Annual Meeting to restrict all revenues from ambulance billings to be deposited in the Special Revenue fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund to instead restrict all but the first \$124,500 of revenues from ambulance billings received during the 2022 budgetary year to be deposited in the Special Revenue fund known as the Fire/Ambulance Equipment and Apparatus Fund. The first \$124,500 of revenues from ambulance billings will be deposited in the Town's General Fund to defray the cost items identified below. This restriction shall only be effective for the 2022 budgetary year (2/3 Majority Ballot Vote).

Training Expenses \$3,000
Medical & Supply Expenses \$30,000
Ambulance Billing Fees \$20,000
Overtime \$40,000
Telephone \$2,000
Conferences & Dues \$1,500
Office Expense \$12,000
Vehicle Repair & Parts \$8,000
Fuel \$8,000

TA Beaudin noted that this PH is only necessary for this article, and that this is something that we do each and every year.

There being no Public Comments, Selectman Mooney closed the Public Hearing at 10:05 am.

New Business

2021 Equalization Ratio- TA Beaudin noted that we received notification back from the NH DRA on our ratio. The median dropped to 67.8% and the ratio used for the school tax and such dropped to 66.1%. we are approximately 30% below market value.

Conservation Commission Appointment- Georgina Lambert has requested to be appointed to the Conservation Commission. Because of the schedule this position would have expired at the end of March 2022. The appointment will take affect now and carry forward till March 31, 2025. Selectman Patten motioned to appoint Georgia Lambert to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire on March 31, 2025; seconded by Selectman Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

NH DOT Letter- TA Beaudin explained that we received a letter from the NHDOT. It is in regard to the Main Street and Route 140/Depot street project that they are working on in the 10-year plan. They are going to start advertising the project in 2025. They are looking for feedback/comments and concerns that we have. Rick Ball is also looking at it for any concerns and or input he may have. DPW Director Craig Clairmont did respond to the letter as we do have some old water & sewer lines there that if they are going to be working we should address those concerns. We would enter into a force agreement with the state, and we would be paying to have the lines relocated while they are there doing work.

Other New Business

Deliberative Session follow Up- TA Beaudin commented that she had some requests after the Deliberative Session from Mr. Gravenhurst. He has requested copies of the amended articles. He was also looking for info on the mailing brochure that was done in prior to the 2020 Annual Meeting on the PD and how that was paid. It was paid from the postage line for a total of \$1,100. I sent him all the information that he requested.

Hydrosource- TA Beaudin has received a proposal on what they anticipate to do to well #1. This is not relating to the Iron & Manganese treatment facility. His probable cost not to exceed for all of his services is \$25,537.50, we are anticipating using the ARPA funds to cover this so water users are not affected. The Board was in favor of this agreement and quote and moved forward with signing the agreement with Hydrosource.

Warrant Articles- TA Beaudin noted that in anticipation that the warrant articles will pass for the Water Treatment Facility and for the sewer pump station improvements, we do have an engagement letter between the Town and Divine Millimet as bond council to review all the documents once we actually begin to move forward with the project, for a scope of work to cover \$5,500 to \$8,000. We have retained them as this scope of work cannot be covered by regular town council. It will not take affect or be billed until if and when it passes at Town Meeting.

Engineering services- TA Beaudin commented that last week we received an engineering services proposal for the portion of Seavey Road that did not get finished last year. The estimated cost for the portion of Seavey Road engineering is estimated to be \$22,900, and what they would like to do if

it is our intent to move forward is to bid this out early Spring and get moving on this. Craig would like to proceed with this and reconstruct the portion of Seavey Road till Wildlife Blvd. Engineering would take place in the spring. Drainage will need to be addressed, and build up the road base and shorten the road width.

DPW New Hires- DPW Director Craig Clairmont commented that we have 2 new hires that started today. The department is looking good. We still have an opening in the Water & Sewer dept to fill.

Water Issues- Selectman Pike commented that there were comments made by Lisa Ober at the Deliberative Session that the water was fine at the schools because they brought in water filtration systems. Jon has heard that the kids bring in their own water because the water bubblers are clogged or not working.

Non-Public

Chairman Mooney moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (b) at 10:42 a.m.; roll call was taken and those present and voting were Jon Pike, Ruth Mooney and Claude Patten. TA Beaudin and ATA Jipson and Police Chief Mark Lewandoski were also present. Discussion was had relative to personnel matters in the department.

Chairman Mooney closed the non-public session at 11:34 a.m.

The meeting adjourned at 11:36 a.m.

Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman

10 11

Claude B. Patten, Jr., Selectman