



Office of Board of Selectmen

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Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
Monday, July 11, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Belmont Mill
Tioga Meeting Room

Present were Chairman Ruth Mooney, Selectman Jon Pike, Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., TA Alicia Jipson, Assessing Admin Colleen Akerman, DPW Assistant Director Brian Jackes, Building & Grounds Supervisor Patrick Golden, Building Inspector Russ Wheeler, Parks & Recreation Director Danielle St. Onge, Police Chief Mark Lewandoski and Fire Chief Mike Newhall. Also present was Planning Board Member Kevin Sturgeon. Via Zoom was Finance Director Katherine Davis, Assistant Fire Chief Deborah Black and Library Director Eileen Gilbert.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes:

Selectman Claude Patten moved the minutes of the meeting held on June 20, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Jon Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Accept Opioid Litigation Settlement Fund Distribution in accordance with RSA 31:95-b in the amount of \$4,277.38 - TA Jipson stated the Board has previously accepted \$414.36 in funds from this distribution. It is part of a settlement with three major opioid distributors. TA Jipson reported that Mr. James Boffetti, the State Deputy Attorney General, said that other funds will be distributed to Belmont this year, and in future years to come.

These funds are not part of the budget. They are part of unanticipated revenue and a line item is needed to expend them. There are limitations on how the funds can be expended; but some ideas include training, the purchase of Narcan, and transportation for rehabilitation appointments, etc. TA Jipson will review all requests to ensure they meet the requirements. Selectman Pike asked that requests also be reviewed by the Selectman as public information. TA Jipson stated there is no expiration on the funds so they can also be saved and used for a bigger project.

Selectman Claude Patten motioned to accept \$4,277.38 from the Opioid Litigation Settlement Fund Distribution, in accordance with RSA 31:95-b, to be used in accordance with RSA 126-A:86. The motion was seconded by Selectman Jon Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Investment Policy Re-Adoption - This is something the Board does every year. There have been no changes made since last year but the policy needs to be re-adopted, with a new date. This is a requirement that the auditors have.

Selectman Ruth Mooney motioned to re-adopt the Town of Belmont Investment Policy for 2022 as presented; seconded by Selectman Jon Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Seavey Road Update - The pre-bid meeting for the work to be completed from the top of Church Street down Seavey Road to Wildlife Boulevard was held on June 29th, 2022. Bids will be opened tomorrow, July 12th, 2022 at the Mill at 2:00. The project is expected to be substantially complete before school starts September 6th, 2022.

South Road Paving Update - Assistant DPW Director Brian Jackes reported paving has been completed. DPW is renting a gravel machine to do a gravel backup and conserve material. Signs warning of low shoulders will be in place temporarily. Selectman Mooney stated there have been a lot of positive comments from neighbors.

Parks and Recreation Update - Director Danielle St. Onge reported that summer camp started today. There are 33 campers signed up with about 25 attending each week. They are filling as many spots as they can. A Camp Director and Assistant Director, two employees and two lifeguards have been hired. They had two employees not show up and had to hire two new employees. Selectman Pike requested that if there is only one lifeguard on duty, the person who cleans the beach is there also. TA Jipson said after this week, there will be two lifeguards available. Building & Grounds Director Patrick Golden said they are raking the beach 2-3 times per week. He stopped by on Sunday to check on the Beach Attendant and there were 30 people there already at 10 am. Our Beach Attendant is there on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays. Swim lessons start tomorrow and there are 7 signed up so far; but there are more campers interested in signing up.

The Old Home Day Committee had a meeting yesterday. They plan to meet with Department Heads on July 25th to keep everyone updated and have time to work out any issues that might arise. This year things will be mostly the same with just a few small changes. The night time schedule will be the talent show, the band and then a DJ before fireworks. Costs have increased.

Other events in the planning stages are: a movie night with the library 07/29/22, a fall festival tied with a community-wide yard sale on 10/01/2022, and a party in the Village on 12/04/2022. They are also looking into planning a Boston shopping trip using a school bus rather than a Coach bus; due to a cost difference of approximately \$2,000.

Street Lighting Update - The LED bulb street lighting update is finally happening tomorrow. It will take 1 or 2 days to complete the installation.

Other Old Business

Police Department Drainage – There are concerns about runoff from a sidewalk that have not been addressed. DPW has looked and the simplest thing would be to remove the tip downs at the old entrance. The slope on the back needs more retaining wall and the fence needs to be raised. DPW could do the prep work but their schedule is full right now. A curb company would be needed to complete the curb. Chief Lewandoski reported there used to be a gate that was taken out because it was not in use. The sidewalk was designed for the gate. The architect did not plan for the water. Ice builds up in the winter making the parking area very dangerous. The Chief sent a letter to BPS a month ago. The Board asked for another letter to be sent to BPS. TA Jipson stated she had an email from Barrett Salta on June 9th and he said things changed during construction, the water condition always existed, and they can send a proposal for repairs. DPW anticipates a repair cost of \$20-\$25,000. Chief Lewandoski said the gate was eliminated prior to construction and Selectman Pike said the problem was there when the architects originally looked at it. The Board asked for Barrett to be invited to the next meeting.

Budget Committee – A meeting will be held on July 19th at Chairman Ron Mitchell's request. There is a trash increase, new numbers on union contracts as well as increases to non-union wages, and fuel and electrical increases to update the Committee on. The Police Department's electrical line is well over budget for this year already. Chief Lewandoski said the propane change for the mini splits has not been addressed yet. TA Jipson confirmed Barrett said the manufacturer needs to address the issue. The Board would not like to make the final payment until things have been addressed.

Mill – TA Jipson asked for blank floor plans for the Mill because the original plans from a few years ago are no longer relevant. She also met with Cynthia and Sarah about their needs. The updated suggestions have been sent to Turner and they will review them and see about remapping the layout. Each Department Head and the Board will review.

Heating & Cooling – Building & Grounds Director Patrick Golden reported that the blower and AC in the Mill have been adjusted to half-speed and are now quieter. The furnace at the Mill has been checked out and the furnace at Town Hall is scheduled to be checked in August.


Police Department Open House – Building and Grounds will power wash the building before Old Home Day. The Open House will be held from 2pm to 5pm on Old Home Day (August 13th).

The next meeting date will be Monday July 25th, 2022 at 10:00am.

Non-Public:

Chairman Ruth Mooney moved to enter non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at 10:31 am. The motion was seconded by Selectman Patten and the motion passed unanimously. Roll call was taken and those present and voting were Jon Pike, Ruth Mooney and Claude Patten, Jr. Also present were TA Alicia Jipson, Chief Lewandoski and Chief Newhall. Discussion was had in regard to staffing shortages, and an insurance claim. No votes were taken. The Board returned to public session at 11: 28 am.

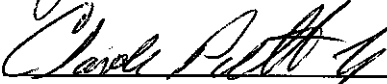
The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 am.



Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman



Jon Pike, Vice Chairman



Claude B. Patten, Jr., Selectman