

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

FEBRUARY 23, 2015

MEMORIAL BUILDING

7:00 P.M.

The following are to be considered draft minutes until approved by the Board.

Selectmen present: Chairman, Don Hill; Leigh Callaway and George McCusker

Police Chief, Tim Julian was also present.

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Tim reported the space committee has held a few meetings and have been discussing ideas. He is pleased with the momentum.

Don stated the meeting room referred to as the “old kindergarten classroom” needs a name. Motion made by Don to name the room the Protectworth Room. Motion seconded by Leigh and unanimously approved.

George made a motion to name the downstairs meeting room the Royal Arch Room. Motion seconded by Leigh and unanimously approved.

Pixie will be asked to make a note of this in the Intertown Record.

Minutes: Leigh moved to approve the minutes of February 9, 2015 as written. Motion seconded by Don. Don and Leigh voted in favor. George abstained as he was not at the meeting.

Unfinished business:
Leigh reviewed the project list.

Leigh reported a meeting is scheduled with a representative from Dead River to look at the heating system at the town office at 10 a.m. on February 25, 2015. Options include relocating the oil tanks to allow the police department to have space for an interview room and needed chimney repair. A representative from Royal Electric will be here at 1 p.m. on February 25th to discuss electrical needs at the Fire Station. Don moved and the Board approved to continue this meeting to 10 a.m. on Wednesday, February 25, 2015.

The heating cores at the highway/fire station have been taken care of.

Carpeting upstairs at the meetinghouse has been completed. There are large remnants left, and Leigh would like to add to the project list, finding someone to replace the carpet in the kitchen using the remnants.

New Business:

Leigh reported in light of what other towns and the State are reporting for their winter budgets, he has been keeping an eye on Pete's budget. Wages have 81% remaining; sand & gravel 71%, and fuel 70%. There was recently some warranty work on the new truck and there have been quite a few repairs on the white truck with a turbo needing replacement. Pete, with Ed Abair's assistance, was able to get the truck repaired and back on the road quickly. Leigh noted, for the record, "kudos and thanks to Ed for helping Pete get the white truck back on the road."

George stated from what he has read of the extended warranty offered for the new truck, he thinks for the cost, if he is reading it correctly, an extended warranty should be purchased. This is not a third party warranty, but one from Freightliner. In his past experience, one of the town trucks had to have 5 transmission replacements, and they were thankful to have the extended warranty. He feels an extended warranty is a good idea, especially since we tend to keep trucks longer.

Leigh stated he will review the warranty with Darrin Patten and talk to Pete. Don will have O'Connor take a look at it for the next meeting.

Tim stated Mike was on duty during the snowmobile event of Saturday and reported no problems. Leigh stated he was at the BBQ and traveled over to Deer Hill after. He met 2 groups of 3 machines each, and there were no issues of safety. Tim noted the police logs show a real commitment to patrolling on Deer Hill Road for snowmobile conformance.

Planning Board report: Don noted the Planning Board approved the Site Plan for Wonderwell (Natural Dharma Fellowship) with 8 conditions. Four are open-ended and four the Planning Board gave deadlines to. If the Fire Chief has a question of safety and feels Wonderwell can't be allowed to continue then a cease and desist will be issued. The approval doesn't mean they have "carte blanche" this year. They have got to take care of the issues. Most things were given a comply-by date of April of this year. George questioned, if from the Town's Standpoint the town is protected. Don noted the town does not issue certificate of occupancy and Counsel for Wonderwell and their Board members were at the meeting and know what needs to be done. Wonderwell is to send a letter monthly to the fire chief to update him on their progress. Leigh stated a case of liability would be hard pressed against the town, as due diligence has been done to bring Wonderwell into compliance.

George reported he attended the meeting with Robert Wood of the Lake Sunapee Protective Association, with representatives there from all Lake Sunapee watershed towns. He noted we share the most similarities with the way New London handles code enforcement. There was lengthy discussion about the roles and responsibilities of a code enforcement person. However, enforcement rests with the Board of Selectmen. He doesn't feel a "regional" enforcement is appropriate.

Don noted the Town of Newport notified New London Hospital Ambulance Service and all other towns they provide backup ambulance coverage to that the Newport Ambulance would cease

providing backup support to NLAS effective March 1. (17 days' notice). Pete LaCaillade has reported that Newport provided backup 7 times in Springfield last year. Lebanon has offered backup support to Springfield). Pete will stay involved with the process and report as necessary. [Edited to add: Subsequent to this meeting, Newport has agreed to extend the timeframe to June 1.].

Don noted he spoke to the owner of the private bridge off George Hill Road where they have a permit to build a new house, letting them know that the bridge is on the "radar" of the fire department. Don would like to encourage the Planning Board to move forward with safety regulations for these issues. George noted concern with long-narrow driveways and snow removal causing issues for fire and emergency services.

Selectman coverage at elections on March 10, 2015.

George: 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Leigh: 3 p.m. to end.

Don: 5 p.m. to end.

George questioned since the Selectmen have to sign the warrant, what is the feeling about the Zoning Amendments, particularly amendment 3 - conditional use permits. He is concerned this gives the Planning Board "special powers" that should be handled by the Zoning Board. Don explained a conditional use permit is an effort to stream line the process and not get bogged down with Zoning during a Planning process. It is not intended to bypass the Zoning Board but to streamline things through the Planning Board. The articles are voted on through the ballot process on Tuesday, and are required by law to be noticed on the warrant. There will be no further public discussion of these articles. That was handled during the Planning Board Hearing process.

Discussion of money Articles on Saturday, March 14, 2015.

Article 05, Paving: Leigh

Article 06, Heating System: Don

Article 07, Old Home Day: George

Article 08, Operating Budget: Leigh

Miscellaneous Business:

Mason will open the Town Hall the first of next week.

At 8:30 p.m. the board voted to continue this meeting on Wednesday, March 10, 2015 at 10:00 a.m.

Submitted by,
Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant