

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NOVEMBER 26, 2018

MEMORIAL BUILDING

4:00 P.M.

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

The meeting came to order at 4:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Selectmen present: Tamara Butcher, Chairman; Dick Hendl, and George McCusker.

Others present: Whit Smith, Leigh Callaway, Poul Heilmann, Jim Bednar, from the 250th Committee and Sullivan County Manager, Derek Ferland; Commissioner, George Hebert; and Penny Whitman, Community and Economic Development.

Leigh Callaway reported \$3,360 has been raised for 250th fund. Dick moved to accept the donation, seconded by George and unanimously approved.

The Committee has put together a calendar of events for 2019 that they will be finalizing on Wednesday night. The Christmas Craft Fair is December 1st. The 250th Birthday Party is scheduled for January 5th. Celebrations will start at the Meetinghouse. A pulled-pork dinner is scheduled for January 26th. There were several opening/closing options proposed. The Committee would suggest leaving the building open during December and January and closing for February. If it gets very cold Mason Wheeler is willing to open and close as needed at the direction of the Board of Selectmen, at no cost to the Town. The Meetinghouse opens in March for elections. The 4-H club is planning a dinner for March 2. Poul stated the Board does not need to make a decision about opening and closing at this meeting. Dick suggested perhaps not heating the building through February. He wondered if there was a possibility for the 4-H to use the building in January if it is being kept heated anyway.

The Committee is proposes pairing a beer tasting with a pulled-pork dinner on January 26th. Several local home-brewers are interested in holding a sampling event and would like to know if it is something the Selectboard will allow. A request also has to be sent to the State Liquor Commission, and Jim Bednar has drafted a letter for that. The town's insurance carrier needs to be contacted to see if there are any issues.

The Committee is working with architects and contractors about plans and costs for the lift.

A sub-committee is getting together this afternoon to discuss items to place in a time capsule.

Poul noted, the Committee is an enthusiastic group of people with new faces and new residents getting involved in the planning and volunteering.

County Manager, Derek Ferland reported on the current status of the county taxes. For Fiscal Year 2019, the county tax rate is \$2.84 per \$1,000 of assessed value, down from \$2.97 in FY 2018. Springfield's apportionment of \$583,564 is 4.4% of the County Total. The County is in the process of developing a strategic plan by investing in their employees, responsible fiscal

management, and regional leadership supporting municipalities and developing a regional economic profile. The County goal is to maintain a fiscal and sustainable fund balance through the responsible draw-down. They do not use the fund balance for capital expenditures and actively seek grants to help fund needed projects. They are willing to assist municipalities in seeking grants, or in any way they can.

Penny Whitman, Field Specialist of UNH Community and Economic Development reviewed her position in a new role with the County to create a regional identity. Many counties in the State have an identity i.e. Lakes Region, Upper Valley, etc. The Goal is to promote Sullivan County by creating a strong county image, and identifying the strengths of the region. Promoting the attractiveness of the county and why people want to live here, as well as showing activities the county has to offer to bring visitors to the area and keep them coming back. A LoveSullivan Campaign and a Crowd Source App has been created to allow people to upload photos of favorite places and things to do in the county. Manufacturing/Industry make up a large portion of the county. Springfield's role is as good as any of the other municipalities. Springfield has a wealth of artists, musicians, and educators, etc. The County goal is to keep them here.

Tamara stated she would like to share the link of the Love Sullivan campaign on the Town's website.

George McCusker reported there is great stuff happening in Town right now with the 250th celebration for 2019. There have been activities leading up to the celebration 250th next year and a whole year of exciting events planned for 2019. The activities have been well received and well attended.

A Love Sullivan campaign video was shown. The Video was used as a presentation at a County-wide seminar held at Mt. Sunapee recently and is available to the public at the Love Sullivan website.

The Board thanked the County representatives for their presentation.

REPORT from ZONING COORDINATOR. -- Board of Selectmen - Monday, November 26, 2018.

Here is a summary of permit applications and Zoning Coordinator activity.

Application for Permit – Acted Upon, Approved:

1. Cory Swenson, 540 Sanborn Hill Rd. Mr. Swenson has placed a concrete pad on the property located at 540 Sanborn Hill Road, owned by the Robert H. Lane Trust, of which Mr. Swenson is a beneficiary (Map 20, Lot 418-199). The trustee, Claudia Swenson, has been contacted and is aware of the location. Pending her confirmation of the location, I will process the zoning permit application.

Because the concrete pad was been poured prior to receiving a Zoning Permit, Mr. Swenson has paid an “after the fact” fee of \$200, based on an agreed value of the pad of \$2000.

There are no setback issues. No wetlands issues. The structure(s) is less than 35’ high. Permit will be approved on confirmation of location from Trustee.

2. Sidney Pratt, 2489 Main Street, application to erect greenhouse. Zoning Coordinator has been out to the site and has spoken to the property owner/applicant. Location properly marked. No issue with setback requirements. No wetlands issue. The structure will be less than 35’ high.

Application for Permit PENDING:

None.

Other Matters.

A. Attend Planning Board Meeting. Report on activity of *ad hoc* internet Committee.

<< RWS 11/25/2018 >>

Sidney Pratt update: Jeff Blecharczyk has been to the site, but a report has not been received yet.

Whit reported Claudia Swenson, Trustee of the Robert H. Lane Trust, has been kept in the loop with what Cory Swenson is doing and has received all the documentation. She has confirmed the location of the concrete pad. Cory will be appearing before the Planning Board on December 20th relative to two dwelling units on one parcel of land.

He noted he expects to hear from Christine Austin regarding the stairs, sometime this week.

There is no further information regarding the Cunningham property. The Engineer for the Town, Lou Caron has been out to the site and will report to the Planning Board.

Minutes of November 8th, November 13th, and November 20, 2018. There was one spelling correction in the Minutes of November 20th. Dick moved to approve all minutes, seconded by George and unanimously approved.

Old Business:

Tamara heard from Ellen Scarponi from Consolidated Communications, who reiterated the information received previously about moving the pole. Tamara told her the Town is looking for proof that there is an easement for the pole to be located on Town property.

Dick will be back in touch with Roger at Capitol Alarm regarding planned updates.

New Business:

Dick noted Marie Patten has reported to him the issues with mice at the Meetinghouse, Fire/Highway Garage, and Town Office. The Board discussed options for dealing with the issue. Dick will contact an exterminator to inquire as to recommendations and cost for service.\

Marquee postings: Dick asked that the Board develop a policy regarding the use of the marquee. A recent request to post a notice for the Mascoma Valley Snow Travelers Dinner brought the issue to light. The understanding has always been that only Town-sponsored organizations and functions would be posted on the board. A comment was made that the Garden Club posts events and they are not a town-sponsored organization. Dick's feeling is the Garden Club activities, though not a town organization, provides a benefit to the Town. The Selectboard discussed including a line on the facility use application where applicants can request the use of an A-frame for a small fee. For now, the marquee use would be limited to Town Departments and Organizations. New bulletin boards are in the process of being built and will be installed in the spring.

Boards and Departments:

Dick reported the Library Trustee's meet tomorrow.

Tamara noted the Fire Department would like to try putting the truck on craigslist. She will use her Selectman e-mail for contact information.

Signatures:

Health Trust Contract was signed.

Equalization Assessment Data authorization was signed

Letter of Support to the Upper Valley Planning Commission to apply for a Grant for Household Hazardous Waste Management funds.

Miscellaneous Business:

The Board reviewed the Flexible Spending Account information.

The Board will contact Town Council regarding proceeding with the next action on the Main Street Property.

Primex needs to be contacted regarding the beer-tasting event.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Submitted by,

Janet Roberts,
Administrative Assistant