

BOARD OF SELECTMEN
Tuesday, July 5, 2022
Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm by Chairman Therrien

Present: Chairman Therrien; Vice Chair Beijer; Board Members Gary Madden, Paula Penney & Edward Tasker; Town Administrator Karen Montgomery; Recording Secretary Mary Jane Dascoli; IT Technician A. Horohov.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Everyone present participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA REVIEW: K. Montgomery asked for ratification of the paving contract vote. E. Tasker motioned to have D. Beijer sign the contract, Chairman Therrien said he wanted to amend the motion for the Board “not to sign it” and citing issues. Vice Chairman Beijer informed the group that the contract is already signed – that three board members have already approved it and this is just to ratify the vote. The Chairman inquired about the vote and K. Montgomery stated that even after Busby had added the language the town attorney suggested the Chair e-mailed her that he would not be part of this and to have the Vice Chair sign the contract. The Chairman and Vice Chairman continued in a heated discussion. Vice Chair Beijer commented that a person from R&D called as well as came in personally, and verbally assaulted our Town Administrator. She added that the Chair had done the same. It was noted that no other company or their representative, win or lose, has ever responded, unprofessionally like that. The Board Members were polled again to ratify the vote. The Board voted: Chairman Therrien - no; D. Beijer – yes; G. Madden – no; P. Penney – yes; and E. Tasker – yes.

ACTION ITEMS: The Board reviewed and approved the following items: 1 Intent to cut; Payroll & Manifest; 2 appointments forms and a letter from NH D.E.S. relative to Mr. Peters property on Vail Road (read aloud by D. Beijer). It was noted that there are violations on site, no work is to continue until further investigative work is done, and a wetlands permit is required. Nothing has been received from Mr. Peters regarding the violations on site. The Planning Board is waiting on environmental engineering from Mr. Peters. D. Beijer made a motion to approve the minutes of June 21, 2022, seconded by G. Madden and passing with a unanimous vote. D. Beijer made a motion to have the Chairman sign the Primex Insurance 3-year agreements (CAP) on behalf of the Board. G. Madden seconded the motion and it passed with a unanimous vote.

APPOINTMENTS: Chief Poirier introduced Keith Letourneau, a new officer for the Police Department. Mr. Letourneau comes from the Haverhill, MA Police Department where he worked. He was a Police Officer for the Bunker Hill Community College for 4 years; a Correctional Officer for Billerica, MA for 3 years; and an Auxiliary Officer for 4 years prior to

that. Keith will only have to attend a portion of the academy as he has already completed some of it. He also holds a degree in Criminal Justice and is looking for a house to buy in the area. Chairman Therrien performed the swearing in of Keith Letourneau.

Chief Poirier presented Valentina Gigli, a prior officer, who left to go to Belmont but decided to return to the Barnstead Police Department and they are happy to have her back. Chairman Therrien performed the swearing in of Valentina Gigli to the Barnstead Police Department.

Chief Poirier read aloud accommodation letters recognizing Sgt. Cole and Officer Richardson with their outstanding investigative work with the armed robbery that took place at the Bosco Bell Store; the robber was identified and taken into custody. The Chief invited all to the Police Department to recognize the Officers and light refreshments.

APPOINTMENTS: Elaine Swinford and Dawn McCartney of the Thrift Shop and Food Pantry addressed the Board stating they are looking for another place to house the Barnstead Food Pantry. They may be forced to move from where they are as they are a tenant at will, always has been and now they are being forced to carry more of the financial burden. Elaine inquired if the old Houle property is available for rent. It was noted that there is no water at that property, just electricity. Chair Therrien didn't feel the building was big enough for their needs and D. McCartney said they would downsize and make it work. E. Swinford commented that the food pantry saves the town \$21,000 a year in welfare. More discussion continued and renting another building is an option. Elaine said the Food Pantry has been there for 14 years. E. Tasker motioned to table the discussion for 30 days to look for alternatives, seconded by G. Madden. The Board members were polled and voted, Chairman Therrien – yes; Vice Chair Beijer – yes; G. Madden – yes; P. Penney – yes; E. Tasker – yes. All in favor, motioned carried. The Building Inspector will be asked to look at the building. The Board thanked Elaine and Dawn for all their hard work and efforts with our residents.

NEW BUSINESS: The Chairman reported that Eversource announced an increase in electric rates beginning August 1st of this year and that the bills will double. The Town Administrator said she called Eversource and there are no breaks available to municipalities but we have a contingency fund.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS: It was noted that the band concert last week was well attended. E. Tasker stated the Historical Society event was good, not a lot of people; however the “Historical Society” needs a lift, some new blood. It was noted that the article that was put in the paper did not contain the “when or where” this was to be held.

PUBLIC INPUT: The owner of 911 Province Road spoke complaining about the dust on his road and wondering when the town will be paving that road as he has C.O.P.D. and when he moved here, it was paved. He said the dust is unbearable. He commented that the Food Pantry Thrift Store should advertise and do some fundraising to help with the costs. Public input was closed at 6:12 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: Vice Chairman Beijer motioned to adjourn the meeting as 6:13pm, seconded by P. Penney. The Board members were polled and voted as Chairman Therrien - yes; Vice Chair Beijer – yes; G. Madden – yes; Member Penney – yes; Member Tasker – yes; all voted in favor, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

MaryJane Dascoli
Recording Secretary

Chairman R. Therrien

Vice-Chair D. Beijer

G. Madden

P. Penney

E. Tasker