

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting

Thursday, November 3, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Russ Austin, Frank Reeder and John Snowdon.

1. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm by Russ Austin
2. Approval of Minutes: October 20, 2022. Motion was made by Frank Reeder, seconded by Russ Austin to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0
3. 1:05pm - Open Public Hearing per RSA 41:9-a, to amend Zoning Hearing Fee to \$100 and Planning Board Hearing Fees: Site Plan Review \$150, Subdivision \$150+\$15 per lot, Boundary Line Adjustment \$150, Voluntary Lot Merger \$25, Excavations \$50, Escrow \$1,000
4. Accounts Payable: Motion was made by Frank Reeder, seconded by John Snowdon to Approve Manifests for: General Fund \$289,236.80 Motion passed 3-0.
5. Guests
 - A. Mark Terry - Community Power. 5 members to be appointed for the new committee. First meeting scheduled Wednesday November 9th at 7pm. Plan to invite Henry Hernon, Representation for CCPNH, to a Selectboard meeting potentially December 1st. Reeder - Based on documentation provided seems like a great idea for the town. Terry - Hernon information from Eversource indicates shortage of natural gas. May not be able to provide enough power. Propane has increased approx. 54% and many may find it hard to heat homes. Reeder - New England Coalition was Canada's only customer. Now we are competing with Europe. Snowdon - New England is getting money for fuel assistance programs. The Town Welfare Officer will need to be aware so people in need of assistance can be directed to aid.
 - B. Harry Nelson
Fire Station - Making great strides in building plans. Meeting today 4pm
Truck Chassis - Claremont Ford preliminary price for rescue truck chassis \$72, 595. Swap current body (2002) onto chassis to be under \$40,000. \$137,885 in Equipment Fund. Order Bank only open November 14 -December 10. Not again until this time next year. Once ordered it will take approx. 3 months to begin build, and 6-12 months to receive. Current Chassis 1992 with mechanical issues. Nelson to bring confirmed pricing to board once the order bank opens. Motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Russ Austin to move forward and order a new rescue chassis once pricing is confirmed. Motion passed 3-0
5. Old Business:
 - A. River Road Bridge - Have a list of issues from the Engineer. Our Road Agent has fixed what he can to help prolong the life of the bridge. Additional work would need to be contracted out. Snowdon will contact Cold River to get the price for additional work required to prolong use of the bridge.

- B. Land Use Boards and Selectmen collaboration meeting to take place during November 17 Selectboard meeting at 6pm
- C. 2022 Tax Rate: Municipal \$3.72, School \$12.70, State Education Tax \$1.20, County \$2.92 Total \$20.55 per \$1000 of assessed value.
- D. Mill Brook - Tenant requesting permission from town to continue preparing his shop for business while owner resolves issue with the Planning Board. Reeder - Tenant is not open yet. He is a welder, not a complete auto repair shop. In compliance with the state laws with no dangerous chemicals. No objection to him continuing to ready the building for business, but will be at own financial risk not knowing the owner's outcome with the Zoning Board and Planning Board. Selectboard in agreement
- E. Recycling Committee recommendations See Attached
 - 1. Lack of supervision. Reeder - 1-2 people cannot do all. Committee needs to look to the community for volunteers as previously discussed.
 - 2. Town owned compactor not always returned. Snowdon - Are containers branded? Reeder - They are not currently but could be. Need to find out why we don't get ours back each time, and if extra time or shipping would be involved to do so.
 - 3. Bid out trucking. Reeder - Should, but will likely only get bids from same companies already providing services since there are not many to choose from.
 - 4. Composting - promote composting to the community to reduce weight in the waste container. Vendors provide containers and pick up.

Signature Approval was given for the following:

Payroll: 11/01/2022
 Payroll Taxes: 11/03/2022
 Health Trust \$6,455.38
 Timber Tax Warrant
 Pistol Permit

General Journal Entries:
 814 - Grader Payment
 815 - Broadband Payment
 816 - Land Use Change
 817 - Tax Warrant

- Community Power Committee Appointments : Mark Terry, Chris Ballou, Alan Bell, Terry Cox and Melissa Bonito
- Recreation Committee Appointments: Alan Bell, Kevin Hildreth and Nancy Hillier
- Old Home Day Committee Appointments (previous meeting) - Theresa Russell and Rosemarie Semaski

New Business:

- A. Health Officer resignation - Need candidate(s) to recommend to State of NH for appointment
- B. The Historical Society proposes money for a new school house roof to be put in next year's budget. Have 2 estimates. Requesting amount to cover lowest bid \$7050. After minimal discussion Selectmen agreed money for a new roof to be added to next year's budget.

- C. Tax Collector Payment Plan Protocol - After some discussion Selectmen agree that contract with those on plans as a last effort to avoid deeding clearly states day payment is due. Deeding process to begin immediately unless the Tax Collector is notified before the due date that an extreme situation exists. Potential extension would be determined by the Tax Collector and Board of Selectmen if such a situation were to occur.
- D. Highway Department Fuel - Potential diesel shortage raises concern that highway department only has 750 gal storage as compared to other towns with 10,000 gal storage. Reeder - Road Agent will need to get an estimated cost of larger containment system and find out what square footage would be required. Larger containment system will require DES permits, but if what town has is no longer adequate for highway and fire departments, the town will need to take it into consideration.
- E. Health Agencies - \$5000 to distribute. Selectmen to consider request and decide later meeting.

7. 2:20pm - Public Hearing for zoning and planning board fee changes closed. A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by John Snowdon to implement the fee changes approved by both boards. Motion passed 3-0.

8. Correspondence - none

9. The meeting was adjourned at 2:23PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi Scanlan
Town Administrator

NEXT MEETING – THURSDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2022 6:00pm
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SELECTMEN SIGNATURES DENOTE APPROVAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russ Austin, Chairman

Frank Reeder

John Snowdon

Board of Selectmen
780 Route 63, PO Box 111
Westmoreland, NH 03467
November 1, 2022

Gentlemen:

At the recent monthly meeting of the Recycling Committee, the following recommendations were determined:

We, as a committee, were given the purpose to "review and monitor all aspects of the Recycling Center and provide recommendations for improving the Center operations and reducing costs". To that end, we submit the following:

1. There exists an insufficient level of supervision at the site. Metal items are in the demo container and aluminum cans are in the commingle recycling container. These are incidents that cause a "be paid" to become "town pays" for the taxpayers.
2. The 'torpedo' shape compactor box which the Town purchased is seldom returned, but has been replaced by a square box. This causes an increase in trucking fees, as the torpedo style has a larger capacity which allows for fewer trips to empty it.
3. Trucking should be an item put out for bid annually to encourage competitive pricing.
4. The Recycling Committee will be promoting composting to the community to further reduce weight in the compactor.

Respectfully submitted,



Rachel Bartlett
Chairperson