

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting

Tuesday February 20, 2024

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Frank Reeder, John Snowdon and Bill McGahie

1. The meeting was called to order at 6pm by Frank Reeder.
2. Approval of Minutes: January 30, 2024. Motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Bill McGahie to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Accounts Payable: Motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Bill McGahie to approve Manifests for: General Fund \$96,384.79 and Fire Station \$2,962.30 Motion passed 3-0.
4. Guest
Mark Terry - Community Power Committee - work completed for coalition can disband committee end of March. Terry Cox to be town representative and Mark Terry alternate. Working to make official with Coalition by revising Cost Sharing document/contract. Reeder - will need either an addendum to contract or new contract with new information to sign.
5. Old Business
 - A. Fire alarm system (2021 warrant article 8) to be installed in Town Hall at the end of March. Consolidated to install a dedicated copper line for the alarm system this week.
 - B. LCHIP - Steve Horton to begin request for bid process (RFP) for Town Hall work to be done using LCHIP funds. Horton will establish a timeline for grant update due February 29th. Work to include: restoration of all windows and new storms throughout, sprinkler system throughout, repair and painting of upstairs ceiling and walls, upstairs doors and all trim to be recoated, sprinkler system throughout building, and insulation in attic.
 - C. River Road Bridge
 - Snowdon - Timber for Transit Grant does not have enough money to be likely for Westmoreland. Todd Horner and Davis Berstein from SWRP offered to help with a grant for feasibility study which could award up to \$1,000,000 for engineering studies. Reeder - no soil samples have been taken and it is unknown what the bridge is built on.
 - Snowdon - discussion with NHDOT and Beta Group Team when they did a study of the bridge for SWRPC Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) 10-year project prompted the Town to set the 10,000 ton limit. A Town plow truck loaded with sand is 26.30 tons and should not be going over the bridge. Road agent will no longer have loaded town plow trucks pass over the bridge and instead will have winter contractor Bill Patnode plow with his 5 ton truck.
 - Snowdon - Continuing to look for grant funding to fix the bridge.
 - D. Tree Cutting - McGahie - talked to arborists tagging trees for Eversource. One problem they face while trying to remove failing trees is that people don't answer when they call likely because the number shows up as Durham on caller ID. Snowdon - They can send letters and if there is no response in 45 days they can cut trees.
6. New Business
Signature Approval was given for the following:
Appointments for: Kristen Riley Planning Board Member, Ian Bresnahan Master Plan Committee

and Jodi Scanlan Old Home Days Committee

Payroll 2/6/24, 2/20/24	Solar Exemption (1)	HealthTrust \$5809.27	USPS \$65.83
Payroll Taxes 2/8/2024	Veteran's Credit (1)	Retirement \$3576.18	Amazon \$79.62
Timber Tax Warrant (1)	Cemetery Deed (1)	Invoice Cloud \$35.20	GoDaddy \$83.88
Audit Questionnaire	2024 Town Warrant	NHES \$18.41	

- A. Standard Power - Snowdon - voted May 16, 2023 to do a 12 month contract with Standard Power at 12.47 cents per kwh From 11/23-11/24. Coalition can offer 8.1 per kwh. Need to see if we can terminate early and save the town money.
- B. Audit 2022 results - Received results from 2022 audit in January. According to the GASB standards there are a couple of suggested changes neither of which apply to the town. Feedback from audit overall positive.
- C. IT Controls/Cybersecurity - Town Administrator will be working with Primex to establish an IT and Cybersecurity plan. Program is grant funded and will help protect the town at no cost to the town.
- D. The Post Office boiler needs a new fan blower. Dead River services the furnace for the post office and estimates the cost to be \$1920. Selectboard agrees that the Town is under contract with the post office and needs to pay for repair. Funds to come from the general building repair line.

7. Correspondence:

- A. Planning Board - Site Plan and Subdivision revisions - Planning Board has adopted new Site Plan and Subdivision Regulations. Selectboard does not need to approve. Both can be found on Town website in Planning Board section
- B. Planning Board R2-11 - Property owner was asked to provide a septic plan for pending site plan approval. Several attempts have been made to remind the property owner of unmet conditions for site plan approval. Reeder -If a zoning violation board would proceed as policy indicates.

8. The meeting was adjourned at 7:05

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi Scanlan
Town Administrator

NEXT MEETING TUESDAY MARCH 5, 2024 1:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SELECTMEN SIGNATURES DENOTE APPROVAL

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Frank Reeder, Chairman

William McGahie

John Snowdon