

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting
Thursday, January 17, 2019

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Clayton Stalker, Russ Austin, Frank Reeder

1. The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM by Chairman Stalker.
2. Approval of Minutes: January 3, 2019. A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Russ Austin to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0.
3. Chairman Stalker opened the scheduled Public Hearing to authorize the proposed issuance of bond or notes in excess of \$100,000 per RSA 33:8-a. The Selectmen are putting an Article on the town warrant to purchase a grader for the highway department. The current grader is a 1995 with over 11,000 hours. Three estimates have been obtained. The cost of a new grader will be no more than \$284,000. At the time of purchase, the road agent will look for a demo or grader with low hours. Lease/purchase or a bank loan will be looked at. There are more than 13 miles of gravel roads in town that need to be maintained.
4. Opening of bids for roof replacement at the Highway Garage: Four bids to re-roof the highway garage using a standing-seam roof were received as follows:

DeSalvo Contracting, Hudson, NH	\$52,256
Ferguson Roofing, Westmoreland, NH	\$35,750
Guyer & Son Roofing, Marlboro, NH	\$39,745
Janceqicz & Son, Bellows Falls, VT	\$46,397

Selectmen will return to this issue later in the meeting.

5. Guests:
 - A. Ted Ferguson requested permission to put up a new sign at the Chaffee Cemetery at his expense. Selectmen approved the request and thanked Ted for his offer.
 - B. Fire Department Facility Advisory Committee: Tom Finnegan and Harry Nelson were present to update the Selectmen on the work of the committee. They have looked at the cost to have an architectural design done, including engineering sections that need to be done and estimate that the cost would be approximately \$168,000. Budget Committee member, Dean Priebe, had suggested that they look at a design/build option instead of hiring individual design companies and contractors. After talking to Dean, Tom and Harry investigated this option. They found that it would be a cost savings to use one company to do all of the work. The committee will research design/build and work on a Request for Proposal in the coming year.
The Selectmen discussed opening a Capital Reserve Fund and putting funds in it this year for the purpose of building a new fire department.
There will be an informational meeting for the public on Wednesday, January 23 at 7pm.
6. Accounts Payable: A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder to approve a manifest of \$19,145.33 for the highway department and \$29,979.28 for all other bills for a total of \$49,145.33. Motion passed 3-0.

7. Old Business:
 - A. Selectmen signed a letter of abatement to the Tax Collector for \$1,856.08 in tax adjustments to reconcile lien discrepancies.
 - B. Selectmen signed Recommital Tax Warrants for 2015, 2016 & 2017 for the tax collector.

8. New Business:

Signature Approval was given for the following:
Payroll: January 15, 2019
GJ Entry: #665-667
Payroll Taxes: 1/17/19
Timber Tax Warrant: R8-21

9. Correspondence: *All correspondence is available for review in the Selectmen's office.*
Thank you notes from: Monadnock Family Services, Community Kitchen, Community Volunteer Transportation Company, Starkey/Cobb Christmas Fund, Michelle Hayward

10. Public Business: None

11. A motion was made by Russ Austin, second by Frank Reeder to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3,II(c) at 7:20pm. Motion passed.

12. A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by Russ Austin to seal the non-public session minutes and return to public session at 7:47pm. Motion passed.

13. Budget: Selectmen worked on the 2019 budget. \$15,000 will be added to the Audit line for a further investigation of discrepancies. The highway paving budget will be reduced by \$25,000. The 2019 Warrant was reviewed.
Following further review and discussion of the highway garage roof bids, the Selectmen awarded the bid to Ferguson Roofing at a cost of \$35,750, which was the lowest bid. The amount will be added to the budget as a warrant article.
The Selectmen will meet on Tuesday, January 22 at 10:00am, to finalize their budget to present to the Budget Committee on Saturday, January 26th at 9:00am.

14. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jo Ann LaBarre
Town Administrator

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

NEXT MEETING –Thursday, February 7, 2019, 6:00PM
MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED
SIGNATURES BY SELECTMEN DENOTE APPROVAL OF
MINUTES

Clayton R. Stalker, Chairman

Russ Austin

Frank Reeder

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