

Minutes of the Westmoreland Selectmen's Meeting

Thursday, December 1, 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: November 17, 2022. Motion was made by Frank Reeder, seconded by John Snowdon to accept the minutes as printed. Motion passed 3-0
3. Accounts Payable: Motion was made by John Snowdon, seconded by Frank Reeder to Approve Manifests for: General Fund \$1,003,934.78 and Fire Station \$11,600.00 Motion passed 3-0. Signature Approval was given for the following:

Payroll: 11/29/2022, 11/30/2022, 12/01/2022	Owl Stamps \$40.05
Payroll Taxes: 11/30/2022, 12/01/2022	Simply Stamps \$29.00
General Journal Entry:	Tractor Supply \$174.99
821 - Timber Tax	Amazon \$1148.32
822 - Timber Tax	NH Retirement \$1835.84

4. Guest
 - Henry Herndon - Community Power Coalition of NH (CPCNH)
 - 2019 NH State legislation made it possible for towns/counties to join together to form electrical power buying groups, creating cost savings for residents/businesses.
 - After accessing other states' processes, found non profit coalition best option for NH. CPCNH was founded.
 - Locally governed - Each participating town has a member on board
 - NH PUC approves regulations 2022
 - Due to launch 1st 10 towns' programs April/May 2023
 - Cheshire County is a member. County Program will launch 1st for county facilities then offer towns an opt in option. Towns that join County plan will not have representation or board member
 - 3 Phase Process:
 1. Join Coalition - Westmoreland became 25th municipality/county to join CPCNH, gaining access to all materials produced by previous members
 2. Working with CPCNH, the Westmoreland Community Power Advisory Committee (WCPAC) will create a plan and submit it to BOS. If BOS approves, WCPAC will hold several public information/educational meetings in January and February, prior to asking voters' approval at the March Town Meeting. A simple majority is required to pass. All meetings will be posted using Right to Know guidelines. If passed, the plan is submitted to NH PUC for final approval. PUC has 60 days to approve or will be approved automatically.
 3. Launch with contract and set of policies including Risk, Rates, Reserves
 - Reserve Fund - profits used to : Maintain rate stability, build credit rating and lower cost of capital and financing projects, long term-invest in programs
 - Mark Terry - What questions should Committee expect:

1. Will Eversource be slower to respond to outages? No - Eversource still runs grid
 2. Can I opt out? Yes - can opt out or leave at any time, no cost.
 3. Who will my bill come from? Eversource - power supply line on bill will name supplier
 4. How will this save me money? Eversource has a 2-3 day window to buy power 2x/year. Coalition can buy power numerous times a year and take advantage of better rates as they are available, then pass savings on to members. Note: Plan will not launch unless the new rates are less than Eversource.
- John Snowdon - How are towns spreading word to residents? Herndon - CPCNH will provide the Committee with templates and materials. They will work together to find best ways to reach the residents.

5. Old Business:

- A. Daggett Hill - Old camper abandoned by previous owner on Town owned land. Owner given the option to remove the camper but did not indicate he wished to do so and has not moved it. The selectmen agree that the camper should be removed from the town-owned land. Once the ground is frozen enough, the Town will hire a wrecker to remove the camper
- B. Road Standards - Road Agent, Dave Poklemba, worked with the Planning Board to revise current road standards. See Attached. Motion was made by Russ Austin, seconded by John Snowdon to approve changes to road standards. Motion passed 3-0
- C. Rescue Chassis - 2 bids McFarlan in Exeter \$72,870
Faith's Ford in Brattleboro \$73,080
After some discussion Selectmen agreed the mileage paid for trips to Exeter would easily bridge the difference in price and Brattleboro Ford would be the better option. Chief Nelson to order chassis.
- D. Town Hall repairs - We have a bid from S&S Painting to paint upstairs ceilings. Although we have previous relationship with them when they painted downstairs Selectmen agreed best to put out to bid to ensure best pricing.
- E. Dogs on Hurricane Road - Dogs continue to run loose. Letter to be sent to owners about failure to vaccinate and license the dogs. Reeder - May need to consider looking for volunteers to help with construction of a fence and to have the welfare officer determine if there is anything we can do to assist financially in getting the dogs fixed and vaccinated.

6. New Business: None

7. Correspondence - none
8. A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by John Snowdon to enter into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3,II(c) at 2:15pm. Motion passed 3-0.

9. A motion was made by Frank Reeder, second by John Snowdon, to seal the non-public session minutes and return to public session at 2:45pm. Motion passed 3-0.
10. Budget - Worked on the 2023 budgets for Trustees of Trust Funds., Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Supervisors of the Checklist, Zoning Board, Planning Board, Zoning Board, Welfare Officer, Emergency Management -Forest Fire, Parks and Recreation, Library, Conservation, and Recycling Center.
11. The meeting was adjourned at 3:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jodi Scanlan
Town Administrator

<p>BUDGET MEETING – DECEMBER 7, 2022 10:30AM NEXT MEETING THURSDAY DECEMBER 15, 2022 6:00PM THERE WILL NOT BE A MEETING DECEMBER 29, 2022 MINUTES ARE INITIALLY POSTED AS UNAPPROVED SELECTMEN SIGNATURES DENOTE APPROVAL</p>

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Russ Austin, Chairman

Frank Reeder

John Snowdon