

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

November 20, 2012

Executive Board Attending: David Upton, Susan Hansel, Maury Collins, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others Attending: Linda Cates, Laurie Smith

The meeting was opened at 3:02 PM by chair David Upton.

Linda Cates and Laurie Smith came before the Select Board to present the Library Budget for 2013.

Linda explained that the Library Trustees have not fully completed the budget but she has a partial approval which includes salary increases.

Linda reviewed the budget history over the last five years noting no increase in the amount to be raised by taxes during that time.

This year the request will be \$21,900 it includes a \$1300.00 increase.

Linda indicated that four factors play a part of this modest increase.

1. Increasing the Library director's hourly rate to bring it closer to the average paid by comparable Towns.
2. Increase the hourly rate for the Library Aid to \$9.00
3. Increased cost of supplies, phone, and internet. (Some supplies has been provided by grant monies that are not available)
4. Some items are funded by gifts and some of those funds are expected to be lower.

It was noted that Nelson is the busiest town in circulation of materials in the State but the wages are considerably lower than local Towns such as Chesterfield, Hancock, Harrisville, or Wilmot.

There was a brief discussion regarding the plans to install new walks at the Library and Town Hall in the spring. A handrail is also being considered.

Everyone seemed to agree that a style that matches the entrance walk at the Old Brick Schoolhouse would be the best choice.

The business meeting continued with general paperwork and updates on several pending matters.

Maury reported that he spoke to Kelly French regarding the need for the Nelson School Board to vote to allow the Town to join the SAU 29 Health Insurance Risk Pool. Kelly indicated that she was not aware this was necessary but will add it to the next School Board Meeting Agenda.

Susan reported on her contact with Wally Francis regarding the Boat ramp used at Silver Lake. Wally was involved with that project and offered contact information for various aspects of the job.

This same type of ramp may work for the Granite Lake Boat ramp.

The DES needs to be involved before anything moves forward. David agreed to begin that process.

Susan agreed to contact the project designer for more detailed information.

Various remedies and estimates will be sought.

Edie reviewed information gathered regarding the David Johnson request that the Select Board reconsider the assessment of one of his properties.

Cross Country was contacted as well as the DRA.

The DRA noted that the deadline for filing an appeal to the BTLA or Superior Court had not

been met in this case. (Sept. 1st was the deadline).

There was discussion concerning the properties Mr. Johnson presented as comparable. More research will be done on each of these properties to determine if different factors play a part in the assessment process that cause Mr. Johnson to regard them as being assessed lower than his property.

Eddie also reviewed the research on two properties owned by Ben Brewster. Mr. Brewster questioned why his two properties are assessed and billed as one. There are two separate deeds and they were purchased several years apart. The second deed clearly states the previous owner's name but that name could not be matched in the Town's property list before Mr. Brewster purchased it. More research will be done on this case.

There was a brief discussion regarding new antennae to provide radio signals for the Highway Department's narrow band radios.

As of January 2013 the old Broad Band radios can no longer operate.

David added a second notification for the cutting of trees when PSNH will do the cutting. This will be discussed at the next Selectmen's meeting.

Maury requested that a letter be sent to Mr. Johnson informing him that the appeal deadline was not met and therefore no action will be taken at this time.

There was a brief discussion regarding the documentation needed for Priscilla Walter to continue to receive a certain veteran's exemption. The Veteran's Services archives need to be researched for specific documentation. She will still receive at least one of the exemptions until further verification can be found.

There was also a discussion regarding the line painting on the Nelson Road.

It was agreed, that while this is clearly not the responsibility of the Town, it needs to be addressed.

There were many unanswered questions about the funding of this project by the private sector along with the Town.

Richie Pratt will be contacted regarding the accounting of donations and the process for receiving the funds.

It is believed that Chief Pratt in setting this up with the State and the contractor.

An Intent to Cut was presented for approval. The property is on Old Route 9 and is owned by Frances Heaney.

David made a motion to approve the Intent to Cut.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

An abatement was presented for documentation purposes only. This is due to a voluntary lot merger. An abatement is assigned on one property to transfer balances to the new single property account number. This property is owned by R. Tribble.

David made a motion to approve the abatement.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

There was further discussion regarding the possible locations to place the radio antennae for the Highway Department. Several options were discussed.

Eddie will contact the cell company that is located on land owned by Ethan Tolman.

Lisa Murphy from SWRP will also be contacted for information.

David gave a brief review of the Hazard Mitigation Meetings. The updates will be published and

presented for approval by FEMA as well as the Town.

The Meeting schedule was also discussed.

It was generally agreed that the Selectmen will alternate the Wednesday meetings with one week a general public meeting with individuals and Groups presenting at 6:00 PM and the next Wednesday will be focused on a business work meeting at 2:00 PM with no individual or Group presentation. (Also open to the public)

This schedule may be flexible should there be an increased need for presentation time.

The following dates and times were agreed to by the Board.

Wednesday November 29th at 6:00 PM, Wednesday December 5th at 2:00 PM, Wednesday December 12th at 6:00 PM, Wednesday December 19th at 2:00 PM, Closed the week of Christmas.

Maury made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 12, 2012 meeting.

David seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Maury made a motion to approve the minutes of the November 14, 2012 meeting.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

There was a brief discussion about the PSNH legal filings regarding the tax assessment on utilities.

The Sansoucy Firm is working with several NH Towns and had offered to extend this option to many other Towns at a special group rate.

The contract arrived but did not reflect the offer that was originally made. The contract was very open ended which could cost far more than first suggested by this firm.

Eddie discussed this with Cross Country and Jeff Earls advised not signing the contract until the original offer can be presented in writing.

The Board agreed.

There was a discussion of the contract proposal presented by Allan Treadwell. He has been offering the Town the contract rate for service as an introductory offering. That period has run out but he has agreed to extend the rate until the end of December.

As of January either a contract is required or all service will be charged at the non-contract rate which is far higher.

After a brief discussion, Maury made a motion to include the IT contract from Allan Treadwell in the 2013 budget.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Susan made a motion to approve the manifest as presented.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

David made a motion to approve the Land release from Current Use on the previous Henderson Property.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

A letter was presented from Attorney Gary Kinyon indicating his notice to the Court that he will represent the Town of Nelson in the Terry Mednick case.

David made a motion to approve an invoice from the Sansoucy Firm for initial discovery only in the PSNH tax abatement case.

Maury seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0

With nothing further, Maury made a motion to adjourn.

Susan seconded the motion.

The motion then carried by a vote of 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

November 20, 2012

David Upton, Chair

Maury Collins

Susan Hansel