

Town of Nelson Selectmen's Meeting

February 14, 2018

Executive Board Attending: David Upton, Gary Robinson, Maury Collins, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others attending:

At 6:20 PM David opened the February 14th meeting of the Nelson Select Board.

- David made a motion to approve the Public and Non-Public minutes for February 8, 2018.
Gary seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.
- Gary made a motion to approve the manifest for February 14, 2018 as presented.
Maury seconded.
The motion carried 3-0
- Maury made a motion to approve three Purchase Requests from the Highway department.
 1. Road Salt - \$9000
 2. Plow Pins - \$1500
 3. Loader Center Pins - \$1700 and labor to install - \$1500Gary seconded.
The motion carried 3-0. 1. PR # 182141, 2. PR # 182142, 3. PR # 182143
- In response to a request from the Librarian, David made a motion to purchase 3 point of use water filters for the library kitchen and the bathrooms in the connector.
Maury seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.
- At 6:50 PM the Board agreed to proceed to the Town Hall for Caucus.

7:12 PM

- David Upton opened the Caucus with an overview of the evening's process for reviewing the Warrant.
- David noted that the drop in the 2018 budget is largely due to the Fire Code work having been completed in 2017. He went on to say that the scope of several of the projects had been greatly reduced due to successful negotiations with the Fire Marshal's Office. This saved both time and money.
- As the review of department budgets continued, David noted that the Highway department has an increase this year for gravel processing. He reminded the audience that the gravel processing was to occur every other year. Last year there was no on site processing. (A two year supply is produced per processing visit.)

- In response to a question regarding the Emergency Management Budget, David explained that the funds in the Emergency Management department are for preparedness items and training etc. and the funding in the Administrative budget is for items needed during an actual event such as the wind storm of the past summer. This would include items of immediate need such as food and water for emergency responders.
- One attendee asked what plans might be in place for covering the purchase of heavy equipment in the future for the Highway department. David replied that perhaps some thought should be given to increasing the deposit into the Highway Capital Reserve.
- Susan Peery explained details of the Library's request for funding noting that the Town portion is increasing this year due to diminishing funds from gifts and various trust accounts.
- A question was posed regarding what electric savings have been realized from the Solar panel installation on the Library.
David reminded the audience that the use of the Library Lower level far exceeds past usage of the building so just comparing the budget amounts doesn't reflect the true savings.
David indicated that Dave Birchenough is working on a presentation for Town Meeting that will show how much electricity has actually been produced and the dollar value of that production.
- Elaine Giacomo reviewed the work that was done last year on the Cemetery Headstones and the need to continue in the coming year.
- David Upton briefly reported on the work that the Town Buildings Committee is embarking on to develop a plan for installing a solar array that is large enough to provide all the needed electricity for the Town Buildings in the future.
- Concern was raised that the dry hydrant project that has appeared on the Warrant for several years has still not been completed. Jason Walter explained that while working with the engineer on the project they have run into technical difficulties with the locations they had hoped would work. Jason agreed to meet with the concerned property owner.
- An article for a new Pumper/Tanker truck for the Fire Department appears on the Warrant this year as a result of much research and work by the Nelson Fire and Rescue Equipment Committee. David thanked members for all their hard work. David explained that this article, if passed, would have no tax impact at all. \$50,000 would be coming from capital reserve and the remainder would be from grant funding. In response to concern that the truck would not fit in the Granite Lake Station, Jason Walter assured the audience that those details are being worked on.
- Elaine Giacomo has been researching what role the Town may play in the repurchase of cemetery lots sold many years ago. (Perhaps as much as one hundred years or more) There seems to be legal questions as to if or how the Town could facilitate a repurchase and then sell to another buyer. More research is needed before this can be considered.

- With nothing further, David made a motion to adjourn the meeting.
Maury seconded.
The motion carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 PM

February 14, 2018

David Upton, Chair

Maury Collins, Selectman

Gary Robinson, Selectman