

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

April 3, 2012

Executive Board Attending: Warren Hammack, Maury Collins, David Upton, Edie Drinkwater, Admin. Assist.

Others Attending Dennis Dellagrecia , Bud French, Brian Lord, Maureen Lord, Julio Razquin, Rick Lothrop, Bob Jones, Duane Schillemat, Gordon Peery, Police Chief Richard Pratt .

The meeting opened at 7:03 PM

The first item of business was the registration form for the "New Hampshire the Beautiful/Litter-Free NH. It was noted that Bert Wingerson had organized this in the past on behalf of the Conservation Committee. It was agreed to contact Bert to further discuss this program for roadside cleaning and to register to receive free bags provided by the State.

Two Intents to Cut were approved and signed. One is on Lead Mine Road and the other is on the Nelson Road.

A letter of denial to an Elderly Exemption request was reviewed and signed. The reason for denial of this request was the asset limit was exceeded by the applicant. David mentioned that Jamie Dow from the DRA indicated to him that the Selectmen could, in some instances, award an abatement or ask the Town to increase the asset limit. David said he would like to have a committee address this issue.

Julio Razquin presented a concern over the use of the Town Web site. He wondered how this came to be managed by a select group.

Warren said that he was not aware of this.

There was back and forth discussion about the Town funding (Through the Library) of the site which allowed for ads and links to groups not connected to the Town Government rather than just information provided by the Municipality.

Warren felt that this should be investigated further.

Julio noted that not all people have a computer and most people do not rely on just one means of access to information.

Duane Schillemat suggested that all content on the website should be approved by the selectmen.

After a bit more discussion the Board agreed to take this under advisement and to do more checking.

Next, Rick Lothrop came before the Board to discuss the Hazard Mitigation Committee. This deals with plans of action to prevent or limit the effects of an emergency or hazard. Southwest Regional Planning will help with every aspect of this update. A committee must be in place and commit to attend the meetings which will be scheduled in Town. Topics would include things like severe storm problems, floods etc.

Duane Schillemat offered to be a member of the group.

The Board agreed to discuss a list of people to be recommended to Rick Lothrop for the committee.

Maury then mentioned that the chimney cap on the second floor had been blown off on Saturday during an ignition incident with the furnace in the Town Office building. Rick Lothrop was asked to write a report on the incident for the insurance company.

David Upton then made a motion to appointment Warren as Chairman of the Select Board. Maury seconded and a unanimous voice vote carried the motion.

There was discussion concerning the posting of the minutes of the meetings. David expressed hope that they could be completed, reviewed and posted at the end of each meeting. There was a brief discussion and the Board agreed to view the minutes the following day by email and once all approved they would be posted to the minutes website and in the Town Office.

David wanted to establish that in all matters up for vote that a simple majority would carry any motion. All agreed.

There was then an exchange of ideas on how to handle interaction and conversations between a selectman and residents when not in a public forum. Warren felt it always best to just listen and then bring up any questions or concerns to all members of the Board at the next public meeting. All agreed to be cautious when expressing a personal opinion simply as a resident so that it is not construed as the opinion or decision of the Board.

The next topic was Safety and Health recommendations for the Old Brick Schoolhouse. David would like all previous reports organized and an action list created from the combined reports. There was discussion of the reports and the response other Boards had taken to come up with a plan including appointing a Building Committee to investigate what needs to be done. Warren noted that there have been many changes in the last 2 years which have caused an evolution in the safety and Health recommendations for the Town Buildings. David mentioned that Lisa Sieverts asked if the renovation to the Town Office space could be put off longer to include a plan for the upstairs to be done at the same time. Bud French noted that these were two separate projects but the mind set in having Rick Monahan do the design work was so that he would consider any future plans for the upstairs. It was also noted that ADA regulations prohibit public use of the upstairs without wheelchair access.

David presented a list of proposed committees he would like to see appointed to cover many aspects including budgeting, property assessment, office staffing, buildings, the school, and long term sustainability etc. There was some discussion and the audience offered additional ideas such as Economic Development and grant research for the Town. Warren said he would like some time to review the list and give it some thought. All agreed.

Next Gordon Peery came to discuss the Town Website. Gordon was not present earlier when Julio Razquin presented his concern that the Town website seemed to be aligning with or allowing ads and links for political groups. Gordon explained that there were 3 separate entities, Grapevine, Moving in Step and the Town Website. Gordon explained that he would like and has requested more information from the Selectmen and the Town office. Gordon requested detailed information when a Public Notice is sent for posting to the website. Warren agreed that use of the site would be good but time is an issue for the Board and Office Staff. Warren asked if the website could be separated completely from the Grapevine and Moving in Step. Julio expressed to Gordon that there is a connectivity between the Town website, Moving in Step and the Grapevine.

Warren strongly stated that board has to represent the WHOLE Town.

Gordon suggested that paranoia was causing the concern which he has no control of.

Before an audience exchange could escalate Warren ceased the discussion and Gordon left.

David reviewed the list of new committees. He gave a brief overview of each committee and discussed how it should be formed.

Duane Schillemat said the Selectmen should advise the assessing company of any Town Policy which would have a bearing on how an assessor evaluates the property. He then offered a bit more discussion regarding a Property Assessment Committee.

Warren said the duty of each Board should be clearly defined and it must be decided how to handle the information presented by each committee.

Dennis Dellegreca again presented his idea for an Economic Development Committee. Dennis noted this committee could serve to balance any committee recommendation which may seem to be a good idea yet could pose unforeseen expense to residents.

David continued to read the list and spur discussion. A committee was mentioned to review the Town computer needs and general overview of Technology needs. Warren noted that a new IT person must be found very soon.

Brian Lord said it seemed like the creation of all the sub-committees was like "reinventing the wheel". People have an opportunity to join the committees already in existence and yet there are still empty spots.

Duane voice agreement with Brian and noted a danger of overlapping or opposing existing committees. The question then arose. If there is difficulty filling existing committees how will new committees be filled?

Dennis suggested holding the next few meetings at the Town Hall to see if people respond to become volunteers.

David brought up the need to tighten up and to meet all deadlines for things like filing reports with the state and Committees and Boards turning in reports needed by the office for the Town Report.

Next David made a motion to spend up to \$300.00 to repair a stair tread and holes in the door to the second floor. Maury seconded the motion. A vote of 2-1 carried the motion. Warren, Nay – Maury, Yea – David, Yea

Bud then asked if the Town auditor has been given the information as determined at Town Meeting that he needs for the audit.

Maury explained that Terry Mednick was given the opportunity to make electronic copies of the necessary files to send to his home computer. At that time there was a glitch and he accidentally changed the files currently in use by Anita Treloar, Financial Clerk. The problem was addressed and Terry now makes a request for what he needs and the Office Staff prepares it for him.

Dennis asked if any consideration had been given to his request regarding legal expenses for any Town employee falsely accused of something requiring them to see counsel. David said the Town's liability coverage with the LGC should be reviewed and further investigation would be needed to address this. Warren suggested a request to the LGC to come to the Town Office to go over this may be a good idea.

Duane Schillemat then wanted to know if a police log is kept. Brian reported there is a log-in on the computer each time they respond to a call.

Finally all paperwork was presented for review and signing.

David made a motion to adjourn. Maury seconded. All three Selectmen voted gladly in favor.

Meeting adjourned 10:28 PM

April 3, 2012

Warren Hammack

Maury Collins

David Upton