

TOWN OF TAMWORTH

SELECT BOARD OFFICE

Select Board Meeting: 6:00 PM

Thursday, March 2, 2023

Agenda

CALL TO ORDER: Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, those present are Select Board members Roberts, Doucette, Prentice, Goodson, Town Administrator Myer, Ed Comeau, Richard Roberts, Shannon Heath, Melanie Streeter, Randall Dearborn, Bruno Siniscalchi, Cassalyn Cook. on Zoom Gabrielle Watson, Maureen and Jim Diamond, Linda Eldridge, Linda Cook.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Doucette added Virtual meetings of boards and commissions.

NEW BUSINESS:

- **Department Head Reports**
 - Road Agent, Richard Roberts – Lots of snow, all is going well – more snow coming, but spring is around the corner. Purchased a lot of sand, with a great price. Private contractors doing a great job – its been a very busy three weeks. Bruce Knox will come after town meeting to get the bid out for the Scott Bridge. Prentice asked about diesel prices, Roberts thinks we will be ok budget-wise. Roads are posted. Board thanked Richard, Richard thanked the board and the Town Administrator.
 - Rec Department, Shannon Heath – reported that she started on January 9th – it took a few weeks to get the tech set up, and is grateful for all the support from the board in introducing her to many members of the town. Has been working on policies and procedures and getting acquainted with all the activities in the towns. Working on developing systems. Meeting with lots of community members, UNH extension. She is looking at before- and after-school programming, and in meetings with the Principal. Dearborn asked about adult health programming, she is doing a lot of thinking about it. There will be a “Meet and Greet” next Tuesday, March 6th at the Chocorua Library at 5:30 - 6:30. She is looking for volunteers for recreation program in general, and specific sports as well. Linda Cook asked if Heath has looked at the committee reports from the previous committees, if there will be a swimming program this summer. Heath shared that she is working hard to make the Swim program happen but that there are many issues related to hiring certified staffing. The state criteria has changed and become much more difficult. Every town is struggling to teach kids to swim. Most towns do not have swimming lessons. Roberts asked that if adding \$10K would help, Heath stated it wouldn't hurt, but would not resolve the staffing challenges, and suggested a multi-town model with other area towns to share staff. Cook expressed her upsetness that there isn't a lifeguard already hired, and felt the Select Board should have done more earlier. Cook expressed that Tamworth should come first, and not to involve other towns. Goodson suggested we advertise for lifeguards now. Roberts thanked Heath for coming in.
- **Friends of the Town House,** Melanie Streeter, Cassalyn Cook, and Linda Cook (via Zoom) presenting. Ms. Streeter reported that she met with Doucette last week, and was able to share the history of the Town House. Streeter was contacted by more contractors, and they wanted plans in order to bid. Ms. Streeter handed out a proposal from Mr. Sean Bergeron, who could do an assessment of the fire escape. Streeter read Colcord's assessment of the fire escape aloud and noted that Fire and Building code can not match up at times, and when this is the case, you are supposed to choose the safer option. Doucette agreed that having plans is always better, just concerned about the expense. Streeter is very concerned with the rot on the stairs. Streeter feels the whole stair case should be

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rethought, and so plans would be helpful. Linda Cook stated that she thinks that we should focus on safety of this and get a professional design and make a plan and then bid on that plan. Better product at the end. A discussion about window repairs ensued. Doucette proposes that we pursue funding from Moose Plates for the windows, which is a good fit for the grant. Roberts stated that if we use A&M we don't need plans, if we go out to bid then we would need plans. Melanie will call Bergeron to see if he can attend the Select Board meeting. Doucette noted that the Town House should be on the town website. He has asked Melanie to put together a description and a page for the Town House. Streeter noted that In 2018 the town didn't bat an eye to spend \$103,000 to upgrade it and fix it up. Town is very supportive of the Town House being saved. Prentice thanked the Friends of the Town House for all their efforts. Streeter manages the calendar. It works well.

- **Appointment to the Road Study Committee**, Willie Farnum. Roberts motioned to appoint Willie Farnum to the Road Study Committee, Prentice seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- **E911 Data Request** – Broadband Mapping request for Tamworth's E911 data, Goodson motioned to sign data request form. Prentice second, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- **Virtual Meetings of Committees and Commissions** - Doucette is urging all committees and commissions to have zoom available at all meetings with the goal of enhancing participation and transparency. Happy to help with training. Dearborn shared that planning board always Zooms, the Conservation Commission sometimes does, and the Cemetery committee does not Zoom. Prentice motioned to send memo to all boards and commissions, Goodson seconded discussion ensued, Comeau pointed out that posted location has to have a quorum. Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Eversource Interest Charge Discussion: Myer explained that errors in Assessing office led to charge. Goodson motioned to approve the abatement to Eversource. Total of \$343.30 Goodson Seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- Account Balance: \$ 3,646,249
- Myer reported working on PILOTS, tax deeding, and other matters as they arise.

SIGNATURE FILE:

- Roberts motioned to approve the Amended Select Board Meeting Minutes, February 13th, 2023, Goodson seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts abstained.
- Roberts motioned to approve Select Board Meeting Minutes, February 16th, 2023, Goodson seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve Veteran's Tax Credit, Map 203, Lot 69, Goodson seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Abatement, Map 200 Lot 300, \$319.35
- Abatement, Map 218 Lot 96, \$23.95
- Roberts motioned to approve the Abatement, Map 205, Lot 15 Sub lot 1, \$577.61, Goodson seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Road Study Committee Appointment Form, William Farnum
- Roberts motioned to approve HEB Engineers, Quarterly Monitoring of Transfer Station, Goodson seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- E911 Data Request Letter.

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- Roberts motioned to approve Payroll: \$38,465.88 Goodson seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve Accounts Payable: 3/2/23 \$32,123.18, Goodson seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve Accounts Payable: 2/23/23, \$399,442.91, Goodson seconded, Roll call vote, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

SELECT BOARD UPDATE: Doucette: Met with Streeter at the Town House. On Monday we met with USDA grant administration. Participated in Moose Plate program Q&A. Last year they had 29 requests and granted 13 of them. Their priority is repair and stabilization of historic structures. Now a \$20K cap. Awarded in summertime. Being on the list of The Historic Register helps to protect the building. Biweekly phone call with Sanborn Head they will come and present second half of March. Using data collected to size the building and processes. Siniscalchi asked about amounts of money used, and how the grants are working. Clarification ensued on which grants have been won, and which are still outstanding.

Goodson: Nothing to report.

Prentice: Working on the department head evaluation form.

Roberts: No update – been plowing snow.

PUBLIC INPUT: Mr. Siniscalchi asked how much has been spent thus far on the Transfer Station project, Myer responded that \$14,000 has been invoiced thus far. Mr. Siniscalchi asked what was appropriated last year for the Transfer Station, Myer responded that \$274,460 was voted to be raised last year, this year, and next year - some from taxation, some from the Unassigned Fund Balance, and some from grants. Mr. Siniscalchi asked about the USDA grant – Doucette confirmed that we were awarded the grant in the amount of \$493,570 in the summer of 2022. If we get the EPA grant it would be announced in May, 2023 or so. Melanie Streeter stated there were errors in the minutes at the budget hearing. Streeter asked about the tax deeded properties sale. Roberts explained the process, and that it will be made clear what needs to be brought to the day of the auction.

NON-PUBLIC:

ADJOURNMENT: Roberts motioned to adjourn at 7:35

Emery Roberts

Karl Behr

Richard Doucette

Kelly Goodson

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Lianne Prentice