

TOWN OF TAMWORTH  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
84 MAIN STREET  
TAMWORTH, NH 03886  
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Selectmen's Meeting 9:00 am  
Town Office

Tuesday, November 26, 2019

MINUTES

Present: Chairman Poirier, Selectmen Mason, Farnum & Streeter; Road Agent Richard Roberts and Finance Officer Kathy Estabrook

- **CALL TO ORDER:** At 9:00 am, Chairman Poirier called the meeting to order and asked Finance Officer Estabrook to attend the meeting and prepare minutes of the same.
- **AGENDA ITEMS** (see discussion below):
  - Selectmen's minutes for 11.14.19 and 11.21.19 – tabled to 12.05.19 meeting
  - Accounts payable manifest dated 11.26.19 – voted and approved
  - Payroll manifest dated 12.05.19 – voted and approved as amended
  - Intent to Cut, Map 403, Lot 10 – tabled to 12.05.19 meeting
- **MISCELLANEOUS:**
  - Highway-** Road Agent Richard Roberts explained that there are a lot of winter safety issues for the residents, police, fire and emergency responders on seasonal roads. As is the normal practice, Road Closures will be posted on the Town Website.
  - Townhouse Grant-** the Ductwork has been completed and any remaining funds received from the Tamworth Foundation for this grant should be refunded; the Finance Officer will attend to that at the next available accounts payable cycle.
- **SIGNATURES:**
  - **ACCOUNTS PAYABLE MANIFEST, \$717,596.62, DATED 11.29.19**

On a motion to approve, made by Chairman Poirier, seconded by Selectman Mason - a brief discussion ensued regarding the payment for the Townhouse Ductwork repairs; the Finance Officer has asked to hold the check until the job is completed. Selectman Mason stated that the invoice has been signed by Selectman Farnum, and yes, it is ok to release the payment.  
**Vote taken: Unanimous approval**
  - **PAYROLL MANIFEST, \$92,125.67, DATED 12.05.19**

On a motion to approve, made by Chairman Poirier, seconded by none.  
On a motion to amend by Selectman Farnum: to remove the Stipend payments for the Board of Selectmen and the Point System payments for the Volunteer Fire/Rescue department (\$34,375.17); seconded by Selectmen Mason. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding the manner of payment: is it through payroll and considered W2 income or is paid through accounts payable and subject to 1099 rules?

When asked, the Finance Officer stated that the reason for issuing payment through payroll is to comply with IRS requirements, and that a copy of page 7, IRS Publication 5138 is attached to the payroll manifest as supporting documentation. Selectmen Farnum, Mason and Streeter are not in agreement with the Finance Officer and would like to have this decided by legal counsel. Selectman Mason has offered to contact NHMA Legal Hotline, in lieu of being charged by Town Counsel, for a final determination and will report back to the full board at the 12.05.19 work session. Selectman Farnum stated that he wants the payments voided, the Finance Officer suggests holding the checks, only to be released after the 12.05.19 meeting with Selectman Mason reporting her results; they could be voided if needed, otherwise they'd be ready for immediate release. The Finance Officer reminded the board that the Firewards are expecting the checks to be available for the volunteers. Selectman Mason stated that Assistant Fire Chief Bowles agrees with the Board of Selectmen that this should be paid through the 1099 process. Chairman Poirier stated that holding the checks instead of voiding them would be a good solution.

**Vote taken: 3-1-0 (Poirier) as amended by Selectman Farnum, to remove the Stipend payments totaling \$34,375.17 and void the Stipend checks; seconded by Selectman Streeter.**

▪ **OTHER BUSINESS:**

- Irving Oil contract – the Board of Selectmen has been notified that several Fire Stations did not pass the inspection done by Irving Oil. The Board has directed the Finance Officer to forward that notification to the Firewards and to request that the Firewards respond to the Board with how they will resolve this issue.
- Propane- Irving Oil was awarded the bid for Propane and must “swap-out” propane tanks. The Board is unsure of the delay for this to happen and has asked the Finance Officer to contact Irving Oil to facilitate this task.
- Selectman Farnum reported that the ambulance meeting held last night, 11.25.19, ended with results of the cost for each town's share and he will present the details at the 12.05.19 budget work session.

- **ADJOURNMENT: On a motion by Chairman Poirier, seconded by Selectman Mason, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.**

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Estabrook  
Finance Officer/Recording Secretary

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Daniel J. Poirier

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Rebecca Mason

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Aaron Ricker

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Melanie Streeter

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William W. Farnum