

TOWN OF TAMWORTH BOARD OF
SELECTMEN 84 MAIN STREET
TAMWORTH, NH 03886
TELEPHONE: (603) 323-7525 FAX: (603) 323-2349
WWW.TAMWORTHNH.ORG

Selectmen's Meeting 6:00 pm

Thursday, July 14, 2022

Meeting Minutes

- **CALL TO ORDER:** Selectman Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:00, present are Selectmen Goodson, Roberts, Behr, Prentice, Ed Comeau of Government Oversight, Jo Anne Rainville, Melanie Streeter, Maude Anderson, Bruno Siniscalchi, Kelly Rines, June Aprille, Willie Farnum, Jeff McIver, Robbie Farnum, Emily Verny, Linda Cook, Leslie Johnson, on Zoom, Maureen and Jim Diamond, and Ed Comeau of Government Oversight.com. Pat Farley joined at 7:00 pm

- **CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:** Moving Non-Public- RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to the beginning of the meeting. Addition of an intent to cut, and the addition of Non-Public- RSA 91-A:3 II (e)

At 6:01 Roberts motioned to go into Nonpublic RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Prentice Seconded, roll call vote Goodson yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes. Prentice then recused herself from the discussion and left the room, Doucette entered the room at 6:03. Prentice motioned to come out of nonpublic at 6:18: Behr seconded, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Behr yes, Prentice abstain, Roberts yes.

- **PUBLIC INPUT:** Melanie Streeter informed the selectman that last tree on the townhouse lawn has died and noted that last time a tree died we waited too long, and the hornets and bees became a problem. Emery spoke with Richard Roberts, and he will have the tree company take it down when they are next scheduled to come do work.
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
Broadband Update, Pat Farley, and Jeff McIver. Pat Farley gave a detailed report on the recent history of the broadband project and Fidium, and then focused on two grants that are coming up for broadband implementation, one for \$15M and one for \$75M. The hope is to gather towns into a group to get grant money and do what worked well in Maine. Jeff McIver of Consolidated requested five minutes and gave a brief presentation on what Consolidated is putting together for the town (see attached). Today's visit is to inform the community that that Consolidated is going for a grant, and would like to get the Selectmen's support in the form of a letter. Tamworth is part of the application for ADOF (federal funds, unserved areas). Consolidated's plan was always to build that section - If selected they would be able to build in the town next year. Pat asked if we don't get the first grant, is Tamworth in the second grant? Mr. Comeau asked what power company covers this town? And pointed out that there are other options, one can go with a power company, or Jeff pointed out, one can go with both. Ms. Cook asked if we are part of the Conway project? Mr. McIver stated no, and that Consolidated is funding that project itself. It will include parts of Albany and Eaton. For the Tamworth project, McIver noted that as long as you have a phone wire to your house, it will come to your house. Backbone fiber will be throughout town. Fiber lines will be over lashed on their own lines, so it runs on top of the current infrastructure. Quick and Cost-effective. Timeline? It would start next year and generally takes between 4-6 months. Pat asked what if there is no phone line where you live, then we would run fiber through a conduit. If no conduit, they will also run a line of conduit up to 250 feet in length and then work with the customer beyond that - though mostly 250 feet is sufficient. Doucette asked about the timing on the grant awards: McIver was told it will be August, which is pretty quick. Goodson motioned to sign letters of support for the road band letters, Prentice seconded, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

- **TSIC Budget Update & SWOT, Willie Farnum:** Willie Farnum, he sent Keats some information and Keats made it into an excel spreadsheet which summarizes the income and expenses. Farnum talked through the main elements of the budget. We have received the USDA grant. The TF put in \$125,000. ARPA has paid for the well at the transfer station. He reviewed the budget in detail and line by line. See attached preliminary budget. Melanie Streeter stated we should add in the septic design was completed by MacConkey which came out of ARPA funds. Keats will add. Willie shared that the NRRRA came up with their SWOT team on Tuesday, two select board members attended, and three members from TSIC met with people from around the community to give input. It was a two-hour get-together. They had some suggestions that TSIC will consider. TSIC greatly appreciated their help. Farnum is working on a RFQ for a consulting engineer.

TCNA Building Committee Update, June Aprille: Selectman will have what June sent out. The Building Committee has been working on building plan for 9 months. June thanked Karl for serving as a liaison. TCNA has organized into sub committees – The purpose of tonight's visit is to finalize a decision on space needs for the town. Aprille requested the blueprints of this building as well as current costs of the building. June shared how their committees are working toward goals. They won't begin fundraising until plans are approved. So the next steps are a yes/no on does the town want the space. June suggested a "safe" motion - **Move to claim the ground floor space vacated by TCNA for town use, IF the TCNA proposal is approved** – this would allow the TCNA to move forward. Aprille noted that TCNA invested \$180K in that space, and TCNA would be handing it over free of charge. Suggests it is wise to take it over. Prentice made a motion to to claim ground floor space vacated by TCNA for Town use if the TCNA proposal for building an addition to the Town Office Building is approved. Behr seconded. Cook asked if there are issues with parking, and other concerns, Goodson clarified that the motion is contingent on a plan being approved, and the motion would be mute if it isn't approved. Aprille also addressed Linda's concerns. Prentice reiterated the contingent nature of the motion. Prentice seconded, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts no.

- **Department Update: Health Officer, Louis Brunelle:** He discussed his concerns about liability issues as an independent contractor and shared that he and Keats had discussed and had come up with a simple solution, which is that he be made a W2 employee rather than a 1099. Since he took the position, it's been busy in town. He has handled around 12 cases, a few still active. Many fall into Landlord's responsibility to take care of homes. He is looking forward to the state training. He will be in training in the next batch of training. Brunelle also shared that town doesn't deal with zoning rules and so it feels like dodge city. Makes it difficult to enforce some things. For example – of junkyards – without real health issues there isn't much he can do. He raised the issue of Chocorua Woods. Goodson made a motion to change Louis Brunelle's Status to a W2 from a 1099, Lianne seconded, Doucette yes, Goodson yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes. He is going to give us a 6-month report from March onward. Board thanked him.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- Account Balance: \$ People out sick, unable to report on this.
- Junk Yard Update – Ms. Myer reported that she and Chief Littlefield visited 14 sites and documented the sites as a part of an effort to get the junk yard efforts begun last year going again.
- Myer answered Ms. Rine's question regarding the Parking Enforcement Officer from a previous meeting: He will be paid the same rate he is paid as the Animal Control officer, which is \$16.58 per hour. He will work only at Chocorua Lake in 2-3 hour blocks at peak use times and will be available for on-call complaints (when he is able). Chief Littlefield does not see him using more than 12 hours per week. All fines are paid directly to the general fund, and will show as revenue for the Police Department.
- 91-A Update: A 91a request for information has been filed requesting all nonpublic meeting minutes between May 2, 2022, and July 11, 2022, the year-to-date budget, and all of the Town Administrator's texts between me and the selectmen for those same dates. I am trying to learn how to print out my texts. I'll give the filer a date when I can supply this information by end of the day tomorrow. Richard would like to know what the laws in NH about charging for responding to 92A requests. Prentice said you are allowed to charge reasonable amounts. Mr. Comeau reminded the BOS that he told everyone not to use their personal phones, and reviewed 91A laws related to this. Discussion ensued.

SIGNATURE FILE:

- Motion to approve Selectmen's Meeting Minutes –July 7, 2022, made by Roberts, seconded by Goodson, roll call vote Doucette abstain, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Motion to approve Non-Public Minutes - RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Session #1 July 7th, 2022, made by Roberts, seconded by prentice, roll call vote Doucette abstain, Behr yes, Goodson abstain, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Motion to approve of Non-Public Minutes - RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Session #2 , July 7th, 2022, made by Roberts, seconded by Goodson, roll call vote Doucette abstain, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Motion to approve of Non-Public Minutes - RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Session #3, July 7th, 2022, made by Roberts, seconded by Behr, roll call vote Doucette abstain, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice abstain, Roberts yes.
- Motion to approve Intent to Cut Supplement Map 410 Lots 139, 140, & 141 made by Roberts, seconded by Prentice, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Motion to approve Accounts Payable - \$274,171.14 made by Roberts, seconded by Prentice, roll call vote Doucette, yes Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Year to Date - \$4,472,585.25

SELECTMEN'S UPDATE:

- Doucette: Nothing to report.
- Goodson attended Conservation Commission meeting on Monday, they are working on the Betty Steel loop Trail, which they are rerouting. She also attended the corridor Rt. 16 meeting on Tuesday. The biggest concern raised is the closeness of Rt 16 near lake Chocorua. And the Chocorua Village flows, and the lack of a consistent and safe sidewalk in the developed part of the corridor, near Dollar store. She also went to the transfer station meeting on Tuesday with the NRRRA SWAT people, and it was great to meet with the SWAT team.
- Behr. Went to the library trustees' meeting: they raised \$2,400 dollars with their 5K race. Sheena Abbot has been their bookkeeper, she has resigned, and now Nancy Cavalieri will take over. They are struggling with the animal issue. They decided to allow service animals if they are well behaved. Karl also went to the meeting at the transfer station. Willie handed out a sheet on the quantity we are producing. Kelly Rines wondered where it is landing. Glenn is best to be able to answer that question.
- Lianne: Nothing to report
- Roberts – nothing to report

PUBLIC INPUT:

- Tim McGlew arrived to update on the construction at the rec department and that it is underway, all is going well. The contract is 5 phases, and Hounsell is almost through the second phase. McGlew then shared the proposal for new entrance doors for Town Offices. Tim doesn't believe it is critical, however Linda cook pointed out that per the fire chief you have to have push doors, that was one of the critical issues. The cost is \$15,000. This is a bid from a couple of days ago made by Granite State Glass. Roberts made a motion to expend the money \$15,030 to replace the doors in the town office building as proposed. Roberts seconded. Discussion ensued - Farnham asked if it would be handicapped accessible. Tim said he will explore the cost of making it handicapped-accessible. We need to determine if we must have a handicapped door. Keats will call Primex to ask if a handicapped door is required. Myer asked if it will be keyed or coded. McGlew will research.
- McGlew had one more update and has another invoice for the generator at the school. It was installed in 2011 for \$65,000, and it keeps breaking. So far, we have paid \$11,600 for repairs in the last 12 months. So now the cooling system needs to be repaired. Now they want another \$9,000. So total will be over \$20,000 in a one year period. A new one would be \$70-80,000 (guesstimate). He said the old one was terrible. No warranty. Linda asked, will it work now? Nothing else can break on it. Until it is fixed it has to be turned on manually which is not ideal in an emergency. McGlew suggested that perhaps the \$9,000 repair will get the town another five years. Motion to expend

\$8,799.05 to repair the generator at the Brett school, Kelly seconded, Bruno asked if the school should be responsible, and Streeter answered that there is an MOU between the town and the school that the town maintains the generator as it is the town's emergency shelter. Ed Comeau asked if we got a second opinion on the generators? Cook and Streeter confirmed that we got two-second opinions. It sounds like the maintenance wasn't being done, which is why we got Generator Connect. Roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

- Linda Cook asked if there is any update on the Rec Director – Roberts answered we have a plan now, and we will update you next week. She also asked how many complaints has the Selectmen received about parking at Lake Chocorua? We haven't received any complaints, but he is up there issuing tickets. Another question – is the Bearcamp Center paying for detail on the camp? Prentice answered that no there is no payment, and the chief is there to help and is doing his job.
- Ed Comeau asked if there is grant money to help solve the septic issues. Pat Farley answered that anyone in town can research, but then was formally asked to research if there are grants to septic solutions. Linda Cook asked if there would be an Economic Development Committee Street fair. Pat noted that covid and a lack of volunteers made it hard to throw.
- Maureen thanked us for the health officer's report tonight. She was grateful to have him on the agenda.
- Ed Comeau - reminded us that he asked us not to use personal phones – if you send it digitally you cannot charge. Make sure you are answering the 91a in 5 business days. You have to tell them the exemption you are using. He suggests Doucette gets his 91A training. He pointed us to the case in Tuftonboro. Lianne requested that we have the town administrators look at the cost of the phone cost of emails for all volunteers, elected, and appointed.

Roberts motioned to go into Nonpublic- RSA 91-A:3 II (a), Non Public- RSA 91-A:3 II (e) at 7:51 Prentice seconded, roll call vote Doucette, yes Behr, yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Roberts motioned to end nonpublic at 8:16, Behr seconded. Roll call vote Doucette, yes Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice absent, Roberts yes.

ADJOURNMENT: Roberts motioned to adjourn 8:16.

Emery Roberts, Chair


Lianne Prentice 


Kelly Goodson


Karl Behr

Richard Doucette
