

TOWN OF TAMWORTH
SELECTBOARD
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Select Board's Meeting:

Thursday, September 15, 2022

5:05 Non Public – Session 1: RSA 91-A:3 II (a)
Session 2: RSA 91-A:3 II (a)

6:07 PM

DRAFT MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER: Select board members Doucette, Behr, Goodson, Prentice and Roberts. Also present are Emily Verny (administrative assistant) Ed Comeau of Government Oversight, Fire Chief Richard Colcord, Assistant Fire Chief James Bowles, Tax Collector Kim Trammell and Transfer Station Supervisor Glenn Johnson. Via Zoom: Maureen Diamond and Linda Cook.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

- Move Non-Public Session 3: RSA 91-A:3 II (a) to the end of the Public meeting
- 725 Gardner Hill Rd – Proposal for outside clean up

PUBLIC INPUT: Hearing none

NEW BUSINESS:

- Department Head Report: Chief Colcord reports on stats confirming there have been 453 calls since January 1st 2022. This is average for the year. Going to hourly employees has been a very positive experience with a good turnout. His department just found out today that Reach the Beach is happening tomorrow, September 16th and we can expect around 300 people to be traveling through Tamworth between 3:30 – 11:30 pm. Apparently no department heads were notified, including the State and Tamworth Police departments. Hourly employees are working out well and fire inspection training has started, Colcord is working with the state to be refunded for any educational trainings that were grant funded, to be deposited back to the general fund. Prentice asks how they do recruitment? Colcord confirms mostly word of mouth, sometimes flyers. We are in good shape with membership but would be nice to have more EMS or rescue people. Would it be helpful to have someone from the PD who is certified to work with Fire department too? In the past that worked great, but Dana is so busy, the PD and Highway department already have a heavy workload. Discussion ensued.
- Tamworth Permit Discussion, Kim Trammell, Glenn Johnson: Johnson has a concern regarding the air bnb and short-term renters who are using the transfer station without a permit. The homeowners should be purchasing a temporary permit for their renters. Trammell confirms that with this latest 2-year policy, all residents get 2 free facility permits per household, additional ones can be purchased for \$10.00 each. These can be laminated and left at the household for renters. There is no limit on how many you can purchase. Discussion ensued. The policy is there, this is a communication issue, what is the best way to let the public know that property owners need to provide an extra sticker for their renter? This is on our website but can be more bold, front and center, we can also add it to the newsletter to be on the exchange. Johnson also presents a notification from Waste Management regarding a 9% increase for Trucking and Tipping starting

November 1st, 2022, due to significant fuel increase. Our contract allows this increase. How does this affect the budget? Likely between \$16,000 - \$20,000 increase. This is a 3-year contract that expires in November of 2023. Discussion ensued.

- Junkyard Notifications have been drafted and will be signed by the board, then sent out.
- Veteran's Day memorial service: Prentice would like to know if anyone has been working on the Veterans Day memorial service. This seems to have fizzled out over the years. What can we do to keep both Veteran's and Memorial Day traditions going? Prentice will talk with Bruno and the Cemetery Commission.
- Town Administrator's Medical Leave: Formal request from Keats Myer to take a 4-week unpaid medical leave. Emily Verny will increase her hours from 24 to 30 to cover the office, in addition to hiring Cathy Graham as an outside contractor for 20 hours per week at \$35/hr. Prentice confirms this unpaid leave will cost less than having Keats in office. Behr motions to accept the unpaid medical leave and approve the suggested salary for Emily Verny and Catherine Graham. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- Account Balance: \$3,958,038
- Vault Renovation update: Going well, looks great and will be nice to put everything back in an organized way and gaining a lot of valuable space.
- Newsletter responses: Feedback has been well received, a lot of positive responses. A reminder that this is only information from our Town website being transferred to the newsletter, no additional information. More information is available on the website and the newsletter urges people to "visit the website for more information" with helpful links.
- Email addresses for town officials – update: We have this scheduled for next week, Wednesday the 21st from 12:00 – 2:00pm to have assistance with setting up their new email on their device. For anyone who can't attend, we will put together a step-by-step instruction sheet for folks to do it at home.
- 725 Gardner Hill Rd – Proposal for outside clean up: We have a proposal in from Ricker Salvage, do we want to schedule this for this year or next? Prentice confirms to stay in budget and not tap into the contingency funds, and for safety, it would make sense to have the yard cleaned up immediately and then budget for the inside cleanup of the house next year. The proposal from Ricker is just for the yard, and the idea is to have this coincide with the junkyard letters being sent out. This is the Town setting a good example of cleaning up a Town owned yard. Doucette motions to accept the Ricker Auto Salvage proposal to clean up the exterior of 725 Gardner Hill Road, not to exceed \$4,000. Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

SIGNATURE FILE:

- Roberts makes a motion to approve Selectmen's Meeting Minutes, August 25th, 2022 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette abstains, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts abstains.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Selectmen's Meeting Minutes, September 8th, 2022 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr abstains, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 215 Lot 113 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 215 Lot 111 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 407 Lots 011 & 012 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 201 Lot 42 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 206 Lot 19 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 206 Lot 19 subplot 2 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 415 Lot 19 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 217 Lot 1 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Junk Yard Notification: Map 218 Lot 3 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Medical Leave Form – Town Administrator
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Account Payable - \$66,187.58 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts makes a motion to approve Payroll - \$37,826.50 Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Year to Date - \$5,648,824.83

SELECTMEN'S UPDATE:

Doucette: Attended Right to Know training, was very informative and had a good turnout. It is interesting to see the questions that come from the audience. CIP meeting was interesting, and they did talk about how to get the Transfer Station number right, so they don't overestimate what is needed. GPO had a big turnout and was very interesting, they still have some work to do achieve broad public support. One audience member mentioned that 109 municipalities have groundwater protection ordinances, but very few towns administer them. If that is accurate its unfortunate, we should not have regulations that aren't clearly written and administered. If we have a Groundwater Protection Ordinance, we should have one that's clearly administered by the Planning Board and this body.

Behr: Attended the Cook Memorial Library trustees meeting and public hearing to accept a donation of \$5,000 from Joan Spaulding. Banned Books week is September 18th – 24th and will have display of most challenging books and information for the last few years and how past years challenges were resolved. Fall program is going up and trying to recruit volunteers to lead the STEM/STEAM programs for kids. They have a new history intern. The friends of the Cook Memorial Library annual meeting is September 24th. They have a grant for an energy audit, which took place on September 12th waiting on results to see how to make building more energy efficient. Community survey is underway for strategic planning for 2023-2024.

Goodson: Attended Right to Know training followed by the Conservation Commission meeting where the state foresters did a presentation on the next logging taking place in Hemenway state forest, very informative presentation and will be different cut than usual due to red pine scale. They'll leave 1-2 trees per acre, it will be heavy cut and residents will need to be educated on why this is happening – to mitigate a state wide invasive insect. Discussion ensued. Project will start August 15th – December 15th 2023 and will take 6 weeks. Because this is a residential area, it will be Monday-Friday 6:00 am – 6:00 pm. The Big Pines Natural area sign will be taken down and a temporary one will go up for the winter. A new sign will go up in the Spring. Attended the Groundwater Protection Ordinance meeting and felt like the meeting had good public feedback. Sounds like the state statues are already in place and the ordinance allows local government to enforce it.

Prentice: Was not able to attend the Right to Know training but has the documents from Christine and read through them. Attended the CIP hearing and the real discussion was Transfer Station numbers and how those get figured. Personnel survey is going out with paychecks this week so all town employees will get a copy of the survey and the most current personnel policy. We will have responses back by the 26th and Personnel meeting on 27th, will report on that for the following board meeting. Today was first day of soccer practice. Katie Green volunteered to walk children over from the school, everything looked good with a lot of kids there. The construction site had not been secured, it was neat and tidy but not secure. Behr came over to help move saw horses around and tape it off.

Roberts: Attended the Right to Know training which was informative. Was not able to attend the Groundwater Protection Ordinance meeting but was concerned that the GPO is singling out commercial businesses. Believes it's a good thing, but should not single out businesses. The idea that jobsite machines need to be taken off jobsites to be fueled is not achievable. Discussion ensued. There should be ways to write the regulations to make things reasonable. It is difficult to enforce ordinances when people have the right to private property. According to the Planning Board presentation, it is the select board that enforces the regulations. Discussion ensued.

PUBLIC INPUT:

- Linda Cook: (1) There are 3 toilets still at the school from the 4th of July. (2) Where was the Economic Development committee meeting? It should have been posted and in a public place. (3) Agrees with Roberts regarding the GPO. (4) Wants to clarify that grant money is not free money.
- Maureen Diamond: Thinks it is very important for Roberts to relay his comments on GPO. Was impressed with the detail from some of the participants to constructively criticize the draft and there is serious work ahead of them to meet the concerns that they heard at the hearing last night.

7: 45 pm Roberts makes a motion to go into NON-PUBLIC:

Session 3: RSA 91-A:3 II (a)

Session 4: RSA 91-A:3 II (e)

Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

8:00 pm Robert makes a motion to come out of Non Public. Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Roberts makes a motion to hire Ryan McKey for the patrolman position conditional upon background check and completion of psychological evaluation. Goodson seconded. Roll Call Vote: Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes

ADJOURNMENT: Roberts motions to adjourn at 8:05 pm

MINUTES SUBMITTED BY: Emily Verny

Emery Roberts, Chair

Lianne Prentice

Karl Behr

Kelly Goodson

Richard Doucette
