

**Town of Tamworth
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
July 03, 2014
Town House**

BOARD MEMBERS

PRESENT:

Jim Hidden, Steve Gray & John Roberts

OTHERS

PRESENT:

Town Administrator Cassandra Pearce, Police Chief Dan Poirier, Fire Chief Richard Colcord, Road Agent Richard Roberts, Bruno Siniscalchi, Pat Farley, Ruth Timchak, Mr. & Mrs. Batchelder, Sharon Nothnagle, Susan Ticehurst, Jack Waldron, Peg Poirier, David Dinwoodie, David Little, Lisa Thompson, Mr. & Mrs. Rich, Albert Straw, Daymond Steere, Ann McGarity, Paul King, Bob Streeter, Peg Loughran, Mark Albee, Kim Trammell, Kate Thompson, Amy Berrier, Scott Quilty, Thad Berrier, and Sam Martin.

Chairman Hidden called the meeting to order at 4:02 p.m.

**DEPARTMENT
HEADS:**

Road Agent Richard Roberts informed the Board that they have been crack sealing, ditching, sand sealing, and removing trees.

Police Chief Dan Poirier: distributed stats from June. He informed the Board they are still working on the list of unregistered dogs.

Fire Chief Richard Colcord stated all is well.

Bruno Siniscalchi reported on the 250th Committee: he stated Sandwich sent three people over to discuss what they did for their celebration and they brought a lot of information to the Committee. They will be meeting monthly to discuss a logo, monthly activities for 2016 and more.

Pat Farley informed the Board there is no meeting of the Economic Development Committee for July. Town Administrator Pearce will forward her the information on the gentleman in Town looking to do some volunteer grant writing during his stay.

**SELECTMEN
UPDATES:**

Selectman Roberts stated he attended the Cemetery Trustee's meeting and they continued to work on the regulations. At the Planning Board meeting he attended they continued the hearing for PSNH for Hollow Hill Road, and approved a renewal of one of the Ambrose Gravel pits (formerly the Rhodes pit).

Selectman Gray stated he had attended the Ambulance meeting two weeks ago that we will be discussing later this evening, the Chocorua

Village weekly meeting where they discussed maintenance issues with the plantings, the light pole bases, and the traffic flow at GIII. He stated the CIP and the LEOP meetings were cancelled.

Selectman Hidden stated he attended the 250th Committee meeting Bruno already updated the Board on, and also the Grace Field Committee meeting where they are discussing expanding the entryway and some parking area.

**PUBLIC
COMMENT:**

Daymond Steere from the Conway Daily Sun was present and had questions of the Board. He asked about the Chocorua Village Project, such as what the red stamped concrete was for and when the project is supposed to be wrapping up. He was informed that the red concrete is a delineator, a traffic calming device and that the Board believes the date to be wrapped up is July 18th.

ADMINISTRATION:

The Board approved and signed the following items:

- An abatement for Tax Map 407-034-000 (granted)
- Elderly exemptions to be approved for the following properties:

➤ 202-039-000	➤ 203-042-000
➤ 206-005-000	➤ 206-072-000
➤ 211-014-017	➤ 211-014-055
➤ 214-136-000	➤ 216-090-000
➤ 217-031-000	➤ 401-054-000
➤ 411-013-000	➤ 411-022-000
➤ 414-007-000	➤ 415-090-004

- An Elderly exemption to be denied for 209-022-000
- A Total and permanently disabled veterans exemption to be approved for 206-069-000.
- A veterans credit to be denied for 216-263-000
- Veterans credits to be approved for the following properties:

➤ 201-040-000	➤ 201-049-000
➤ 202-012-000	➤ 202-037-000
➤ 202-064-000	➤ 202-065-000
➤ 202-072-000	➤ 203-034-001
➤ 203-042-000	➤ 203-065-000
➤ 205-022-000	➤ 206-033-000
➤ 206-051-000	➤ 206-073-000
➤ 206-077-000	➤ 206-101-000
➤ 206-109-000	➤ 206-112-000
➤ 207-006-000	➤ 208-029-000
➤ 209-001-000	➤ 209-020-000
➤ 209-024-000	➤ 209-025-000

➤ 211-008-000	➤ 211-014-017
➤ 211-014-033	➤ 211-014-035
➤ 211-014-040	➤ 211-014-047
➤ 211-014-048	➤ 211-014-055
➤ 211-042-000	➤ 212-043-000
➤ 213-021-000	➤ 213-049-000
➤ 213-064-000	➤ 214-057-000
➤ 214-069-000	➤ 214-136-000
➤ 214-168-000	➤ 214-180-000
➤ 215-004-000	➤ 215-030-000
➤ 215-095-000	➤ 215-103-000
➤ 216-002-000	➤ 216-023-000
➤ 216-087-000	➤ 216-145-000
➤ 216-189-000	➤ 216-197-000
➤ 217-036-000	➤ 218-028-000
➤ 403-013-000	➤ 404-032-000
➤ 406-041-000	➤ 407-001-000
➤ 407-002-000	➤ 407-024-000
➤ 407-070-000	➤ 408-013-000
➤ 410-006-000	➤ 410-011-000
➤ 410-016-000	➤ 410-115-002
➤ 410-131-000	➤ 410-155-000
➤ 411-013-000	➤ 411-022-000
➤ 413-001-000	➤ 414-036-000
➤ 414-094-000	➤ 414-101-001
➤ 415-026-000	➤ 415-032-000
➤ 415-084-000	➤ 415-088-000
➤ 415-090-004	➤ 415-101-000

- An application for a Raffle permit for Chocorua Public Library to be held on 7/26/14.

Motion made by Selectman Hidden to approve & sign the accounts payable manifest in the amount of \$220,536.86 Motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.

Motion made by Selectman Hidden to approve & sign the accounts payable check register in the amount of \$220,536.86. Motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.

Motion made by Selectman Hidden to approve & sign a payroll manifest in the amount of \$19,123.06 with authorization for a transfer in the amount of \$13,108.91 for direct deposit (included in this amount), and an additional transfer of \$6,316.99 to be transferred for the Federal tax deposit (not included in the amount above). Motion was seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.

Motion made by Selectman Gray to approve and sign the minutes of June 19, 2014. Motion was seconded by Selectman Roberts and passed unanimously.

The Board was informed that the A/C in the nurse's office was not working and that American Air Systems is not available until next Thursday. Chief Colcord offered to take a look at it.

An Application for a Junkyard was received from Ricker Auto Salvage. The Board would like to do their annual site walk which will be scheduled for 7/17/14 at 3 p.m. if possible with Mr. Richer.

The Board was questioned about following up on a quote from Davis & Towle on Property & Liability Insurance. The Board still wishes to pursue this option.

The Board was given a draft of an agreement to work in the right of way and asked to review it, and bring it back to the meeting on 7/17 for discussion and acceptance.

TOWN HOUSE:

Bob Streeter explained that although his intention was to wait and meet with the Board in August after the trial period of June and July, he got worried when the Meals on Wheels program was moved to Runnells Hall. He understands now that they were not forced to move but asked if they would like to try it during this trial period. Discussed the fact that the solutions currently on the table are an addition to the Town office building, a less expensive route is the use of the Town House, but he feels there may be a third solution that has not been thought of yet. He stated he has a petition to submit to the Board regarding the use of the Town House and read the petition to the Board and the public which stated:

"We, the undersigned registered voters of Tamworth, wish to see the Tamworth Town House first floor remain open for public use as it has been for generations. We are in favor of continued public access for current users such as, but not limited to, Tamworth Farmers' Market, Tamworth Congregational Church, Tamworth Community Guild, and the weekly community lunch provided by Ossipee Concerned Citizens.

We support the wise and frugal use of taxpayer dollars for an efficient town government, and therefore request our Selectmen provide for an independent, third-party assessment of their plans to eliminate the meeting space at the current town offices for more office space, and their plans to move governmental meetings and files to the Town House therefore taking the first floor of the Town House away from the townspeople of Tamworth."

NOTES: Some pages had “registered voters of Tamworth” crossed out.

Of the 308 signatures (not counting duplicates) 138 were registered voters.

It was asked if the Library had been considered yet. However, it was explained that other options have not been explored yet as the 2 month trial period has not expired as of yet so it has not been decided yet who will have access. The Board explained they are not trying to take anything away but are trying to control the taxes. Mark Albee asked that a review of what prompted this be given. The Board explained the need for additional office space at the Town Office building. The idea to expand to accommodate additional offices for possibly the treasurer, welfare director, Town Administrator, multi use office for Supervisors and other misc Board/Committee Secretaries, etc and for storage space.

Bill Batchelder explained that the Town House is highly reflective making it very difficult to hear, the acoustics are not good. Selectman Gray mentioned improvements to the Town House meeting room would be less costly than an addition to the Town Office. Ann McGarity asked what went wrong with original Town Office plans if the population has not increased and it's only been a decade. Kim Trammell questioned the election location again asking to verify that the Board still wishes to hold the September election at the School and the Board did confirm this.

Helen Steele stated she can go to the Town Offices pay taxes, get dog license, do her car registration, and does not see why additional space is needed, she echo's Ann McGarity's comments.

Bill Rich wanted to remind everyone that the Town's people only had to appropriate \$50,000 for the Town Offices which was double the space that was there 30 years ago. The Foundation and other funding took care of the remainder of the cost.

Kate Thompson stated the Historical Society uses the Library and would think this could be an alternative.

Kim Trammell stated that she did not see conflicts in the evening meetings at the Town Offices, and that the issue with the Treasurer, welfare and supervisors of the checklist could be worked out. She feels it is a larger inconvenience to move meetings down to Town House.

Selectman Roberts stated it is not cost effective to have the Assessing Clerk/Secretary and the Town Administrator in the same office as the office can get very busy with department heads coming in, customers, the Assessor, and Board members which makes it very distracting to one or the other. He also informed Mr. Streeter that the Meals on Wheels program was asked if they would like to try Runnells Hall to see if it

would make a change in their attendance during the Board's trial period, and that he had asked Jersey Nickerson if they would waive the rent fee for this trial period, and they did.

Susan Ticehurst stated it would create unnecessary confusion by changing the voting place.

Other comments were made about the uses of the Town House vs. the Town Offices and possible other locations. The Board then informed the group they would continue this discussion after their next scheduled agenda item was taken care of.

CARE PLUS:

Scott Quilty from CarePlus was present to meet with the Board to discuss the possibility of Tamworth exiting their current contract and entering the new contract with the other five towns. He has met with two other Towns (Freedom & Eaton) so far and he feels they are both willing to do this. The new contract for the six Towns would increase Tamworth's contribution by about 120% but the services provided would increase as well. Selectman Roberts stated his concern or problem was that Ossipee was offered to join when the original contract was organized and they did not wish to join, and now they are coming to us because their provider went defunct and they need us to make their contract more affordable. He wants to do what is best for the Town and keep the cost down which may be staying with the current contract. They discussed the fact that Ossipee & Effingham went out to bid when their provider could no longer service them. Ossipee received two bids, American Ambulance and CarePlus, American was almost \$300,000 more, with fewer ambulances available. The Board would like to meet with the Selectmen from the other five towns to further discuss the issue and the pros and cons of changing contracts prior to the expiration. Chief Colcord did inform all that the Town has received excellent service from CarePlus. Selectman Roberts stated when and if a proposal is decided upon his intention would be to put it out to bid.

TOWN HOUSE: (Continued)

Albert Straw stated he appreciates the services provided but the Town House should be available to all. Peg Loughran requested they be put on the agenda for the first meeting in August for deliberation. She also requested that Parks & Recreation post their activities on the Tamworth Exchange. Lisa Thompson stated she has looked at the space as a citizen, and feels the Town House should be accessible to all. Pat Farley asked if a prefab had been discussed for out back of the Town Offices. The Selectmen informed her that it was discussed and so was the building next to the offices. Amy Berrier would also like to see a citizens committee established to look at the options available. Committee should be a mixture of people. Bob Streeter requested the Board put a list of actual needs together. Thad Berrier mentioned the basement of the Town House; however he was informed of the

dampness of the basement and accessibility being an issue. Sharon Nothnagle questioned the dividers that have been brought into the Town Offices. She was informed they would be a temporary trial for size and/or workable space and that they were donated to us by another town. They discussed location of files, the need to keep paper documents per state law, and the Town's obligation to TCNA. The "group" was put on the agenda for August 14th at 5:15 and allowed a 45 minute slot.

ADMINISTRATION:
(Continued)

The Board was given a copy of a request and spreadsheet from the CIP Committee for their plans for capital expenditures for 2015-2020. They were asked to review and bring this back for discussion at the July 17th meeting.

The Board was informed that Mrs. Pearce contacted NHRS as requested regarding Retirement for the Cook Library. According to NHRS the Library Trustees would have to complete the application process with NHRS to be a participant in order to offer retirement to fulltime employees who work a minimum of 35 hours. They would not be under the Town because the Town does not do their payroll and they have their own tax id number. Selectman Gray stated he would bring this information back to the Library Trustees.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion made by Selectman Hidden to adjourn at 7:00 p.m. Motion seconded by Selectman Gray and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Cassandra M Pearce
Town Administrator

Approved by Board of Selectmen

James S. Hidden

Stephen G. Gray

John E. Roberts