

Town of Tamworth
Board of Selectmen's Meeting
September 6, 2012
Town Office

Members Present Robert Abraham, John Roberts and James Hidden

Others Present Cassandra Pearce, Richard Roberts, Dan Poirier, Ruth Timchak, Dan
Stepanaukas, Sam Martin, Brian and Melinda Forcier, and Anne Abear.

Chairman Abraham opened the meeting at 3:05 p.m.

Non-Public Session

A motion was made to enter into a non-public session at 3:05 p.m. by R Abraham and was seconded by John Roberts. Vote: Abraham, Yes, Roberts, Yes, Hidden, Yes. Motion passed.

A motion was made by R Abraham to exit the non-public session at 3:50 p.m. and was seconded by J Roberts. Motion passed unanimously.

The Board selected 6 candidates to interview on Thursday, September 13 beginning at 5:00 p.m. for the open position within the highway department.

Chairman Abraham recessed the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Chairman Abraham called the meeting back in session at 4:00 p.m.

Department Updates

Police Chief Dan Poirier discussed the following:

1. Stats for the police department for the month of August 2012.
2. The progress related to mandating every dog is registered in Town. At the beginning of June, approximately 300 dogs were unlicensed. As of today, they are all licensed.
3. R Abraham discussed a conversation that occurred within the Town Office today from an individual who lives on Turkey Street regarding an ongoing noise issue. He indicated the police department is aware of the issues and recommended the complainant continue to call if the noise continues to be bothersome. R Abraham indicated that during the discussion with the individual it was reported that a fence had been taken down and that she was given a name and telephone number of a vendor in the area who may be able to put a new fence up for a reasonable fee. Chief Poirier indicated he understood the person who was in the office today may have wanted the fence removed.
4. R Abraham discussed the concern of bear dogs that are being utilized in the area for hunting purposes. Chief Poirier advised that if property is posted for no bear dogs or no trespassing, the owner of the dogs must contact law enforcement to retrieve their animal off of the posted property.

5. Radios of the highway, fire, and police departments are scheduled to be narrow band programmed on Friday, September 14 beginning at 9:00 a.m. Further, the FCC license for the highway department has lapsed and is in the process of being renewed.
6. The Board discussed the personnel file access policy that is being considered by the Board. J Roberts expressed a concern that the files of the police employees including the Chief's were unavailable if needed by the Board while they are under his control. Further, he inquired if Chief Poirier would be amenable to placing his personnel file in the hands of the Selectmen to maintain. The Chief did not have any issue with this proposal. Chief Poirier currently holds all personnel police files of past employees in the event that a reference request is received on an individual. The Board indicated they would take an opportunity to review all of the personnel files held by the Chief and others filed at the Town Office.

Road Agent Richard Roberts discussed the following:

1. Roadside mowing has been completed.
2. Cleveland Hill Road will be closed for another week. The Board expressed the great job that was done to repair this road thus far. R Abraham indicated that during a recent review of the roadway and discussions with R Roberts, he'd like it to be considered that a stop sign be placed at the end of Cleveland Hill Road. After further discussion, Chief Poirier recommended placing a caution sign at the intersection and not a stop sign. The Board will review the area further.

Town Forester

The Board met with Dan Stepanauskas to discuss his interest in becoming the Town Forester as a result of the Board receiving a resignation from Dennis Thorell. Mr. Stepanauskas gave his background to the Board. The Board discussed the concern that if a violation is identified on a property (ie wetlands violation), how they would like Mr. Stepanauskas to proceed. He is to report the potential violation to the Town Office who will look into the matter further. The Board will receive a written proposal from Mr. Stepanauskas which will include the approval of the Board allowing for site visits only on certain cuts that are taking place. Currently, Mr. Stepanauskas is the forester for the Town of Eaton. J Roberts indicated that Mr. Stepanauskas was recommended by Peter Pohl.

Public Comment

None

Selectmen Updates

1. J Roberts has not attended any meetings in the last 2 weeks, has worked on the playground base at the Remick Park and reported a new playground is going in at the KA Brett School.
2. J Hidden reported he did not have any meetings over the past 2 weeks.
3. R Abraham met with the SAU Superintendent indicating that the audits are being worked on for the 2011 and 2012 year and once complete, the numbers will be released. He felt next year would be a better year. Further, a one hour training session is being set up to explain how the tax rate is set and the impact the school has on the rate. This meeting is scheduled for 9/24/12 at 4:30 p.m. Members of the Board expressed an interest in attending this meeting.

4. R Abraham explained that the SAU is developing a policy regarding the school's electronics and when it is completed, with share that policy with the Selectmen for review.
5. The Road Study Committee met recently and continues to move forward at a very slow pace. During recent visits by members of this committee to the Dover archive files it was discovered that over 800 names of Tamworth residents were found in the 1st two volumes. The process of identifying the current and past roads within Tamworth will take some time to complete.

Administrative

Town Administrator Cassandra Pearce presented the following for discussion, review and signatures were required:

1. A timber tax levy in the amount of \$3,017.28 for map 202 lot 031.
2. An intent to cut for map 410 lot 144.
3. *R Abraham moved and J Hidden supported to approve a payroll manifest for 9/6/2012 in the amount of \$18,934.27, a transfer in the amount of \$13,808.10 for Direct Deposit Transfer (included in the initial amount) and a transfer in the amount of \$5,979.04 for the Federal Tax Deposit. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
4. *R Abraham moved and J Hidden supported to approve an accounts payable manifest in the amount of \$150,000. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
5. *R Abraham moved and J Hidden supported to approve an accounts payable check register in the amount of \$150,000. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
6. *R Abraham moved and J Hidden supported to approve an accounts payable manifest in the amount of \$223,097.34. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
7. *R Abraham moved and J Hidden supported to approve an accounts payable check register in the amount of \$223,097.34. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
8. *R Abraham moved and J Hidden supported to approve the non-public meeting minutes of August 23, 2012 as written. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
9. *R Abraham moved and J Hidden supported to approve the regular meeting minutes of August 23, 2012 as written. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.*
10. An email was received from UNH requesting permission for Cartographics to release the latest updated maps to them as part of their ongoing project. The Board signed a letter of release to allow UNH to acquire this information.
11. The Board was presented with an updated listing of items for the general town as will be proposed at the public hearing of the CIP Committee at their public hearing on September 18 at 6:30 p.m. There were no changes on the listing by the Board. R Abraham indicated that at a recent meeting of the CIP it was proposed by two members of that Board to remove approximately \$240,000 from the road repairs scheduled for 2015 back to the 2013 budget to stabilize the annual capital improvement expenses. After further discussion, the Board requested a meeting with the CIP Committee at the 9/13 meeting.
12. R Abraham indicated he has received a call from the landowner of the Albee Road cell tower project. He has directed them to the Planning Board Rep. – James Hidden. Continuing he advised it was his understanding that the property owner may need to acquire an easement from the abutting property owner due to the definition of a fall zone within the ordinance.
13. C Pearce discussed the backup system known as Carbonite Solutions in which the cost will be approximately \$599/year.

14. The 2013 budget season has begun. The Board requested an outside agency review our current health insurance plan, the costs associated with the plans, the current employee stipend and the amount the employees are paying. J Roberts indicated Melcher & Prescott from Laconia may be able to assist the Town. A meeting will be set up with them.
15. The Board will be conducting and reviewing employee evaluations on Thursday, September 27 beginning at 7:30 a.m.
16. J Roberts indicated that Mark Streeter recently mowed the old landfill and noticed an area that was beginning to erode. The Board requested that the highway department view this property.
17. The Board discussed the meeting held regarding the Old Tamworth Inn. R Abraham indicated that he understands from the meeting that the taller structure will be staying and that the old building out back will be moved closer to the main building. It is the plan of the new owner to keep the buildings within the atmosphere of the village. No provisions were made for the parking nor was a date for renovations to begin announced.
18. R Abraham discussed with Mr. & Mrs. Forcier the name of the individual who made a complaint against their property not having the driveway paved. He indicated that the complainant did not have a problem with his name being announced. The name of the individual is John Parillo. R Abraham confirmed that this abutter was the individual who made several complaints about the property owned by Mr. & Mrs. Forcier.
19. Mr. Forcier expressed concern with the communications made by the Selectmen in a non-public session and indicated that the meetings need to be open.

Adjournment

R Abraham moved and J Roberts supported to adjourn the meeting at 5:18 p.m. Vote was unanimous. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne M. Abear

Approved by the Selectmen: 9/20/2012

Robert Abraham

John Roberts

James Hidden