

TOWN OF TAMWORTH SELECT BOARD

Select Board Meeting 5:30 PM

Thursday, May 25th, 2023

- RSA 91-A:3 II (c) Session #1
- RSA 91-A:3 II (a) Session #2

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chairman Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:35, and made a motion to go into Nonpublic RSA 91-A:3 II (c), Session #1, and RSA 91-A:3 II (a), Session #2, Behr Seconded. Roll call vote Behr yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes. Those present are Select Board members Behr, Schaeffer (electronically), Prentice, and Roberts, and Town Administrator Myer, Ed Comeau of Government Oversight. Joining the meeting are Amber Sadlier, Race Director for Reach the Beach, Damon Steer of the Conway Daily Sun, Emily Verny, Nick Grant, Zach Remick, on Zoom Maureen & Jim Diamond, Linda Eldridge, Police Chief Littlefield,

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

- RSA 91-A:3 II (a)
- Signing Town Property Sales Documents.
- Appointment Form, Carrol County Communications District, Pam Hearn
- Discretionary Preservation Easement Application, Map 408, lot 7

NEW BUSINESS: Motion to

- **Public Hearing – Barn Easements** – Roberts motioned to open a public hearing for the Barn Easement applications, Prentice seconded. Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes. Roberts asked if any members of the public would like to comment or ask a question, Becca Boyden stated that Barn Easements were an excellent program. Hearing no other comments Roberts motioned to approve the Discretionary Preservation Easement Application for Map 406, Lot 15, Map 401, Lot 8, and Map 408, Lot 12, Prentice seconded, Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes. Roberts motioned to close the public hearing, Prentice seconded, Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes.
- **Groundwater Protection Ordinance** - in anticipation of the Groundwater Protection Ordinance taking effect in 2024 Becca Boyden was invited by the Select Board to share her professional knowledge of what an Inspection/compliance Officer does. Roberts thanked Boyden for making the time to meet with the Board. Boyden discussed her experience in Effingham where she works, which is reactive in many ways. Effingham has a permit process, and noted that as Tamworth does not have a permit process, it will have to have another solution for what would trigger inspections and compliance, possibly creating an inventory of business properties, or creating a questionnaire for all businesses. Roberts noted that the Planning Board subcommittee will put together a list of businesses. Becca works 12 hours a week, most of which is building permits, she does site inspection, and all the processing. A good portion is enforcement. Her primary responsibility is to issue building permits. Behr asked if the compliance officer should be involved before the ordinance comes into effect and goes around to the business to work with them before it comes into effect. All agreed this might be a good strategy. Boyden noted that the town will want some kind of documentation system in place to make the compliance work make sense. Steer asked if this would morph into more rules, and Prentice clarified that the Select Board doesn't have authority to go beyond the GWPO. Discussion ensued. Prentice stated that we only want to enforce the GWPO and nothing beyond the voter-approved mandate. Nick Grant commented that we will have to find our own way as we learn to create our model.
- Recreation Department report: Emily thanked Amy Carter, of the Cook Library and the people at the Tamworth Distillery for their help in planning the Fourth of July festivities. She then reported on all of her activities (see report attached below). Prentice asked about creating a Lacrosse program, Roberts noted that we might not have enough kids to make a team. It might be too hard to put something together. Maureen thanks Emily for her quick work on recreation activities.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Road Renaming Discussion – Myer framed some of the legal elements, specifically that while the Select Board has the legal authority to change a road name, it is not required to. Myer noted that as Bryant Road, Bryant Mill Road and Bryant Heights Road are very close together the concern is less than it otherwise would be. Littlefield spoke about the issue, at first glance he thought it would be easy since there was only one resident, but he took another look, and feels it is a non-issue. Robert said we leave it alone, and closed out the discussion.
- **Reach the Beach**, Amber Sadlier, Race Director presenting. Sadlier is here to address any concerns. Prentice feels the community has noticed that the event has gotten more chaotic. It feels lawless. Chief Littlefield outlined his concerns:

Van Issues:

- Vans are decorated with exterior lighting which violate motor vehicle law and become a distraction to other traffic.
- Vans often have writing on the side that contain inappropriate language or sexual innuendos. (Google: Ragnar van quote images)
- Van operators drive in complete disregard for traffic laws and the safety to others, including runners on the roadway.
- Vans will stage on the side of roads and in designated areas and can sometimes be found urinating just outside their van or other people's property.

Runner Issues:

- The race passes through Tamworth at nightfall and visibility of runners is limited, even with their safety vest and lights, especially during times of rain.
- Runners do not always wait for officer's approval for them to cross the road, which creates a traffic hazard to the motorist and puts the officers at risk.
- Runners are not always on the correct side of the road and sometimes can be found running down the middle of the road, on roads such as Depot Rd (no painted lines on road).

Cost and Benefits:

- In the past the Outing Club has received a minimal donation for their work at one of the check points, and the PTA has received contributions for their work at another checkpoint. The PTA has expressed no interest in helping this year due to lack of volunteers and interest. Other than that, the town receives no money for the event and local Tamworth businesses do not benefit from the event.
- There are associated costs for the town that include my office's time for administrative purposes (approving race permit, coordinating details, coordinating lighting and other issues, setting up no parking signs and police line tape to deter unwanted parking), as well as additional patrols along the race route to ensure safety of the runners and motorists.
- Additional discussion ensued, Roberts made a motion that the town will not approve Reach the Beach going through the town, Prentice seconded, roll call vote, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes.
- Zach Remick updated on FEMA visit yesterday to review the damage for the 4/30/23 – 5/1/23 storm. Currently total costs are estimated at around \$100K. While we were luckier than other towns, it's a lot for one small department to absorb. The Select Board thanked Mr. Remick for all his hard work.

Signature file:

- Roberts motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes, May 18th, 2023, Behr seconded. Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve the Nonpublic Meeting Minutes, RSA 91-A:3 II (a), Session #1, RSA 91-A:3 II (c), Session #2, Behr seconded. Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve the Barnstormer's Letter of Permission to sell Liquor. Behr seconded. Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes.
- Discretionary Preservation Easement Application:

- Map 406, Lot 15
- Map 401, Lot 8
- Map 408, Lot 12
- Roberts motioned to approve the Driveway Permit Application Map 212, Lot 52, Sub Lot 7, Behr seconded. Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve the Appointment Form, Carroll County Communications District, Behr seconded. Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve the Payroll Manifest: \$35,255.97, Behr seconded. Roll call vote Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes, Schaeffer yes.
- Cash Used: \$4,728,416.53

Board updates:

Behr: Attended the Sewer Commission meeting, and it seems there is good news. This board determined that some of the buildings were assessed incorrectly, they reassessed and had the engineer review and approve. DES said they would review and be in touch, which was seven weeks ago. Feeling the need to move forward, the commission made an addendum to their ordinance including RSA 149:1, they feel they have the authority to go ahead and review the four applications that are currently standing. So they are moving ahead. This is good news for the village.

Prentice: Met with the planning board last night and went over the revised subdivision regulations. Also met with the Personnel Committee and finished the first draft. That will be sent to the Select Board next week.

There will most likely be a work session. Karl and Lianne also worked on the Memorial, there is no event this year as no one has stepped up. Prentice thanks Linda Eldridge for her help on the Personnel committee

Roberts: Scott Bridge will be replaced in one to two months, it should only take one to two days. It should come in under budget.

Schaeffer: Reached out to some contacts for MWV committee they will send the select board a letter outlining the duties and dates. Willie Farnum has been working on the opening and closure plans.

Public Input:

- Thank you all for everything we did tonight! Jim and Maureen diamond.
- Damon asked again about the GWPO staffing Prentice pointed out that it is all still to be determined.
- Emily Verny asked the Select board – do they have to approve every hire? Yes they do, though not for volunteers.

Roberts motioned to adjourn 7:49

Emery Roberts

Karl Behr

Richard Doucette

Lianne Prentice

Steve Schaeffer

Tamworth Rec Department Report: Submitted by Emily Verny 5/25/2023

Current Programs:

- T-Ball (youth ages 4-7) Saturday mornings, 15 kids signed up, well attended.
- Adult Pickleball is Tuesdays & Thursdays 5:30 – dark, very well attended.
- Pickleball 101 beginner adult classes, 1st session filled up, will host again in July.
 - Posted tennis court schedule online.
 - Purchased a lock box for materials at the tennis courts.
 - Will have professional pickleball lines painted on courts.
 - Working on online registration

Upcoming Programs/Events:

- July 1st Fireworks – band, tent, fireworks, food trucks, porta-potties all lined up
- July 4th Family Fun Day
 - Parade registration, schedule and promotional materials are ready to go, will start promoting this weekend.
 - Will promote on Exchange, website, flyers and Conway Daily Sun
 - Big thanks to Cook Memorial Library, Tamworth Outing Club, and Distillery for helping.
 - Looking for volunteers!!

Summer Programming:

- Friday Field Trips for ages 6-12, every Friday July 14th – Aug 18th 8:00 – 3:00
- Budgeted for 50 kids + 10 adult chaperones/counselors.
- Field Trip destinations are reserved.
- Bus has been reserved.
- Plan to promote & have registration sign ups available by June 2nd.
- KA Brett Title 1 Funding may help expand the field trips or additional programming Aug 18th – September 1st.

Swim Program:

- Ads have been posted on website, Exchange, Conway Daily Sun, and Kennett High School
- An individual from Sandwich who is very interested in hosting a swim program at Bearcamp Pond, has experience with children and hydrotherapy – will obtain WSI this June.
- Camp Mowgli has offered to do a free lifeguard certification June 7th – 10th.
- Partner with TCNA to offer parent infant/toddler water safety course.

Long Term Goals:

- Scheduled meeting with KA Brett athletic director to establish Fall/Winter sport schedule and mirror that programming for K-4th grade.
- Seniors exercise class focused on movement, light weights and stretching.
- Adult recreation such as a softball league, ultimate frisbee or flag football
- Family movie night on the lawn this summer