

TOWN OF TAMWORTH SELECT BOARD

Thursday, June 29th 6:00 pm

Meeting Minutes

In attendance: Select Board Members Emery Roberts, Richard Doucette, Steven Schaeffer, Lianne Prentice. Emily Verny, administrative assistant. Ed Comeau of Government Oversight. Hillary Behr, Paul Priestman, Bruno Siniscalchi, Richard and Eileen Lennon, Ellen Farnum, Gabrielle Watson. Via Zoom: Maureen Diamond.

6:03 Roberts calls the meeting to order.

Energy Committee: Gabrielle Watson is here to talk about the NH Community Power Coalition and introduce herself as the committee Chair, Ellen Farnum as the Secretary and Ted Morgan as the Vice Chair. David Kunhardt is also here on behalf of the NH Community Power Coalition to talk about community power. Watson announces they received the grant for the energy audit on the Town Office building and will be doing a visit to the Club Motorsports tomorrow morning to organize a classic electric car expo. Community Power Coalition providers purchase units of energy on behalf of the community. The Select board contracts with a provider, the provider goes to the energy market and buys energy at the lowest rate that it can and then sells that to the community. The difference between community power providers and utility companies is that by law utility companies are only allowed to go to the market twice per year. Whatever price the market is providing, that's what they get and that's what's passed onto us. Typically, those prices are higher than what the Community Power providers can get. power at a lower rate than the utility company. This could result in a 30-40% energy savings. The town would contract with a community power provider, lines and poles and bills are still supplied and maintained by Eversource but the supply part of your bill changes. All of these programs are set up on an opt-out basis, so everyone is eligible to enroll unless they decide to opt-out. If the board agrees this is a good idea, there would be a series of community meetings and prepare preliminary documents and then voted on at town meeting. If voted on, then the board is authorized to contract with a specific provider. Discussion ensued. Watson recommends we pursue the community power, attend meetings and seek education and pursue a contract with The Community Power Coalition of NH. Doucette makes a motion to authorize the Energy Committee to begin the process of pursuing a community power program in Tamworth, with CPCNH. Prentice seconds. Discussion: Roberts questions if this is voted on and adopted at town meeting, do all residents have to opt in? No, this would be optional. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Sewer Commission: Hillary Behr introduces herself as the chairperson of Tamworth Sewer Commission and introduces Paul Priestman as a commissioner. Behr gives an update on sewer commission business, operate independently of select board but operate and manage a Town owned utility. The commission has been doing maintenance on the infrastructure of the system, behind the library including the leach field to make sure pumps are sealing correctly which affects the overall efficiency of the system. The system has capacity to support 18,272 gallons per day, and the average current usage meter over a 10-day period is reading 1,500-1,800 gallons per day. The meter will be read daily in the months of July and

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August. Been working on sewer ordinance and using Sandwich Sewer ordinance as a model. Educating public and users regarding disposable wipes. April 6th submitted new usage chart, using the DES table we put together what we think the actual usage is for each building. This was done by a previous sewer commission when the system was bought by town, resulting in the non-compliance because they submitted much higher numbers than the current commission. Our numbers are more accurate and show that we're in compliance. These numbers are estimates and not based on actual usage, we would need actual water meters on each building to have actual usage (and that's being looked at). DES won't let us add any users to the system because of over compliance. On April 6th, submitted new usage chart and waited 2 months for response. Sent another letter on June 8th stating we are moving ahead and received response from June 9th they would like to work with us but want to be sure the numbers we submitted are accurate. The next steps are to have a meeting in person with DES and go over the map of the system as built. Discussion ensued.

Community Pool Committee: Paul Priestman, requesting exploratory committee be formed into looking at building an indoor pool. Pools have a great way of keeping people active, engaged. The committee would investigate how big, what it would cost, operating expenses, how to fund and then fill the board in with details. Doucette says there have been at least 2 efforts in the last 10 years in the valley to build a pool. Moultonborough was more recent example and started as a pool but grew into a gym, lounge, track and got shot down. A big part of what the committee would have to figure out is the grant opportunities. Prentice says grants can get things happened but how to keep it going? Insurance and operating costs would have to be a part of it. Discussion ensued. Prentice makes a motion that the board supports the exploration of a Community Pool Committee with a minimum of 5 people. Roberts seconds. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Roberts makes a motion to appoint Shauna Peterson as a Veteran Committee member. Prentice seconds. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Department Head Report: Emily Verna reports that July 1st fireworks are scheduled for Saturday. July 4th is the parade and family fun day, food trucks, music and lawn games. Friday Field trips start July 14th, 45 kids are enrolled with 15 on a wait list. The swim program came together at the last minute, 2 instructors received their WSI and Lifeguard certifications. Over 75 kids requested to enroll, 40 of which were Tamworth residents. Pickleball has been well attended. It is time to start focusing on fall sports.

Ellen Farnum talks about LRPC Household Hazardous Waste significant changes to the program, no longer accepting universal waste (ie: florescent bulbs and batteries). The Tamworth Recycling Committee is printing informational brochures and wants to know if the Select Board will help support the committee by paying to print the brochures. The committee has quotes from different sources, the more you print the cost goes down. Discussion ensued. Prentice suggests we revisit this in two weeks when the Town Administrator gets back.

Town Administrator Report: The bank balance is \$3,815,922

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Signature file:

Roberts makes a motion to approve the Select Board meeting minutes for June 15th, 2023. Prentice seconds. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Roberts makes a motion to approve the Select Board Non-Public meeting minutes for June 15th, 2023 under RSA 91-A:3 (c) session #1, RSA 91-A:3 (a) session #2, RSA 91-A:3 (c) session #3. Prentice seconds. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Roberts makes a motion to approve the abatement for \$257 for Map 215 Lot 49-C2. Prentice seconds. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Roberts makes a motion to approve the NH State liquor license regarding Bellen Events, LLC. Prentice seconds. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Roberts honors Harry Remick who passed away this week, Harry served 57 years on the Tamworth Fire Department. At the time of his passing Harry was a fire ward, firefighter and deputy forest fire warden. Harry honorably served 36 years in the US Coast Guard, 47 years as a fire warden and member of the Carroll County warden association for 55 years. He was a member of the fireman's club for 57 years, serving as the officer for many of those years, Harry was in charge of maintaining the plaques on the walls in dedication to the firefighters who had volunteered 10 or more years – to which Harry's name will now be added.

Roberts makes a motion to approve the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$36,934.99. Prentice seconds. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Roberts makes a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$182,109.88. Prentice seconds. Roll call vote: Doucette yes, Schaeffer yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

Doucette: Has attended the cemetery trustees meeting as well as attending the Sanborn Head meeting every other week. Doing Geotech pouring starting July 17th and use that data to help finalize the design of the building.

Schaeffer: The last TSIC meeting talked about what a temporary transfer station would look like. Discussion ensued. What we want to take and how big to get is decision of board not TSIC, but can take recommendations from TSIC. There is still the possibility of partnering with other towns.

Prentice: Attended the LRPC annual meeting, Tamworth EDC was awarded an honor for their work that they did to educate people about options for high-speed internet and bring the possibility to everyone in town. Kate Thompson was awarded for her contribution to revitalizing the history center, the Other Bakery, etc. The Planning Board meeting last night it was brought up that it would be great to have someone from Tamworth on the MWV economic development council. Meetings are the 3rd Monday of every month by zoom and no meetings in the summer. If someone from the board can step into that role great, if not we should post on the website and promote. Verny confirms it is posted on the website. The Personnel committee work session has been postponed and rescheduled for July 27th at 5:00 pm.

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Roberts: Missed the CIP meeting due to work, but they had a productive meeting and have everything together to put together the spreadsheet with 5 year projects. Prentice recommends having a plan for the building phase of renovating the TCNA space that the Town will be taking over.

Roberts makes a motion to adjourn at 7:50 pm.