

TOWN OF TAMWORTH SELECT BOARD

Select Board Meeting 5:00 PM

Thursday, May 18th, 2023

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

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Select Board member Roberts called the meeting to order at 5:03 PM; those present are Select Board members Roberts, Doucette, Behr, Prentice, Town Administrator Myer, and Ed Comeau of Government Oversight. At 5:04, Roberts motioned to go into non-public RSA 91-A:3 II (a), Session #1 and RSA 91-A:3 II (c), Session #2, Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes. Roberts motioned to come out of non-public at 5:42 PM, Prentice seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes. Others joining the meeting at approximately 6:00 PM are Mr. & Mrs. Gary Ward, Nick Grant, and Maureen and Jim Diamond, Linda Eldridge on Zoom. Erin and Devon Ames joined the meeting at 6:46.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

- State Division of Parks and Recreation, Municipality Certification of Authority
- Notification of Overdue Report of Wood and Timer Cut Map 203, Lot 040
- Notification of Overdue Report of Wood and Timer Cut Map 414, Lot 057, Sub-Lot 058
- Notification of Overdue Report of Wood and Timer Cut Map 212, Lot 021, Sub-Lot 006
- Notification of Overdue Report of Wood and Timer Cut Map 401, Lot 052
- Web Manager Position
- Discussion of Summer Schedule

SIGNATURE FILE:

- Roberts motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes on May 11th, 2023. Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve Non-public Meeting Minutes, RSA 91-A:3 II (a), May 11th, 2023; Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Municipality Certification of Authority - Roberts motioned to authorize Dana Littlefield, Police Chief, to sign contracts on behalf of the Town of Tamworth with the State Division of Parks and Recreation, Department of Natural and Cultural Resources; Prentice seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve intent to Cut Map 409, Lot 5, Access Road – Benjamin Wentworth Drive; Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve the Yield Tax Levy, Map 419, Lot 7, \$3,737.09; Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve the Yield Tax Levies, Map 414, Lot 17, \$0, Map 406, Lot 33, \$0, Map 403, Lot 5, \$0, and Map 414, Lot 96, Sub Lot 1, \$0 Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Notification of Overdue Report of Wood and Timer Cut Map 203, Lot 040, Map 414, Lot 057, Sub-Lot 058, Map 212, Lot 021, Sub-Lot 006, and Map 401, Lot 052, Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve Accounts Payable: \$353,564.53; Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette

yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

- Cash Used: \$4,693,160.56

NEW BUSINESS:

- Mr. Gary Ward's request for reduced dumping fees: Mr. Ward showed the select board photos taken on his property and explained the mess that his property was left in by the previous owner. Chairman Roberts suggested he save money by getting a dumpster and using a stump dump. Discussion ensued. Roberts noted this is between the former owner and Mr. Ward, not the town, and that he could choose to take legal action. Roberts noted there is not much the town can do as this does not fall under the Select Board's purview.
- Planning Board, Ground Water Protection Ordinance – Implementation, Nick Grant presenting: Directed the Board to refer to Sheldon Perry's letter that offered guidance on how to move forward with the ordinance. Stated the GWPO Subcommittee will support the Select Board during this transition. The ordinance goes into effect on January 1, 2024, which gives businesses some time to plan for the new ordinance. Offered a personal opinion – it seems most people are pleased to have local supervision of the groundwater: the ordinance adds to no laws that don't already exist by NH State law. The first priority is to create a map of all those businesses that are on the aquifer. They will all be notified. The town will need an enforcement arm to ensure compliance. There are two types of models, one with a 3-year cycle of inspections and/or another responding to complaints only. The idea of a regional compliance agent has been suggested by some. The hope is to educate the businesses and work collaboratively to resolve issues, and to not be punitive, but rather to focus on protecting the water as a community. Discussion ensued about a compliance officer who could address issues that have an environmental impact. The Board thanked Mr. Grant for coming in and requested frequent communication and review of outgoing community communications.
- Select Board Meeting Frequency discussion: Should the Board go to an every-other-week meeting schedule for the summer? Prentice suggested that the Select Board members keep Thursdays booked in case of an emergency and need to meet but only actually schedule to meet every other week. Roberts suggested we give it a try. We can always decide to go back to regular weekly meetings. Roberts made a motion to schedule Select Board meetings every other week, beginning June 1st, skipping the June eight meeting, and so on; Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Web Manager Roberts made a motion to hire Becky Mason as Web manager at \$20 per hour for three hours per week with a cap of 3 hours weekly. Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Energy Committee, Community Development Finance Authority, Richard Doucette presenting. The Energy Committee is applying for a grant to the CDFA for an energy audit for the Town Hall building. 25% will be paid by the Tamworth Foundation; this grant is for the other 75%. The total cost of the audit is \$4,600. Prentice motioned to authorize the energy committee to submit the CDFA grant. Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.
- Northern Borders Regional Commission Grant – Resolution for "Authorized Official" Doucette is submitting a grant for the transfer station for \$1M. Doucette is entering information into the portal. Doucette suggests he be the primary contact and that Keats Myer be the "Authorized Official." Doucette made a motion to appoint the Town Administrator, Keats Myer, as the Authorized Official; Roberts seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Report on Tax Deeded Property Sale, the Town Administrator reported the following town-owned property sales:
 - 725 Turkey Street was auctioned to Emery Roberts of Page Hill in Tamworth for 94,000.
 - 725 Gardner Hill Road was auctioned to Paul Askew of Moultonborough for \$74,000.

- The Gilman Valley Road plot was sold to Mr. & Mrs. Leslie of Tamworth for \$5,500
- Moose Plate Grant Application for Town House Windows Update, Doucette updating - Shared the completed application with the Board; this is a 100% state funding grant and is sourced from Moose Plate revenue dollars. It was reviewed by the Friends of the Town House, and Doucette appreciated their input. Prentice motioned to submit the moose plate grant as presented in the amount of \$7,200 for the restoration of town house windows over two years. Doucette seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Prentice yes, Roberts yes.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- Bank Balance: \$1,751,711
- Supported the new Rec Director, worked on onboarding the new Transfer Station employee, worked on town property sales, and performed other regular daily duties.

SELECT BOARD UPDATE:

Doucette: Worked on several grants.

Behr: Nothing to report.

Prentice: Rough draft of a checklist for junkyard management which might be ready for the next meeting. LRPC's Invitation to their annual dinner should be a very interesting presentation.

Roberts: Visited with the Road Agent. The paving is done on Depot and Washington Hill Road. They will also pave the end of Philbrook Road. Attended the town auction, pleased that the town will get all its overdue taxes and other expenditures back.

PUBLIC INPUT: Maureen thanked everyone.

NON-PUBLIC:

ADJOURNMENT: Roberts made a motion to adjourn at 7:12 PM.

Emery Roberts

Karl Behr

Richard Doucette

Lianne Prentice

Steven Shaeffer