

TOWN OF TAMWORTH

SELECT BOARD OFFICE

Select Board Meeting: 6:00 PM

Thursday, January 26, 2023

Meeting Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:00 those present are: Select Board Members Roberts, Behr, Goodson, and Prentice, Town Administrator Myer, Ed Comeau, Fire Chief Colcord, Fire Ward Jim Bowles, Gabrielle Watson, Linda Cook, Bruno Siniscalchi on Zoom, Ellen Farnum.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

NEW BUSINESS:

- Fire Department Update, Chief Colcord Answered 38 calls, 27 of which were EMS. Radio came in today. Fire inspector classes are producing new trainees, New Command Car had a problem – all got fixed quickly and well. There are 32 people on the roster for fires. Brief discussion about vehicle loan from the state.
- Energy Commission Apointments: Two candidates have put their names forward, Ellen Farnum and Gabrielle Watson. Ted Morgan and Matt Griffin both plan to also put their names forward. Ellen's preference is to be an alternate. Dexter Harding may be the liaison from the School Board. Goodson expressed interest in researching the solar options and composting. Matt Griffin is interested in researching small hydro-energy. Ellen suggested that she be a full member who would step aside when others step up. Discussion ensued, the Select Board opted to wait a week to make appointments to see if additional candidates come forward.
- Report from the Planning Board on the Ground Water Protection Ordinance. Myer summarized the report, the key takeaway is that we are the only town with no paid code or enforcement officer. Prentice requested that we have time to look at the numbers and what the costs are, adding that it is very hard when enforcement falls to an elected board, specifically, it is difficult for the select board to apply the law consistently over time. Behr suggested we could share an enforcement person with another town, with a very part time position. Myer brought up the junky yards as another item in addition to the GPO to oversee. Equal enforcement of the law is key. So next step would be to invite the enforcer from Sandwich, to Becca Boyden from Effingham, to come to a meeting and share what they do. Roberts suggested for now two select people should go ahead and continue the Junky Yard inspections. Myer suggested that Emily and Keats research related costs after town meeting. All agreed.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Update on Budget and Warrant Article: Myer updated board on budget. One item that came up this week is our attorney advised us that the contingency should legally be 1% of last year's appropriations less capital spending and interest on debt spending. This would bring our contingency down from \$200,000 to \$36,000, a major change. Roberts argued that he wouldn't be comfortable with that small a contingency, and that he thinks it should be \$200,000. Cook shared that typically the warrant article and budget are posted on the website. Myer will post as soon as first draft is complete.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- Account Balance: \$4,324,296
- Working on the budget and warrant article.

SIGNATURE FILE:

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- Roberts motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes, January 19th, 2023, Goodson Seconded, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes
- Roberts motioned to approve the Non Public - RSA 91-A:3 II (a), January 19th, 2023, Meeting Minutes Goodson Seconded, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve the Fire Ward Reappointment Form, Goodson Seconded, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes
- Roberts motioned to approve the Tamworth Emergency Operations Plan Annual Review, Goodson Seconded, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes
- Roberts motioned to approve the Federal Excess Property Cooperative Agreement: Goodson Seconded, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes
- Robert motioned to approve the Yield Tax on Timber Cut Map 414 Lot 14, for \$156.39, Goodson Seconded, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes
- Robert motioned to approve the Accounts Payable: \$481,939.05, Goodson Seconded, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes

SELECT BOARD UPDATE:

Behr: Nothing to report.

Goodson: Tamworth Recycling Project - Watched a film about the composting that the Town of Hollis is doing, and saving a lot of money by doing composting. 23% of what was shipped is now not shipped.

Prentice: Attended the Planning Board meeting last night, which focused on subdivision regulations.

Roberts: Sign-ups are out for signing up for board positions. School, Select, & Planning boards. Roberts wanted everyone to know that he will not be at the budget hearing, as he will be out of town. He will be at Town Meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT: Bruno Siniscalchi: questions about putting payroll in the town report. Mr. Comeau suggested a numbered method, Myer countered that set of health insurance holders is so small it would not protect their confidential information. Discussion ensued.

NON-PUBLIC: Roberts motioned to go into Nonpublic at 7:17 under RSA 91-A:3 II (c), Prentice seconded, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes. Roberts motioned to come out of non public at 7:28. Goodson Second, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Prentice yes, Roberts Yes.

ADJOURNMENT: Roberts motioned to adjourn at 7:28.

Emery Roberts

Karl Behr

Richard Doucette

Kelly Goodson

Lianne Prentice