

TOWN OF TAMWORTH

SELECT BOARD OFFICE

Select Board Meeting: 6:00 PM

Thursday, February 16, 2023

CALL TO ORDER: Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm those present are Select board members Roberts, Doucette, Behr, Goodson, Town Administrator Keats Myer, Ed Comeau, Bruno Siniscalchi, Shawn Mr. & Mrs. Shawn Flynn.

CHANGES/ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

- NH Department of Safety, Inspection Station Permit
- Accounts Payable: \$11,644.40

NEW BUSINESS:

- Police Department Report, Chief Littlefield presenting. The Chief stated all is going well. The new Sargent is picking up caseload and helping a great deal. The Evidence Room was in disarray, and now they have been able to finish moving everything, making it possible to have the Interview Room back. There is a lot of paperwork involved in finishing up the cleaning, and real property that has value that will be auctioned off eventually. The new recruit is in week 6 of the academy, has ten weeks to finish. He is driving the old cruiser, which has been repaired recently. The chief issued a reminder about scams – its tax season – at least once a month someone comes in having been scammed. Be vigilant. There's a lot of information about you out there, those who have bad intentions can know a lot about you. Be very wary of requests to wire money.
- 911 Text Alert Protocol and Forms, Zach Remick, Chief Littlefield. Littlefield, Colcord, Myer, and Remick will have access to Text Alert and will receive training. Discussion around the opt-in version was had, and the Select Board chose to not use the opt-in version, and only use for emergencies. Goodson motioned to authorize Keats Myer to be the Primary Point of Contact for NH 911 text alert system, Roberts seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes Goodson yes, Roberts yes.
- Hazard Mitigation Plan Update and Grant, Zach Remick presenting. It is time to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan, written in 2019, and now we must update for 2024. We were awarded a grant from the State for \$7,500, and we contribute \$2,500 in the form of staffing hours on the plan. **Roberts motioned to accepted the terms of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program as presented in the amount of \$7,500.00 for updating the local hazard mitigation plan. Furthermore, the Board acknowledges that the total cost of this project will be \$10,000.00, in which the town will be responsible for a 25% match (\$2,500.00),** Behr second, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts yes. Myer asked if there would be a committee to accomplish the update. Remick stated that Police, Fire, the Town Administrator, a member of the Select Board, and the Emergency Management Director would all participate. Littlefield said this is an important document. Helps to identify issues with certain roads, or other issues ahead of flooding, or other weather related factors – can be helpful in getting grant funding, plus the town must update plan to get FEMA money in an emergency.
- Lakes Region Planning Commission Household Hazardous Waste Appropriation Form FY 23 – Goodson shared that Sue Stowbridge, who used to manage Tamworth's participation in the hazardous waste program, has passed the torch to Ellen Farnum and Maud Anderson. Goodson motioned to sign the LRPC form, Roberts seconded, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts yes.

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- Deputy EMD Appointment Discussion, Zach Remick presenting. Remick requested that the Chairman Roberts read Mr. Bauman's letter to the Select Board:

As of February 3, 2023 I, Matt Baumann, will be resigning from the Deputy EMD position. This is not a paid position nor I do not have the time or desire to continue this role.

From reading messages on Facebook and the Tamworth Exchange, it sounds as though there are many others in town who are "more qualified" as they seem to know what's best for the town. This past winter has really brought out all of these issues during weather emergencies that have never came up before. Harsh weather, snow by the feet and temperatures dipping into the negatives are not new weather reports for New England but it seems some people think if it will possibly rain then the shelter needs to open.

While Chief Colcord was out in guard duty at the beginning of Covid, a prior select board member took all of EMD duties and never even inquired with me about doing anything. Now our new EMD has taken over as of last year and every decision he's making is questioned by the townspeople. Their exceptions are unattainable.

I look forward to serving my community in the many other ways I volunteer my time. Unfortunately, this Deputy EMD position will not be one of them.

Kindly,

*Matt Baumann
Asst. Chief/EMT
Tamworth Fire/Rescue Department*

Zach followed up stating he took over position last July, the town's people are wanting a lot more out of the EMD out of then in the past - Zach stated he cannot do this by himself. Roberts asked if he has anyone to replace Baumann in mind. Remick stated he does not. Roberts clarified that warming shelters are not necessarily needed, but a communications plan would be helpful, and clarity on what are the factors when one would be open. Goodson wondered if it would be beneficial to list warm places nearby that would be open. Doucette asked how feedback gets to Remick? Remick replied Facebook and the Tamworth Exchange. Doucette offered to assist in easing the burden of the complaints and demands. Remick felt 911 Text Alert will work better as it only alerts the Tamworth community. Chief Littlefield clarified that the EMD job it is 100 percent administrative and directive, not actually boots on the ground. The state will see an event coming and they will make recommendations to the EMD (for example like sheltering in place). It is up to the Select Board to make the final emergency decisions with the support of the EMD, Fire Chief, and Police Chief. This was a helpful discussion for the Select board. Littlefield suggested that the future EMD could help coordinate emergency volunteers, and would actually be critical in an emergency.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Town House – Doucette met today with Karl, Rick Moreau, and Chief Colcord. Chief Colcord informed them that the fire escape would, with some stair repairs, which have been completed, last another year. Doucette reminded those present that the Select Board had approved a plan to fund the repair with ARPA money, and Moose plate grant funds. That is good news as it gives everyone a bit of

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flexibility. Doucette stated that the question now is when can we get on the contractors schedule? If we can get a commitment from Addison Mason Builders for a start date, it would be easier to do it as soon as possible. Behr has a call in to Addison Mason Builders. We could forgo moose plate, and sign a contract saying contingent on approval at town meeting. Doucette added that Addison Mason Builder's plan will be a good one - with additional roof it will be easier to keep clear.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

- Account Balance: \$3,963,637.00
- TA Myer reported that having finished up the budget and Warrant she has been catching up on many other items that come across her desk.

SIGNATURE FILE:

- Roberts motioned to approve Select Board Meeting Minutes, Budget Hearing, February 9th, 2023 Goodson Second, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts abstains.
- Roberts motioned to approve the Select Board Meeting Minutes, Warrant Review and Recommendations, February 13, 2023, Goodson Second, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts abstains.
- Roberts motioned to approve Nonpublic Meeting minutes, February 13th, 2023, Goodson Second, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts abstains.
- Roberts motioned to approve Building Resilient Infrastructure and Communities (BRIC) Grant Agreement, Goodson Second, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve Action Ambulance Service Agreement – Renewal 2025-2030, Goodson Second, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve Payroll: \$43,288.53, Goodson Second, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts yes.
- Roberts motioned to approve Accounts Payable: \$11,644.40, Goodson Second, roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts yes.
- Combined cash used: \$1,554,942.70
- Roberts motioned to approve the application for the Inspection Station in 97 Thibodeau lane. Goodson seconded. roll call vote Doucette yes, Behr yes, Goodson yes, Roberts yes.

SELECT BOARD UPDATE: Doucette shared that on Tuesday at 7:00 pm there is a Solar Energy 101 at the library and on Zoom. Yesterday the EPA grant was filed – kudos to Willie, Maude and Gabrielle. Doucette participated on a phone call with Sanborn Head who are doing the design on the transfer station. Also met with Chief Colcord and Karl Behr today about the Town House.

Behr – Attended the library trustees meeting. Working on side walk replacement, will happen this spring. Their also charging ahead with regional book mobile idea. Probably a year away. Their Strategic plan in done.

Goodson: Conservation Commission meeting on Monday. State forestry is doing a timber harvest off of Depot Road, on Irene's Way, it is about a 100 acre lot. Not sure if this will happen this fall or the following fall into winter.

Roberts: Nothing to report.

PUBLIC INPUT: Ed Comeau mentioned the chain of command and who makes the final recommendation for an emergency action. Discussion ensued, and all agreed it is the Select Board with support and guidance from the Fire, police and emergency management departments. Mr. Comeau also asked for a copy of the recently submitted EPA grant, Myer said she would get it to him.

NON-PUBLIC: None

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ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn 7:05

Emery Roberts, Chair

Karl Behr

Richard Doucette

Kelly Goodson

Lianne Prentice