

Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2015

Present: Wendy Brien-Baker, Chairman; Alan Urquhart, Selectman; James Bailey III, Selectman; Laura Buono, Town Administrator.

Chairman Brien-Baker opened the Selectmen's Meeting at 6:00 p.m.

In Attendance: Ian Donovan, Kenneth Stafford, Luke Levesque, Zane Merva, Patricia Drake,

1. NONPUBLIC SESSION

Chairman Brien-Baker moved to go into nonpublic session at 6:00 p.m. under RSA 91A:3II (b) hiring. Motion was seconded by Selectman Bailey. A roll call vote was taken. Chairman Brien-Baker – yes; Selectman Urquhart – yes. Motion passed unanimously.

In attendance: Chairman Brien-Baker, Selectman Urquhart, Selectman Bailey (entered after the beginning of the meeting), Town Administrator Laura Buono, Ian Donovan, Patricia Drake.

Capt. Donovan introduced Patricia Drake to the Selectmen and gave an overview of Ms. Drake's qualifications for the position of part-time dispatcher.

Chairman Brien-Baker moved to come out of nonpublic session at 6:07 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Bailey. A roll call vote was taken. Chairman Brien-Baker – yes; Selectman Urquhart – yes; Selectman Bailey - yes. Motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Brien-Baker moved to hire Patricia Drake as a part-time per diem dispatcher. Motion was seconded by Selectman Urquhart. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

2. OPEN SESSION

There was no public comment.

3. CHIEF STAFFORD – AMBULANCE BILLING

Chief Stafford met with the Selectmen to discuss ambulance billing and said that Concord Hospital business service's has decided to get out of the business of billing for ambulance runs. He stated that the Capital Area Compact went out and looked into other billing services and found Comstar to be the most desirable. He said in the past, Concord Hospital would charge the town 5% on anything billed whereas Comstar charges only on what they collect. Concord Hospital's collection rate was about 63% and they expect Comstar to be approximately 70%. Chief Stafford spoke about sending taxpayers to collection and said he's not in favor of the practice. He said Comstar will also make sure the paperwork is in order for our annual audit, etc.

Chief Stafford said that the full-time EMT recently left the department to move to Florida and at this time he is not planning on filling the position. He said he is going to use per diem employees to see

how it works. Chief Stafford said he has just brought a new paramedic on who seems to be working out well and said he wants to take a step back and see how it works before making a final decision.

Fire Department Equipment CRF – Chief Stafford said he spend approximately \$24,000 for 12 new sets of turnout gear and boots to replace sets that were failing. The gear washer/extractor they have is 28 years old and also needs replacement. He said he has received quotes for a new washer and has two prices with the lowest being \$4,000. Chief Stafford said it's not a regular commercial washing machine but one that is made for fire service (extractor). The Chief wanted to make sure the Selectmen approved of this also being taken out of the Equipment CRF. The Board had no problem with his request. Selectman Urquhart asked what they are going to do with the old gear. Chief Stafford said it gets destroyed because it's not safe.

Air Packs – Chief Stafford said he is working on getting the pricing for the new air packs. He said they cost approximately \$6,000 each and the department needs about 30 of them. He said originally his plan was to stagger them each year however, that doesn't work well based on changes that come out with regard to safety ratings and requirements. Chief Stafford said he is getting information on leasing purchasing them and feels doing it this way is going to be the best way for the taxpayers. He said the new packs will last for about 18 years.

2005 Ambulance – Chief Stafford brought up the old ambulance that was replaced this year and said that since they were only going to give us \$2,000 for a trade in, it wasn't traded in. He said he feels it is worth about \$4,000 and said he has another ambulance company out of the Milford area who covers the motorcross tracks who is interested in it. The Chief said they are also the biggest teacher of our EMT classes which cost about \$1,250 for each course. He asked the Selectmen for permission to work out a deal with them to exchange the old vehicle for a combination of cash and EMT classes. The Selectmen authorized Chief Stafford to make a deal that is in the best interest of the Town.

Selectman Urquhart asked if Chief Stafford has looked into the future of the fire department with regard to personnel. Chief Stafford said yes and said he thinks about it constantly and said that sooner or later we'll end up with 3 people on an engine and two on an ambulance. He would take the model that he uses for the EMS and pay them by the hour for 3 shifts for 24 hours per day. Equipment replacement was briefly discussed but will be discussed further during the budget process.

4. LUKE LEVESUE - RECYCLING

Luke Levesque spoke to the Selectmen about the state of the recycling program at the Transfer Station. Mr. Levesque said that over the last 9 months it has been a miserable problem to get rid of the recycling. No one wants it because there isn't a market for it and dual stream is more difficult than single stream. Mr. Levesque also said that no one wants glass. The company we've dealt with in Massachusetts closed the door on everyone and now they are going to Brattleboro, VT but they don't want the glass. It's a useless material now and it has to come out of the comingle stream. Mr. Levesque said they can take it out and try to recycle it on its own, which is costly and not easy to do or include it as part of the trash. He said we were paying \$25 - \$30 per ton for comingle but it's now costing \$70 per ton. He said that once we pull the glass out of it, the price down to \$30 per ton. Right now we are paying more to get rid of it then we are to get rid of our trash. Selectman Urquhart asked how the public will accept this change. Mr. Levesque said we'll have to see what happens but he has already spoken to a few residents about it. Glass is not a commodity and cost substantially more per ton through all companies. Mr. Levesque said he never thought he would be recommending this but it makes sense. Selectman Urquhart asked if we would save money if we bought a compactor. Mr. Levesque said if the glass was out of the recycling and we wanted to compact the loads, it would decrease the transportation cost. Mr. Levesque said he would like to see us remove the glass from the

recycling, get stable with getting rid of the recyclables, and then take a look at what to do with regard to compacting. Establishing a Transfer Station equipment capital reserve fund was mentioned for the future. Chairman Brien-Baker said she is good with Mr. Levesque's recommendation. Selectman Urquhart and Selectman Bailey agreed.

5. ELVD COMMISSIONERS

Zane Merva came to speak with the Selectmen with regard to the boat ramp. He said they have installed 5 kiosks around the lake for informational purposes and would like to place one at the boat ramp for the same reason. Mr. Merva said they would also like to place a trash can and do some clean up of branches in that area as well. He asked if the highway department would be able to come down and grade the area. Mr. Merva handed out photos of the area showing a past washout as well as some historical photos that show the sediment change over the years. He said the dredging of the lake is done but there hasn't been enough rain to bring the water up. Selectman Urquhart suggested they get in contact with fish and game for some information to place in the kiosk. The Selectmen agreed to have the kiosk installed. Selectman Bailey said whatever plan there is to work on the ramp will have to be approved through the Department of Environmental Services.

6. LIAISON REPORTS

Parks Board – Chairman Brien-Baker said the Parks Board is changing their meetings to the 3rd Tuesdays of the month and will be meeting at 7 p.m. instead of 7:30 p.m. They would like the Selectmen to appoint Eric Jackson and Susan Deyo as full members. Chairman Brien-Baker moved to appoint Mr. Jackson and Ms. Devo as full members. Motion was seconded by Selectman Bailey. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously. Chairman Brien-Baker said they did a little more talking with the architect about for the bathrooms for Grimes Field as well and they are having a meeting this coming week.

Economic Development Committee – Selectman Urquhart said the EDC met August 27th and went over the parking map and said they will finalize the data moving forward. There is a small group from the EDC that are working on the website with Civic Plus and they are meeting once a week to get that done. Selectman Urquhart said Mike Black is still having an issue with DES but he is working on it. Selectman Urquhart brought up blighted properties and said he would like to see an ordinance in Hillsborough moving forward and suggesting that we look at language that would fit our community.

Planning Board – Selectman Bailey said the Planning Director has been updating and cleaning up a lot of the ordinances in order to change the wording and update some of them (ie: electric signs). For example, with the electric signs they are looking into regulations on how bright signs are and how bright they can be. He said there is a woman from Goffstown coming in to give them some advice.

7. MANIFEST MOTION

Chairman Brien-Baker moved to authorize the Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign Payroll Check numbers 9038 – 9091 a/k/a Vouchers 35A, 36 & 37 in the amount of \$142,838.10 (includes 134 direct deposit stubs) and Accounts Payable Check numbers 12591 - 12699 a/k/a Vouchers 36 & 37 in the amount of \$965,377.02. Motion was seconded by Selectman Bailey. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

** A/P Checks include payment to Hillsboro/Deering School District in the amount of \$782,888.83.

8. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Brien-Baker moved to approve the Public Hearing minutes, the public and nonpublic meeting minutes of August 25, 2015. Wendy moved to unseal the nonpublic minutes of August 25th. Motion was seconded by Selectman Bailey. A vote was taken. Motion passed with one abstention (Selectman Bailey).

9. OTHER BUSINESS

Land Sales – The Selectmen reviewed the list of town owned properties outside of the Emerald Lake Village District. After a discussion on what was available, the Selectmen decided to move forward with the sale of the parcel on W. Mill St. in the same manner as the parcels in the ELVD (offering it to abutters first). Ms. Buono will ask the Assessor if he feels a minimum bid is warranted. Ms. Buono will also supply a copy of the list to the Conservation Commission to make sure there are no other parcels they wish to have the Town retain.

Solar PILOT Agreement – Ms. Buono informed the Selectmen that she has received an agreement from the company placing the solar garden on the landfill for the purpose information from the Solar Garden, LLC. Ms. Buono said she has sent the agreement to our attorney for review and will be meeting with the Assessor on the value. Chairman Brien-Baker moved to authorize Ms. Buono to negotiate and sign the agreement once she has the information discussed. The motion was seconded by Selectman Bailey. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

Conservation Commission – Ms. Buono said the Conservation Commission would like the Selectmen to add the wording “in perpetuity” to the purchase and sales agreement for the land they are purchasing. They would like these words added after the part of the P&S that indicates the deed should state that the property is for conservation purposes. The Selectmen did not feel comfortable placing the words “in perpetuity” in the deed.

10. CONSENT AGENDA

Chairman Brien-Baker moved to approve the consent agenda for September 8, 2015. Motion was seconded by Selectman Bailey. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

- MS1 – Summary Inventory of Valuation
- Yield Tax Levy in the amount of \$2,516.06
- Intent to Cuts – Map 9 Lot 2; Map 9 Lot 129
- Lien Discharge – Map 14 Lot 454

11. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Brien-Baker moved to adjourn at 8:08 p.m. Motion was seconded by Selectman Bailey. A vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously.

A true record.

Laura Buono
Town Administrator

Approved by:
Hillsborough Board of Selectmen

Date: _____

Wendy Brien-Baker, Chairman

Alan Urquhart, Selectman

James Bailey III, Selectman