

SELECTMEN'S MEETING NOTES

FEBRUARY 13, 2019

Called to Order 6:00 pm

Present: Selectmen: Melissa Spinney, Ed Pentaleri, Doug Baston Members of the Public: Mike Trask. Press: Jessica Clifford Clerk: Liz Brown

Public Comment: Mike Trask said there is still a phone issue at the fire department. They are still dropping calls. Selectman Spinney said they will be separating the town office phones and the fire department into two separate lines and a separate internet. She will keep Mike posted.

New Business:

Plowing Contract

Selectman Spinney said that Seth Hagar would like to extend the plowing contract for another two years and keep the same price.

Discussion involved having three trucks in town at a minimum during a storm and also about salt and the DOT ratio. Mike Trask said he thinks the town should have the contractor buy sand and salt so they are paying. The question was raised as to how they account for the sand and salt used on the trucks coming from our sand and salt shed vs. the trucks coming from Newcastle.

Selectman Spinney made a motion to offer a 2-year extension at the same pay on the plowing contract with Hagar as long as conditionals are met: 3 trucks in town and DOT ration of the salt. Selectman Baston seconded the motion and it passed.

Community Garden/Food Pantry

Selectman Spinney said there are plans to have a community garden here at a plot near the new town office. There is a refrigerator in the new office that will be used in conjunction with this also.

Selectman Baston talked to Darcie Hutchins about grant writing and the Trees Along Main Street grant. They have an idea of an orchard. This will also tie in to the community garden. All the selectmen were in agreement.

Proposed Adjustment to Stipends

The treasurer would like an increase of \$1,000 and will be keeping regular office hours. The CEO is now at \$18 per hour. Other towns are \$25-\$28 per hour. Would like to increase the CEO

rate to be more in line with other towns. The clerk will check with Newcastle, Jefferson and other area towns to get recommendations.

Selectman Baston thought the 1st selectman stipend should increase by \$500 but not until next year. Selectman Baston moved, Selectman Pentaleri seconded the motion and Selectman Spinney abstained. Mike Trask commented that he thought this was too low.

Old Business

New Town Office Update

There is now electricity. Revision has been there, and the heat pump is working. Ralph said they will be priming the archives on Friday. They have to put in a different outlet for the refrigerator. The plumbing is almost done. They are taking care of cracks, etc. before starting the flooring in the clerk's office. Ralph is also making a list of errors/things the contractor did.

A special thanks to Coleen Trask for volunteering to do all the taping.

Spirit of America Award

Selectman Spinney said she thinks it should go to the WW&F Railroad for all their help. She made a motion, seconded by Selectman Baston. Motion passed.

Update to CMP Case

Selectman Pentaleri said that next week we should be able to see what CMP's settlement is. All parties have to agree not to litigate. He said he would wait to comment until the settlement agreement is out.

Atlantic Salmon Federation

Maranda Nemeth sent a draft letter and Selectman Baston signed to endorse a application for more money for the dam project.

Public Comment:

The planning board has a new chair. Beth Whitney resigned as chair (she remains as secretary, and Jeff Spinney was elected as the new chair.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:53 p.m.