



## SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

February 12, 2019

**ATTENDANCE:** Selectman Brian Robischeau, Selectman Rick Surette, Selectman Rich Zacher, Laurie Champy, Marilou MacLean, Ed Comeau, Rose Zacher, Dianne Smith, Frank Frazier

Selectman Robischeau called the Public Hearing to order at 6pm and then recessed the Hearing to allow for the GWRSD Budget Hearing to occur without conflict. Selectman Robischeau resumed the Town's Budget/Warrant Article Hearing at 6:54pm.

- **Public Comments:** Frank Frazier commended the Selectmen for producing a well-crafted budget and also made a couple of suggestions. The first was to reduce the road budget, and the second was to increase the contingency budget line item while reducing some other areas that are funded, but not typically used. He compared this strategy to having insurance.

Dianne Smith expressed concern for new charges in Wakefield's budget that we have never before incurred.

The Selectmen clarified that the Town's budget is laid out differently this year and at first glance appears to be significantly increased over last year. They advised comparing the bottom line to Capital Outlay. The appropriation increase is approximately \$30k.

The Selectmen recommend the Proposed Budget and Warrant Articles as drafted, to include one minor revision made to the Warrant Articles.

Public Hearing closed at 7:30pm.

- **Approval of Minutes:**

***MOTION:*** Selectman Surette motioned to accept all the minutes from February 05, 2019 as written. Selectman Zacher seconded, all in favor, motion carries.

- **Public Comments:** Frank Frazier expressed concerns about the icy conditions when getting sand from the salt shed. He suggested the Road Agent could sand the area when out sanding and/or when replenishing the sand supply. The Selectmen added that due to it being a safety issue it should be requested that the Road Agent sand the entire parking lot.

Dianne Smith stated she noticed when reviewing older Annual Reports that there was a section in the front of the report noting and explaining discrepancies from the previous year. In the upcoming edition, she would like to see an explanation of mistakes made by the Trustees of the Trust Funds in 2018.

- **Administrative Assistant:** Laurie Champy stated she met with the edit team and the Annual Report will be sent to the printer next week.
- **Planning Board:** Ed Comeau stated they were not able to hold their special meeting to work on the Master Plan due to not having a quorum. Their next regular meeting is scheduled for February 21, at 6:30pm, at the Town Office Building.
- **Conservation Commission:** Frank Frazier stated that at their meeting last week they discussed implementing recommendations from the Forest Management Plan. No decisions made.
- **Heritage Commission:** Marilou MacLean stated their next meeting is scheduled for February 20, at 6pm.
- **Cemetery Trustees:** As stated in a letter received from Craig Evans, the Trustees recommended and requested the appointment of Dave Newman as an Alternate. Pam Skeffington's name will be on the ballot to fill the open Trustee position.

***MOTION: Selectman Zacher made a motion to accept their recommendation. Selectman Robischeau seconded, all in favor, motion carries.***

- **Zoning Board of Adjustment:** Frank Frazier offered a reminder that new appointments will be needed in March.
- **Old Business:** The Selectmen discussed the details of the \$4k+/- proposal for the new Town Office phone system upgrade. They agree on the need to update and believe the options available within this system will be advantageous.

***MOTION: Selectman Zacher motioned to move forward. Selectman Surette seconded, all in favor, motion carries.***

- **New Business:** Holding a *Meet the Candidate's* session was discussed due to having contested races in the upcoming election. It would provide an opportunity for candidates to introduce themselves and a time to share and discuss their views. This will be scheduled during the Town Coffee on Saturday, February 23, at 9:15am at the Town House. Laurie will issue an invitation to the candidates and will post the info on the website.

The Selectmen discussed and agreed to hire Brookfield resident, Nick Angelo, as Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector. Selectman Surette met with, interviewed, and recommends him. Ed Nason has agreed to train him. There are 2 other local builders that have volunteered to inspect should there be a need to avoid a conflict of interest.

***MOTION: Selectman Surette motioned to offer the CEO/Bldg Insp. job to Nick Angelo, at a rate of \$5k annual, to start immediately. Selectman Robischeau seconded, all in favor, motion carries.***

The Selectmen signed a Current Use Change Tax Warrant valued at \$30k for a property being removed from Current Use, located at Map 28 Lot 17.

***MOTION: Selectman Zacher made a motion to authorize the Tax Collector to collect the Current Use Change Tax. No second, motion fails.***

- **Mail/Bills:** Each bill to be paid was read, by Marilou MacLean, indicating the payee and amount due.

***MOTION: Selectman Robischeau made a motion to accept bills as read on record by Marilou. Selectman Surette seconded, all in favor, motion carries.***

Meeting adjourned at 7:57pm.

The next Selectmen's meeting is scheduled for February 26, 2019 at 6:30pm in the Town Office Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Laurie M. Champy  
Administrative Assistant