Town of Canterbury

Selectmen’s Meeting

June 6, 2022

Selectmen Present: Robert Steenson

Cheryl Gordon

Kent Ruesswick

Town Administrator: Ken Folsom

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM.

**Appointments**

Cemetery Trustees Sam Papps and John Goegel

Sam explained that the Trustees might be submitting a warrant article next year to expand the Maple Grove Cemetery. The Trustees realized that the best way to utilize the space available was through clearing an existing wood line on property the Town already owns to maximize the number of grace sites on the space available. They are in the process of gathering the costs for surveying, engineering, etc.

Matthew & Katie McKerley

Katie explained that their understanding of their original approval of their commercial building located at 2 Oxbow Pond Road was that the building inspector could grant any operation that is already allowed in the zoning table of uses. They questioned that when a new tenant leases a space, they were directed to file a site plan application for the potential tenant.

Bob stated that it is the vote of the Selectmen that there is no need to go through the site plan review process for an allowed use as stated in the zoning/planning regulations.

Matthew & Katie thanked the Board.

**Administrative**

Bob made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of $11,514.15. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Bob made a motion to sign the Payroll Manifest in the amount of $36,234.16. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen signed: Intent to cut – Tax Map 258 Lots 8 – Sandoz - New Road

Tax Map 221 Lot 16 – Tichko – Borough Road

Job description – Season Employee, Property Maintenance

The Selectmen reviewed the Kerwin/Lepesquer abatement application for Tax Map 230 Lot 27. The Assessors recommendation was to deny the abatement request because although the increase in assessment was disproportionate the assessed value of the subject and similar properties are now proportionate. Bob made a motion to deny the request upon the Assessors recommendation. Kent seconded; the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen reviewed the Mark Stevens abatement application for Tax Map 253 Lot 41. The Assessors recommendation was to enter into an agreement after extensive discussion, the parties agreed to:

* The Land Use Change Tax amount shall be $9,000 for property located at 1 Pickard Rd.
* The Municipality shall abate with 6% interest from the date paid to the refund date all Land Use Change Tax higher than $9,000.00.
* The abatement request will be considered settled and no further action will be taken to appeal.
* The Taxpayer agrees the negotiated Land Use Change Tax shall not be used to appeal the property tax of 1 Pickard Road.

Bob made a motion to approve the Land Use Change Tax abatement in the amount of $1,465.78 (1,450.00 plus 15.78 interest). Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen reviewed the draft easement deed to Unitil for the additional utility poles at the Transfer Station. Bob suggested that a map showing the location of the easement area be included.

A brief discussion was held on Old Schoolhouse Road. The Pullens had submitted a concern about the location of where the Class VI portion ends and the Class VI portion begins. They wish to protect the right to continue to use the road in the future.

**Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the May 16, 2022, meeting. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried

**New Business**

The Selectmen reviewed the Action Item List.

Ken received an email suggesting that the Riverland Beach be closed on Mondays to clean up and remove any trash left on the beach. Ken replied and explained that the beach could not be closed under the terms of the conservation easement. The Selectmen were not comfortable restricting access to the beach.

Ken received an email from Kim Scammon reporting that someone was turned away from the transfer station because they had an invasive species (bittersweet) that they wanted to put in the burn pile. The Selectmen will discuss Transfer Station employees and instruct them to allow the bittersweet to be brought in.

Ken explained that he had received a counter offer on the property on Canterbury Shore Drive. The Board rejected the counter offer.

Kent updated the Selectmen on the Sherwood Forest meeting he attended.

Bob made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 6:30 PM to discuss a personnel matter.

Bob made a motion to exit the non-public session at 6:35 PM and to permanently seal the minutes due to the personnel matter discussed. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on June 20, 2022, at 5:00 PM at the Meetinghouse.

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:45 PM. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Stout

Administrative Assistant