Town of Canterbury

Selectmen’s Meeting

June 20, 2022

Selectmen Present: Cheryl Gordon

Kent Ruesswick

Town Administrator: Ken Folsom

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

**Appointments**

Police Chief Mike Labrecque

Nothing major to report. The Chief distributed monthly statistics and the patrol schedule. The department has made @100 more vehicle stops since the last Selectmen’s meeting. This is due to full staff and PD on duty at 5 AM. The department is covering all shifts.

The Board thanked the Chief.

Fire Chief Mike Gamache

The Chief distributed call volume and highlights. The call volume is down by @ 30% since last year. Last year was a record year for incidents and the volume is now within the average for the previous years. The State Fire Marshall is investigating a fire that involved 2 cars on Hackleboro Rd.

The department will have 2 Firefighters on duty at the fireworks for set up and the show. The Chief will be in attendance of the show. There will be a detail for the race at NHMS of 1 Officer and 2 FF’s.

The Chief is working on a tent inspection for 417 Shaker Rd. with the State Fire Marshall’s office and the tenant.

The Chief is working with Dartmouth Hitchcock on a Loaner Station with life jackets for one of the town beaches.

The new FD patch is now the official patch and seal of the department.

The Board thanked the Chief.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Sam Papps

Sam distributed the overdue tax list. He has one property that he is going to deed. Sam explained the deeding process at the request of Kent.

Sam will be on vacation the 2nd week of July. The office will be closed that week. Jamie will be in the office in the evenings to respond to requests.

The Board thanked Sam.

Library Director Rachel Baker

Rachel reported that the trustees authorized 50% of the trust fund payment to the town for expenses. She also explained how the Trust Fund operates at the request of Kent. Rachel would like to plant a Black Locust tree in the area between the Houser Museum and the Library where the dead Maple tree was just removed. Rachel reported that the use of the Meeting House and Town Hall for programs was going smoothly. She has had positive comments from participants. Rachel will give the Highway Dept. the schedule for programs this winter to allow for snow removal.

Rachel is considering a mask mandate for two days per week this fall and winter if the Covid-19 pandemic persists. She has some patrons that hesitate to come to the Library with others that don’t wear masks.

The gutter at the rear of the Library needs repair. Ken will contact a gutter company. Rachel reported an ant problem at the back of the building. She will take measures to control the problem.

Road Agent John O’Connor

John reported that the price for steel recycling has dropped by over 50% in the last month. Roadside mowing will start this week. Kent asked which roads will be done. John gives the company a list and a budget. It works out to all the roads being mowed every two years. A seasonal employee was hired to mow town and cemetery lawns.

John met with the property owner at the end of Harmony Ln. South about a temporary road to Harmony Ln. North during construction on the culverts on Harmony Ln. South.

The Class VI Road Inspection list was reviewed.

The Board thanked John.

**Administrative**

Cheryl made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of $304,584.77. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Cheryl made a motion to sign the Payroll Manifest in the amount of $49,041.26. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen signed: Yield Tax Levy – Tax Map 247 Lots 37 & 18 – Berry

Tax Map 215 Lot 9 – Benoit Revocable Trust

Tax Map 250 Lot 2 – Soil Shares LLC

Tax Map 221 Lot 6 – Tichko

Tax Map 216 Lt 21 – Fifield

Energy Committee Appointment Slip for Howard Moffett.

Unitil Easement Deed for Transfer Station.

**New Business**

The Selectmen reviewed the Klose abatement application for Tax Map 244 Lot 7. The Assessors recommendation was to grant the abatement. Kent made a motion to grant the request upon the Assessors recommendation. Cheryl seconded; the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen reviewed the Helm/Herrick abatement application for Tax Map 247 Lot 27. The Assessors recommendation was to grant the abatement. Kent made a motion to grant the request upon the Assessors recommendation. Cheryl seconded; the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen discussed the Covenants for Hall Rd. The Covenants were drafted by the Economic Development Committee in 2004. Kent feels that the Covenants can be terminated which can be done under Article 7.02 by a vote of the owners of the properties. Ken will draft a letter to the property owners seeking their input.

**Old Business**

The Selectmen discussed the investment policy examples from surrounding towns. They will continue to work on this project.

Ken updated the Board on the code issues at 417 Shaker Rd. Ken spoke with both the owner and occupant about the tent and continued operation of the business. The owner stated that she knew nothing about the tent and in her discussions with the occupant that the participants were being limited to just 3 or 4 people per event. Ken has received emails from three residents stating that there were cars parked on the driveway out to the road this past weekend, which indicated a large group of participants.

The Selectmen reviewed correspondence from the Town legal counsel and approved the Petition for Injunctive Relief to the Court. Ken will notify the attorney to submit the Petition.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on June 27, 2022, at 5:00 PM at the Sam Lake House.

Kent made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:30 PM. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Folsom

Town Administrator