

Town of Canterbury
Selectmen's Meeting
August 16, 2021

Selectmen Present: Cheryl Gordon
Art Hudson
Town Administrator: Ken Folsom

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

Administrative

Sign: Accounts payable manifest
Payroll manifest
Intent to Cuts-Map 259 Lot 18, Map 236 Lot 17, Map 215 Lot 9

Bob made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$231,528.13. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Bob made a motion to sign the Payroll Manifests in the amount of \$40,188.36. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Minutes

The Board reviewed the minutes of the August 2, 2021 meeting. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes as amended, Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Appointments

Fire Chief Mike Gamache

Chief Gamache reported that the call volume for July was up 16%. There was a fire in the Shaker Village water pump house. The pump had been running for an unknown amount of time which caused a fire. The hydrant system will be down until repairs are made. The alarm system is also in need of repair. Chief Gamache will be working with Shaker Village on these repairs.

Chief Gamache also gave a short report on the fire at the Giles property. Mr. Lidstone's "camp" burned, and Canterbury was assisted by Concord, Boscawen, and Loudon Fire Depts. Chief Gamache reported that the State Fire Marshall's office conducted an independent investigation. The investigation has been completed, and the Fire Marshall's office will send Chief Gamache a final report. He also reported that the 32-year-old floating pump needs replacement and that he is getting a new one with half the cost paid by the NH Forestry Division.

Bob thanked Chief Gamache and all the Firefighters for the good work they did at the fire.

Chief Gamache reported that he has done six Foster Home inspections last month.

He has also found some expired assembly permits and will work with the property owners on these. Bob suggested entering these into the new Building Inspectors software for reminders, so they don't expire.

Chief Gamache reported that he is pursuing a grant to improve and add audiovisual capabilities to the Emergency Operations Center at the Municipal Building. There is \$45,000 available for this purpose.

The new Command vehicle has been delivered. He expects the fit-up with radios and lights to be done in mid-September.

The Dept. is maintaining all COVID precautions on calls. They are monitoring state data and recommendations.

The Board thanked Mike.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Sam Papps

Sam distributed a list of unpaid or late taxes. He sent letters to two property owners and cc'd mortgage companies on unpaid taxes.

The Town Clerk's office will be closed the week of Labor Day. Sam will be at a conference.

Bob asked for information on the flow of money between Sam and the Town Treasurer. Cheryl stated the past Treasurers haven't had access to the Town Office or the safe during non-business hours.

There was a short discussion on forgiving small sums of interest. The state allows up to \$25 to be forgiven by the Tax Collector without approval by the Board of Selectmen.

The Board thanked Sam.

Road Agent, John O'Connor

John reported that the Highway Dept. used over 300 tons of material to repair roads that were damaged by the heavy rain on the 29th and 30th of July. Morrill Rd. had over two ft. of water over the road at the culvert that is to be replaced.

Bob brought up a concern from a resident on the Class VI portion of Old Schoolhouse rd. The state paved 132, and the apron is now quite steep. The entrance is on a blind corner, and the resident would like the Town to pave some of the apron to make it easier to enter 132. Bob feels that since the apron on the Class V section which is across 132, is being paved this year, that we could pave a small section on the Class VI section.

John feels that the homeowner can do the gravel portion at their expense, and the Town will pay for the paving of the apron.

Art doesn't see a problem with the Town adding some to the apron. It is a bad corner and is very dangerous to exit onto 132.

Bob wondered if signage can be added to 132. He left a message with Dist. 5 DOT. Chief Labrecque suggested signs on both the north and south sides of 132.

The Board thanked John.

Police Chief Mike Labrecque

Chief Labrecque reported that the new hire will be starting Monday. She will be attending the NH Police Academy in January 2022. Officer Smith will be back from military deployment in October and may be deployed again in March. The Town may have to hire an additional Full-Time officer to fill this spot.

The Part-Time candidate decided not to pursue a career in Law Enforcement.
The new cruisers should be delivered in Oct. or Nov. The floors at the Police Station will be looked at by the flooring company this week.

Mr. Lidstone came to the station and retrieved his belongings.

The Board thanked Mike.

Old Business

Ken asked about the server for the Town Office. Bob suggested moving ahead with the purchase and installation, Cheryl and Art agreed.

The Selectmen discussed the RFP for Broadband expansion. The Town received two proposals. One from Comcast and the other from Viasat, which is a Satellite company.
The Selectmen would like to meet with Comcast to discuss the proposal. Ken will set up a meeting.

Other Business

The next meeting will be held on August 30th.

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:25 PM. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call.

Respectfully submitted,

Ken Folsom
Town Administrator