

Town of Canterbury
Selectmen's Meeting
January 8, 2018

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

The meeting was called to order at 5:02 PM

The Selectmen signed: A/P Manifest
P/R Manifest
Contract with Sanders Searches LLC
Land Use Change Tax – Tax Map 249 Lot 15
Intent to Cut – Tax Map 238 Lot 2
Leave Request

George made a motion to enter into non-public session at 5:04 PM to discuss a personnel matter. Art seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Cheryl made a motion to exit the non-public session at 5:16 PM and to permanently seal the minutes because of the personnel matters discussed. George seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried

Approval of Minutes

The Selectmen reviewed the minutes of the December 18, 2017 Selectmen's meeting. Cheryl made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. George seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

New Business

Ken reported that he will be attending a hearing at the State House for the discussion on HB 561 pertaining proposed changes to the New Hampshire Retirement System.

Ken updated the Selectmen on the Fairpoint settlement.

Appointments

Budget Committee Members: Bob Scarponi, Tyson Miller, John Carr, Art Rose and Kelly Short.

Police Chief Mike Labrecque

The proposed warrant article for the police cruisers was discussed. Mike updated the Board on a few on-going cases.

The Board thanked Mike for attending.

Fire Chief Guy Newbery

Guy reported that he has received the Penacook Rescue Budget for 2018. The 2018 budget will be 44,500, an increase of \$9,500. This increase is less than what he was told before. He initially heard that the total would be in the neighborhood of \$60,000.

Guy discussed the commercial washer/dryer with the Selectmen and budget committee. Guy explained that they try to get 10 years out of the turnout gear. If they get these appliances, it would allow the members to clean their gear at the station without concerns of cross contamination to their personal clothes. Bob Scarponi asked if they should be putting money away for the self-contained breathing apparatus (SCBA). Guy explained that he will be applying again for a grant, in the meantime, Dunbarton and Chichester have agreed to give their old tanks to Canterbury. They have approximately 1 year left.

The Board thanked Guy for attending.

Road Agent Jim Sawicki

Jim discussed the warrant article for a new highway truck. He has received proposals from Freightliner and International. The Committee had a discussion on purchasing the vehicle outright or look at future expenses and pay for a portion now. Art explained that they are planning to take \$100,000 out of the Capital Reserve with the remainder to come from taxation.

Bob Scarponi mentioned that the Transfer Station looks great and that the Staff is very helpful and organized.

The Board thanked Jim for attending.

A general discussion was held on the Solar panels. Ken explained that the Solar panels generate the power they are supposed to but the way the Municipal Building is being charged, it does not show much of a significance of savings.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Ben Bynum

Ben explained that he has submitted a warrant article to purchase 2 new round voting booths. One was borrowed last year and seemed to work well. This will bring us into compliance with the number of booths required.

The Board thanked Ben for attending.

The Selectmen and Budget Committee discussed the proposed warrant article to change the percentage of the Land Use Change Tax goes to the Conservation Commission. The Selectmen are proposing to split the income 75/25. Art explained that the Town will need help due to the increases in the budget this year. Originally, when the 100% of the LUCT went to the Conservation Commission, they were not supposed to have a budget. Kelly explained how the

Land Use Change Tax is received. This is flexible spending and the Conservation Commission does not need town approval to use.

Currently the Conservation Commission is working with 2 land owners now. This change could reduce the ability to participate in Conservation projects. Bob Scarponi felt that the 25% would not make a difference, the Town should be getting some of the income because the Town has deferred these taxes and allowed the Conservation Commission to have it. Tyson stated that it should be kept at 100% to the Conservation. Art Rose believes that the Land Use Change Tax should be their budget. He hates to see their task to buy property.

A discussion was held on the wages for the Secretaries for the various boards and committees. The Board explained that it has been the past practice to pay the Committee/Board secretaries at the same rate. If this practice is to change, then Ken would like some assistance from the Chairman of the Boards/Committees to write up a job description.

The Board discussed the Healthcare costs with the Budget Committee. The Board explained that they will be asking the employee to pay 12% and 50% of any increase going forward.

Ken explained that the Supervisors of the Checklist have not received a wage increase in a number of years. Ken proposed increasing their wages to \$12.00 per hour. The Selectmen approved the request.

The next Selectmen's meeting will be held on January 22, 2018 at 5:00 PM at the Meeting House.

Cheryl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. George seconded the motion.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Stout
Administrator Assistant