

Town of Canterbury  
Selectmen's Meeting  
April 4, 2022

Selectmen Present: Robert Steenson  
Cheryl Gordon  
Kent Ruesswick

Town Administrator: Ken Folsom

The meeting was called to order at 4:57 PM.

**Administrative**

Kent made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$509,956.11. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Cheryl made a motion to sign the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$11,756.01. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Kent made a motion to sign the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$34,486.94. Bob seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Kent made a motion to sign the Payroll Manifest in the amount of \$37,844.29. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen signed: Purple Heart Community Proclamation  
MS-232 – Draft report of appropriations  
4 Interfund Transfers to LUCT – total amount \$41,086.00  
Intent to Cut – Tax Map 216 Lots 16 & 18 –  
Timber Tax – Tax Map 225 Lot 2  
License to operate a junk yard – 28 Misery Road

Bob made a motion to approve an extension of a report of woodcut (Tax Map 241, lots 9, 11 & 12) through August 16<sup>th</sup>. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Bob made a motion to approve the application to permit Coffin Cellars Winery to offer retail/tasting at the Canterbury Farmers Market. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

**Appointments**

Mark Stevens attended the meeting to discuss the land-use change tax he was assessed. Mark is disputing the amount charged. Mark feels that he has proven that 13 lots sold in the same time frame as his purchase for \$80,000 - \$90,000 and was surprised that he received a bill for \$10,450. Bob explained that the Assessor, Mandy, had done an exhaustive study. In 2021 Mark's building lot was assessed at \$82,000, and the backland was assessed at \$22,500.

Mark stated that he feels that \$80,000-\$90,000 is a fair assessment and expects to pay the penalty on that amount. The Selectmen will meet with Mandy and re-visit this at their next scheduled meeting.

Mark thanked the Board.

Sherwood Forest Officers Jonas Sanborn (President), John Michno (Vice-President), Melanie Haskins (Treasurer), and Joanna Michno (Secretary) attended the meeting.

Joanna explained that the Town of Canterbury owns a piece of property between Old Gilmanton Road and Nottingham Road. They are looking to see if the town would give them an easement over the property for emergency access, be used in emergency situations, and remain gated until needed. There have been times when the road has been impassable during mud season. An abutter has allowed them to cross their property to access Old Gilmanton Road. The Selectmen support this proposal and will look into creating an easement across the town-owned property. They will send the Road Agent out to look at the location of the easement.

Joanna explained that 3 Islands are owned by the Town and expressed concerns that the Town could sell them. The Board is not interested in selling them, but they could put a conservation easement to protect them from any development. Ken will contact the Conservation Commission about this.

Joanna asked if they could change the name of Canterbury Shore Drive on the Nottingham side to East Canterbury Shore Drive. Bob explained that the Fire Chief and 911 make the decision. Ken explained that 911 doesn't like north/south or east/west; they prefer a completely different name. Ken will speak to Fire Chief Gamache.

Jonas asked if there would be an opportunity to get materials through the town's vendor to get a better price. The Town receives most of its material from Boscawen Sand & Gravel. The Selectmen will ask the Road Agent to share the pricing of materials with the Association.

The Association will have an annual meeting on May 22, 2022, at 11: 00 AM and invited the Board of Selectmen to attend. Bob and Cheryl have prior commitments that day, but Kent will attend.

Jonas asked if there was a way to let the Association know of any building permits issued within the Association. Ken said there might be a way through the new Building Inspector software. He will talk to Joel to see if there is a way to flag certain roads.

Jonas presented a map and asked if the Town could extend plowing to year-round houses on Friar Tuck and a portion of Canterbury Shore Drive. Bob explained that the Town has no legal authority over what they are currently plowing. A vote was taken at the 1974 Town Meeting that is questionably legal.

Joanna explained that they get a lot of pushback from residents about their property taxes; they pay the same as other areas in town but have no benefits. Bob explained that the assessments are based on what someone is willing to pay for the property. Ken stated that the Town Office gets calls, and the realtors don't always disclose that they are private roads.

Joanna asked if the Association's contact information could be added to the Town's website. Jan will get the information to add to the website.

The Board thanked them for coming in.

Carolyn Henry attended the meeting to discuss where the Selectmen are in selecting members to the committee to the School Board as approved at Town Meeting.

Carolyn was looking for an update from the last meeting and asked who would be on the committee? Bob explained that they had not selected a member yet; they plan to go to the School Board meeting on April 12<sup>th</sup>. Carolyn noted that Belmont has already selected their committee member. Carolyn further explained that at the Belmont Selectmen's meeting, Mr. Tursi pointed out that even if it is in the best interest of the town of Canterbury, they could be outvoted as Belmont has more voters. Carolyn thought that the Selectmen should consider that this could be a perceivable legal issue, and if it comes to this, we need to be prepared to ensure our efforts are met. Bob thought that the outcome was a little ahead of ourselves, as the study had not been done, and we don't know the outcome.

Bob explained that the Selectmen voted in favor of this review. They understand and are capable of evaluating the data. Bob believes that the School Board will prepare a schedule of meetings and will have more information after the April 12<sup>th</sup> meeting. Carolyn hopes to have community involvement in this project.

Carolyn asked to be put on the Agenda for the next Selectmen's meeting.

Carolyn thanked the Selectmen.

### **Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the March 14, 2022 meeting. Bob made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried

### **New Business**

The Board reviewed a proposal for a stand-alone air filtration system for the Meetinghouse. The Selectmen approved the proposal and authorized Ken to go ahead with the purchase.

Concord Regional Solid Waste Committee is looking to the Town to nominate a board member and alternate member. The request will be forwarded to the Steve Rasche of the Solid Waste Committee.

NH the Beautiful has a grant program to assist the Town in purchasing the new baler for the Transfer Station. The Solid Waste Committee will take on this task.

Ken reported that he had received the 2022 pricing for Fireworks; on July 2, the cost would be \$6,500, and on July 3 would be \$7,000. The Selectmen opted to hold the fireworks on Saturday, July 2, 2022.

The Treasurer has expressed concerns about the current bank deposit system with the plastic bags. Ken spoke with Mary and Sam, and they all agreed that a cash log system would take the place of using the plastic bags. The Selectmen will get information from our Audit firm for best practices in handling cash to establish and adopt a policy.

Bob made a motion to enter into a non-public session at 6:50 PM to discuss a personnel issue. Ken seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Bob made a motion to exit the non-public session at 6:58 PM and permanently seal the minutes due to the personnel issues discussed. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Board discussed re-running the ad for a Part-Time Transfer Station Manager. They will offer the position starting at \$25.00, with no benefits.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on April 18, 2022, at 5:00 PM at the Meetinghouse.

Bob made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:15 PM. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Stout  
Administrative Assistant