

Town of Canterbury  
Selectmen's Meeting  
September 19, 2022

Selectmen Present: Bob Steenson (via telephone)  
Cheryl Gordon  
Kent Ruesswick

Town Administrator: Ken Folsom

The meeting was called to order at 4:59 PM.

**Administrative**

Cheryl made a motion to sign the Accounts Payable Manifest in the amount of \$21,326.97. 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 \$42,191.31. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The Selectmen signed the Child Cancer Awareness Week (September 25 – October 1) Proclamation.

**Minutes**

The Board reviewed the minutes of the September 12, 2022, meeting. Kent made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried

**New Business**

Ken reported that in the audit process, Plodzik & Sanders suggested that the Town create some policies (investment policy, fund balance, etc.) Jan and Ken will be working on this for the Selectmen to review.

Ken updated the Selectmen on a recent court hearing. The Judge found in favor of the Town, and if the Pachamama events continue, the Town will apply for a "Contempt" order from the Court.

Ken asked if Kent had any information on the new stairs for the Old Town Hall. Kent said he is waiting for a proposal from Kevin Bragg.

Ken will contact the Electrician about hooking up the power at the Transfer Station. Kent explained that he met with David Bowles and David Heath to discuss the placement of the new baler. The Energy Committee wants not to have the packer truck running all day. The Committee will explore options. Kent said that the Energy Committee will be forwarding a proposal to the Board of Selectmen for changing out the lights at the Municipal Building.

## Appointments

### Fire Chief Mike Gamache

Mike reported that they would be having Fire Prevention demonstrations at the Elementary School and the Dewey School.

Mike updated the Board with rail car operational procedures, emergency contacts, and delivery schedule.

There are two members in the firefighter certification classes.

The repairs to Engine 2 have been completed. The maintenance line is over budget for this truck, but the Chief feels his bottom-line budget is ok. He has not heard any news on the Fire Truck Grant.

Mike has updated the dorm functionality by installing curtains, carpet, and a donated TV, making it more comfortable for members staying overnight. Some of the Volunteers have been spending the nights utilizing the dorm, which allows for timely and consistent responses to emergencies. The dorm can be used by the PD and HD if needed.

The exercise area in the apparatus bays has been expanded by removing some older and unused equipment. The exercise equipment is also available for use by other town departments.

Mike will be attending a Hazmat conference from 9/27-9/28. The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on October 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:30– 5:00 pm at the Parish Hall.

The Board thanked Mike for attending.

### Town Clerk/Tax Collector Sam Papps

Sam distributed the property tax collection report. Sam will send letters to the property owners who are delinquent in their property taxes.

Sam reported that the primary elections went well. The Selectmen will be in contact with the School to use the facility for the November elections.

The Board thanked Sam.

### Road Agent John O'Connor

John reported that all the vehicles had been inspected. The 2011 International (T-1) had to have \$5,100 in repairs.

They are working on replacing culverts on Old Tilton and Abbott Road and filling potholes.

The Board thanked John for attending.

Police Chief Mike Labrecque

Mike distributed the monthly statistics. Officer Aaron Smith has submitted his resignation, and Mike is looking at a potential candidate to fill the full-time position. He will keep the Board updated.

The Board thanked Mike for attending.

Library Director Rachel Baker

Rachel reported that they have a new fall program schedule and are busy with their programs.

She explained that the Trustees want to add a few alternates to their board. Rachel has been working with John and the Highway Department to move the Discover book return to the other side of the parking lot.

The Division of Forest and Lands has offered two trees to be planted along the parking lot. Rachel explained that they would plant and maintain them.

The Board thanked Rachel for attending.

Bryan Christianson – Comcast

Bryan updated the Selectmen on the grant for expanding internet service town-wide. If Comcast is awarded the grant, the grant will cover 75% of the cost, and the provider (Comcast) will cover the remaining 25%. There will be no cost to the Town.

Bryan distributed a map showing the current coverage and a list of properties that currently do not have Comcast and asked that the Town review the list for any missing properties.

Bryan would like to submit an updated franchise agreement with Canterbury along with the grant. Bob stated that he has support from the Selectmen and would be happy to enter into a memorandum of understanding stating the scope of expansion that would accompany the grant proposal.

The Board thanked Bryan for attending.

Energy Committee Member Howard Moffett, Jeff Beltramo, Beth McGuinn & Community Power Coalition Representative Henry Herndon

Howard and Henry attended the meeting to discuss and invite the Town of Canterbury to join the Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire. (CPCNH)

The Town will benefit from the collective resources and expertise of CPCNH Members and vendors towards developing an “Electric Aggregation Plan” for approval at the Town Meeting.

This will authorize the Board of Selectmen to contract for services to launch Canterbury Community Power but does not obligate Canterbury to any course of action.

If and when Canterbury chooses to move forward with Community Power, the Town may elect to contract with CPCNH to provide comprehensive services, including power procurement, customer notification and enrollments, and opportunities to jointly develop projects with other Members (such as solar and storage projects).

If Canterbury elects to join the Coalition, the Board of Selectmen will appoint a primary representative and alternate to represent the town at Membership meetings and on the CPCNH Board. A Director or Alternate can be an elected official, staff, a committee member, or a volunteer selected by the Board of Selectmen and may be changed by the Town.

Kent made a motion to authorize the Town Administrator to enter into the Joint Powers Agreement of Community Power Coalition of New Hampshire under the provisions of New Hampshire RSA 53-A for the purpose of supporting member municipalities and counties in developing and implementing authorities, contingent upon review and approval by legal counsel. Cheryl seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

Kent Ruesswick volunteered to be on the Board of Directors, and Howard Moffett volunteered to be the Alternate.

The Board thanked Henry, Howard, Jeff & Beth for attending.

Cheryl made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM. Kent seconded the motion. All in favor by roll call, motion carried.

The next meeting will be held on October 3, 2022, at 5:00 PM at the Meetinghouse.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Stout  
Administrative Assistant

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