

Richard Bennett

John Allen

Bob Thompson

**Selectmen's Meeting
November 13, 2018**

Present: Richard Bennett, Chairman; John Allen, Selectman; Bob Thompson, Selectman

Visitors: Town Administrative Assistant Julie Hoyt, videographer Hank Benesh, Building Inspector Kevin Bennett, Margie Furlong, Sarah Clemons, Marilyn Rodes, Bobbi Meserve, Alicia Hawkes, Bea Davis, Bill Terry, Joyce Allen

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Selectmen's Meeting – October 23, 2018

A motion was made by Selectmen Thompson to approve the meeting minutes as written; seconded by Selectman Allen. The motion passed unanimously.

A sealed envelope containing the non public minutes from October 23rd was signed by the Selectmen.

3. Update on Action Items:

No action items to report. Note the following meeting dates:

- a. Tuesday November 27, 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting to cover Health Insurance for the town, including retirees. (This meeting will not be filmed).
- b. Tuesday December 11th at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
- c. Tuesday January 8th at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
 - Budget Hearing #1 – Directly following Selectmen's Meeting
- d. Tuesday January 22nd at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
- e. Tuesday February 5th at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
 - Budget Hearing #2 – Directly following Selectmen's Meeting
- f. Tuesday February 26th at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting

4. Building Inspector:

- a. Weekly Report - Kevin Bennett

The snow has slowed construction a bit but there are still foundations going in.

The Dana Place is making good progress overall but with a sprinkler and alarm system yet to go. They are hoping to have a few apartments ready to go soon with a total of twelve apartments that will be available for long term lease.

- b. Building Permits

1. 2018-98/ V04 – L17/ Owner – Pendleton /7 Sugar Hill Lane /Renew Permit #2017-69, New Drywall, Paint and Bathrooms

5. New Business

- a. Cemetery Lot Agreement – **Selectman approved and signed.**
- b. DRA Equalization Certificate – Signatures Required- **Selectman Thompson made a motion to approve the certificate, seconded by Selectman Allen. The motion passed unanimously.**
- c. Household Hazardous Waste Day for 2019 – A proposal to raise \$1250. and to enter into an agreement with the town of Conway, who will host the Hazardous Waste Day for 2019. **Selectman Thompson made a motion to approve the proposal, seconded by Selectman Allen. The motion passed unanimously.**
- d. Supervisors of the Checklist – Resignation and Re-appointment – Jeanette is moving out of town and resigning her post. The recommendation is to have Betsey Harding take over the remainder of her term.
- e. Sidewalk snow removal Contract with Jay Henry for 2018-2019 winter season for \$7200. **Selectman Thompson made a motion to approve the contract, seconded by Selectman Allen. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. Old Business

- a. Transfer Station updates - Transfer stickers are running low and before just ordering more, the Selectmen would like to discuss options at the next Transfer Station meeting of whether they should have an 'end/ expiration date'; may be color coded to better identify which town; and whether there should be a charge to obtain one.
There are ongoing questions as to whether Hart's Location still wants to be a part of the Transfer Station and how that could be equitably done, since Bartlett and Jackson have just paid to complete all the upgrades. A list of concerns will be addressed at the next Transfer Station meeting.
- b. Solar Project- Re Vision is the company that spoke to the Selectmen a few months ago and after consultations and comparisons of other installers, they seem to have the best proposal. Their suggestion is to have a personal investor front the cost of the installation. The town would purchase energy from this investor at a lower rate than the Electric Coop rate. In 6 years the town could do a buyout at 60% of the installation cost and that would provide the town those 6 years to come up with financing for the buyout.
It would be helpful to know how other towns that have gone through with the installation are faring with it; what their experiences with it /and the company are. It would also be helpful to know how these other towns worded their warrant articles to propose this. A public informational evening would make sense. **Selectmen all agreed to further pursue the solar option.**
- c. Budget – (1st meeting of month)- It has been published online and is available in print at the office.
- d. Pay-As-You-Throw- There is a draft of the brochure in the works and it will be passed around once it is done. Sarah wanted to know how this would be handled since there are no scales at the Transfer Station, and where the bags would be available for purchase. It will not be by weight but rather by bags which would be available for purchase at various local vendors. Bobbi was concerned that we are requiring items to be in a plastic bag in order to dispose of them when we should be trying to find alternatives to using plastic. Concerns were raised about the possibility of finding more trash in the recycle area but Chairman Thompson quoted research that states that opposite of this. Another concern was regarding how trash pick up companies would work. Selectman Allen stated that the companies will have to enforce the use of the specific bags for all non recyclable trash, otherwise they will not be able to dump.

Bill wanted to know if this is a done deal but he was told this would be a warrant article up for vote in March. He has concerns about the cost reduction/ implications of this type of program.

- e. Old Library – Town Council read the agreement between the Protestant Chapel Association (PCA) and the town and he felt it was inappropriate at this time, for the town to enter into an agreement allowing the Chamber to utilize the Old Library for their office space. Chairman Bennett would like to have the Selectmen sit with the PCA prior to the next agreement to see if the town can take control of what happens in that building. Sarah would like to see a referendum be brought in front of the townspeople to have them be asked what direction /what they would like to see happen within the facility. Joyce distributed copies of written text Joan Aubrey wanted to put before the Selectmen. Chairman Bennett stated his intent was to try and keep costs down for the town by having the Chamber move in and pay the heat and electric costs.
- f. Generator- The town has a grant for \$10K for a new generator and bids have been solicited with one from a company in Exeter for \$8K, with the stipulation that the town hooks up the propane for it. Selectman Thompson, seconded by Selectman Allen motioned to accept the bid for \$8K and move forward with the purchase and installation. Motion approved unanimously.

7. Public Comment

Public Comment is a time when town residents can bring matters before the Board. Comments should be short and to the point. Speakers are allotted up to two minutes each to make their comment. Except in unusual circumstances, any matter presented under "Public Comment" will not be debated or acted upon by the Board at the time it is presented. All remarks and dialogue in public meetings must be respectful and courteous, free of rude, personal or slanderous remarks. Inappropriate language and/or shouting will not be tolerated. Furthermore, no person may offer comment without permission of the Chair, and all persons shall, at the request of the Chair, be silent. No person shall disrupt the proceedings of a meeting.

Bea would like the town to look into options for possibly moving the Old Library to a town owned piece of property. Chairman Bennett stated some options have been considered but moving the building, and all other options, will be up for discussion. The goal is to keep the building intact and to fully utilize it.

Sarah received information regarding the healthcare options that the town is considering for it's employees. She would like the town to put the info online for the public to view prior to the next Selectmen's meeting. She noticed the employee contribution to the insurance has dropped from 15% to the current 7% contribution. She would like to know when that amount was dropped and why it isn't more in line with the school districts' 20% contribution. **The Selectmen will attempt to find that information for her for next meeting.**

Sarah also would like to know how, when and why the negotiated amount of \$34k for two employees to opt out of insurance came about when other towns use amounts across the board; ie, Conway uses \$1200 and Bartlett \$1500. **The Selectmen will attempt to have that information available for the next meeting.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria Hutchings