

TOWN OF BARNSTEAD
TOWN HALL
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES OF OCTOBER 27, 2015

Attendance: Chairman Gordon Preston, Vice-Chairman Priscilla Tiede, Richard Duane, David Kerr, and Edward Tasker. There were 2 members of the public in attendance.

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 p.m. and opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Signatures: Payroll and Weekly Manifest, the minutes of 10/20/15, an intent to cut permit application, the Hazard Mitigation Program (New Road) application, and inter-office memos.

E. Tasker asked about the amount of time that was spent working on Brindle Pond Road. D. Kerr replied that the portion of the road that was previously one lane, has now been improved to two lane passage. P. Tiede noted that portions of Peacham, Province, Oxbow, and Pineo Road have been resurfaced.

New Business: It was agreed to move the discussion on the 2016 health insurance rates from Health Trust to the end of the meeting, because the discussion would be time consuming. K. Montgomery has prepared detailed folders of information for use in review of this material. There was discussion of the Road Traffic Count Report which summarizes the number and types of vehicles and the speed at which they passed the data collection point. E. Tasker stated that the results of the report were not easily understood, but useful information. G. Preston was surprised about the prevalence of speeding and that it appeared to be in only one direction of travel. The report can be used in prioritizing highway projects and explaining these decisions when answering questions about budget requests at Town Meeting. There was discussion about a 2016 budget request from a private Lake Association for water testing for Half Moon Pond, which is on the border of Alton and Barnstead.

Appointments: At 5:35 the Select Board met with Acting Fire Chief Shawn Mulcahy to discuss the Fire Rescue 2016 Budget. He recently attended the quarterly Board of Director's meeting of the Lakes Region Fire Aid Association, and presented information about their cost allocation per town. It is based on valuation per town and population based upon the US Census. Barnstead's contribution is \$38,883.26. There are changes in communications where towns will now be able to access microwave capabilities that are available to the state. This will be more cost effective than telephone lines. Warrant articles for Town Meeting 2016 were discussed. Barnstead Fire and Rescue is proposing three; the first is to increase the ambulance revenue fund from 40% to 70%, the second is to raise \$50,000 from taxation and withdraw \$50,000 from the ambulance special revenue fund for a down payment for replacement of E1 (fire truck) at a total cost is \$510,000; and the third is to approve a lease purchase of the balance of the cost to replace E1 (\$410,000) for seven years, beginning on delivery in January 2017. The annual payment is estimated at \$66,600. E3 will be sold. The proposed budget for Barnstead Fire

and Rescue for 2016 was reviewed and discussed item by item. One item of particular significance is that the overtime budget has just about tripled to a figure of \$10,000, due to there not being enough coverage. There is a need for more trained people on staff that are able to work full shifts. Relative to communication equipment, 29 sets will soon expire; due to the fact that they were purchased at the same time, under a grant in 2008. That grant money is no longer available to the Town for replacement costs. Relative to personal equipment, S. Mulcahy has prepared a very detailed Gear Inventory Replacement Cycle for the time period of 2016 - 2025. It identifies the proposed year of replacement for coats, pants, helmets, gloves, hoods and boots for each of 35 fire fighters. The budget includes purchase of 8 sets of turn out gear for 2016, which would be allocated according to need. There was a brief discussion on the list of firefighters and of the protocols for NARCAN.

Public Input: The meeting was opened for public input at 6:07 p.m. Mr. Darrell reported that the NH Community Rights Network would be holding a public meeting at the Town Hall from 2:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday. He explained that there is a bill being proposed in the legislature that would call for a Constitutional Convention to discuss the issue of major corporations having power over interests in the state. B. Gray shared information with the Board regarding the timers on the lights over at the ice rink behind the police station. P. Tiede wanted to go on record as stating that the Select Board meets weekly on Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m. She emphasized that the Select Board invites the public to come in and express their thoughts and concerns, and that they wish that more people would do so. The Public Input session closed at 6:14 p.m.

Appointments, cont. The discussion returned to the Fire and Rescue Budget and S. Mulcahy proposed a \$500 increase to the Fire Prevention line as he feels continuing education is very important. E. Tasker stated, for the record, that he would like to see the siren at the Barnstead Parade Fire Station reactivated. It is his opinion that it is a sentimental feature to some people in town, who would like to hear when there is a fire, or when it is noon. There was discussion of what it would take to do this. It was noted that public hearings on the proposed warrant articles will be held in January. S. Mulcahy requested permission to apply for grants to purchase air packs. He anticipates future purchases of 4 sets of turn out gear, dual headed radios, 3 pagers with chargers and 4 portable radios. P. Tiede noted that the retirement party for Rod Boyd will be next Sunday. The Select Board complimented S. Mulcahy for the thoroughness of his work and expressed an appreciation for his efforts to make the information he has presented understandable to them. The discussion ended at 6:55 p.m.

Correspondence: The Select Board reviewed miscellaneous correspondence. There were multiple requests for funding. There will be a meeting on November 2, 2015 of the County Delegation, to discuss an \$ 8 million bond for the jail. K. Montgomery noted that A. Glassman will be unable to attend the next BCEP board meeting.

New Business: J. Doucette, Road Agent, is requesting \$1,478 to purchase snow fence and posts. D. Kerr noted that Jim has done considerable research on the placement of snow fencing based upon the direction of prevailing winds. On a motion by P. Tiede and seconded by R. Duane the Board voted to

authorize J. Doucette to purchase snow fence and posts from the least expensive quote he receives. K. Montgomery reminded the Select Board that there will be a law enforcement seminar on November 4, 2015. D. Kerr stated that he and M.J. Dascoli will be attending a forestry workshop in Auburn. K. Montgomery reported that, based upon the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's records, the Deputy Town Clerk has issued 22 civil forfeiture notices to dog owners that have not registered their dogs. Some of the owners responded by registering their dogs. However, there are still 16 dog owners that are not in compliance with the registration requirement. The police are required to serve a summons to these people. K. Montgomery asked if she should send a memo to the police department. G. Preston suggested that the Town levy fines for repeated offences that result in dog calls. Perhaps an escalating level of the fine for a first offence, second offence, third offence and so on. K. Montgomery stated that such fines are specified in the RSA's. The Town would simply need to implement them.

Old Business:

The issue of responding to dog calls was discussed in detail and G. Preston relayed that he received a request from the Police Chief on Friday morning wanting a formal letter instructing the police to use the cruiser to pick up dogs. There was a follow-up call from the Chief that afternoon, asking why he had not received the letter yet. His concern is liability. P. Tiede said that if the Chief wants a letter, give him a letter. G. Preston stated that the letter should say that dogs are to be transported by cruisers, when necessary. They can be put in the dog cage that he donated to the Town. E. Tasker asked about the proposal by Mr. Howe to build a dog kennel off the back of the police station. G. Preston stated that an alternative is that there are people that are interested in being an ACO. E. Tasker added that this interested individual does not want to take the animal's home. P. Tiede feels that there should be something available at the police station, as this problem is never going to go away and it should be some type of kennel, not necessarily heated. K. Montgomery wondered who would be responsible for cleaning it and it was mentioned that the janitor could do it. It was pointed out that cleaning the offices of the police station and a dog kennel are not exactly the same type of activity. K. Montgomery will invite the people in to talk to the Board that have expressed an interest in taking these animals in on a temporary basis. It was mentioned that there is an 18 year old who works on a farm who likes animals, who is interested. E. Tasker would like to see the issue discussed in total. He was not sure if the Board would need to go into executive session to do this. He is tired of talking in ambiguities. The issue is not going to go away and could have been resolved 6 or 7 years ago when a proposal was turned down at Town Meeting for a dog kennel. There needs to be some form of enclosure for animals, however he would not approve a heat duct for the dog. The Board needs to talk about people that are known to have a desire to be the ACO, and he wanted to see this discussion occur that evening. P. Tiede stated that the Board would need to go into non-public session for that discussion.

K. Montgomery reported that she has spoken with Department of Revenue's representative and the tax rate has been set for the Town, but it is not for the public until the Town receives the approved documents. It is expected that the tax bills will go out on Friday, with taxes to be due on December 1, 2015.

K. Montgomery gave a detailed presentation on the health insurance rate increases and various plan options.

On a motion made by D. Kerr and seconded by R. Duane; the Board voted to sign the FEMA application for the project on New Road. The Board voted unanimously to approve the motion.

On a motion to go into non-public at 7:34 p.m. per RSA: 91-A 3II (b) made by R. Duane and seconded by D. Kerr; the Board voted: G. Preston, yes; P. Tiede, yes; R. Duane, yes; D. Kerr, yes; and E. Tasker, yes. The Board came out of the non-public session at 8:26 p.m. and **on a motion** by E. Tasker, seconded by R. Duane; the Board voted unanimously to seal the minutes.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m. on a motion by R. Duane, seconded by E. Tasker and passing with a unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted,

Francesca Latawicz, Recording Secretary

Gordon Preston, Chairman

Priscilla Tiede, Vice-Chair

Richard Duane

David Kerr

Edward Tasker