

TOWN OF BARNSTEAD
TOWN HALL
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
MINUTES OF MAY 9th, 2016

Attendance: Chairman, Priscilla Tiede, Vice Chairman Richard Duane, Sean Dunne, Gordon Preston and Edward Tasker. Karen Montgomery, Selectmen's Administrative Assistant, and 1 members of the public.

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

Appointments: The Board met with Pittsfield Selectman Larry Konopka, and G. Preston updated the group on the discussions regarding sharing of services that he and E. Tasker had previously had with the Pittsfield Selectmen, Police Chief and Town Administrator. Mr. Konopka commented that every municipality is suffering as more demands are being placed on them, yet less money is coming from the State. He told the group that more communities are sharing services and felt the mutual towns needed to start somewhere.

The group discussed the possibilities of a shared police department, how many officers it would require and how it might operate. Konopka expressed the need for our statistics (call volume, prosecutions, arrests etc.) before any concrete figures could be established and P. Tiede told him that once the report from the Belknap County Sheriff's Office (BCSO) was completed, they would be able to release those figures. Other topics of discussion included vehicles, the issues with Pittsfield being a union and in a different county than Barnstead. R. Duane mentioned that Sheriff Wiggin told them Belknap County misdemeanors' could not be processed in Concord. A lengthy discussion ensued regarding all the issues with the Barnstead Police Station building.

Selectman Konopka told the group that his purpose here tonight was to relay that the Pittsfield Board fully supports looking and the numbers and figures to see if sharing of services would be feasible. R. Duane stated that Barnstead generated 2,738 calls for service that were dispatched through BCSO in 2015. Konopka relayed that Pittsfield hosts public forums that are well attended and the people were in support of shared services. He felt there would be great savings for both towns and pointed out that 3-4 years ago Barnstead and Pittsfield met several times to discuss regionalization. One possibility was that it could be run by a separate group like how the BCEP was formed.

The group felt that there could be several areas where shared services would be beneficial to both towns such as the fire rescue departments and G. Preston mentioned the success of the Suncook Valley Regional Town Association. The Barnstead Board thanked Mr. Konopka for meeting with them and it was determined that the Barnstead Board would meet with the Pittsfield Board next Monday at 5 p.m. Larry left at 5:53 p.m.

E. Tasker suggested holding a public forum to discuss sharing of services and S. Dunne felt that it should wait until they have more information. R. Duane told the group he didn't see the savings and E. Tasker stated that while there may not be a monetary savings, it would create a

more stable environment. G. Preston commented that we can't compete with cities. The group compared some of Pittsfield's budget to ours.

Adjournment: On a motion by E. Tasker, seconded by S. Dunne, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Montgomery, Recording Secretary

Priscilla Tiede, Chairman

Richard Duane, Vice-Chair

Sean Dunne

Gordon Preston

Edward Tasker