

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2018

At the Selectmen's Meeting held on Monday, October 15, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the town garage the following people were in attendance: Stanley Holz, John Tholl, and Peter Corey.

Cabot Ronish, Public Works Director, conducted a tour of the Public Works garage.

The following members of the EDC were present for their budget presentation: Katie Marro, Roxie Severance, and Rick Wright. Gerry Pons asked Rick to come to this for him, as Gerry has been ill. Rick said they would like the same amount as they got this year, \$5,000. Rick outlined some items they would like to address. They want to continue to work on the village revitalization project, community parking lot completion support, parking signage, village decorations for Christmas, fall, etc., railyard agreement and development support, administrative costs (mailing & fees).

Roy Birard & Barbara Pinkham attended the meeting for the cemetery budget request and they said they are requesting the same amount they have had in the past, which is \$30,000.

Scott Burns presented the Planning Board budget – they are asking for the same amount they have been getting prior to this year. The total request will be \$4,500, and this year it was \$6,117 to complete the Master Plan work. Revenues collected for the planning board fees through October is \$4,661.

Frank Lombardi and Don Laplante, members of the Conservation Commission, attended the meeting to present their budget request. Frank said the Conservation Commission, would like to keep the \$2,500 they have been getting. Frank said they would like their funds to be set up as a non-lapsing fund, per RSA 36-a:4-a, I(b).

Frank said also since we have time the Conservation Commission did have a vote at the last meeting and they are looking to have on the warrant an article to turn a couple of parcels at the industrial park into a town forest or utilize the parcels for education purposes, etc. They are two contiguous parcels of town-owned land, Map 234-4.3 and 234-4.2. Peter said it looks like a good portion of this is industrial park land. Peter said he would ask the Conservation Commission to get with the EDC to come up with a plan and recommendation. Frank said he would like to see something happen sooner than later. Once a town forest is created, the Commission and Selectmen can't simply sell or give the property away. Frank said they believe a good portion of this is wetlands. This is the lot the timber was just cut on. Peter said why don't we schedule a full conversation about this at another time. Frank said they could have new plantings put in and work with the forest groups. They have some ideas to utilize. Frank did not know of any specific plans the EDC had for that parcel. Frank said if we had the trails maintained at the federal level that would be good. Frank said that the Conservation Commission thought it would be better used for recreation and tourism purposes other than anything else. Frank said there are 105.6 acres. Peter also suggested that they speak with the Airport Commission. Frank said that they are looking at putting this on the warrant for 2019. Peter said right now it is Industrial Park land, and who knows what the future holds. We don't want to do anything to prevent the development of the Industrial Park land. The airport has a responsibility to keep the trees below a certain height. Peter said he does not have an objection to preserving open space and developing a town forest. Don Laplante said he would like to see a time schedule when we can have a conversation about it so we can determine where do we go from here? We could get some direction from there. They are presenting a concept to think about. Peter

said we have certain things that need to happen before town meeting with respect to public hearings, and if this is something you want accomplished before town meeting you have to backwards plan for that. Peter thought it would be wise to plan this for 2020, to give all the parties time to plan and come up with a plan. Peter thinks it is too short of a time to try to get this on the warrant for the 2019.

John Ross, Jr. presented the 2019 budget request for the fire department. Last year the budget was \$276,505, the proposed budget for 2019 is 287,980, an increase of \$11,475, 4.15% increase. It is a result in increase in salaries, and there have been reductions in other line-item costs. John said we have collected \$124,000 in revenue from ambulance calls so far this year. They are going to have a record year in calls this year, over 600 calls.

The Board reviewed the bids received for the highway garage roof (water department section). They received three bids. The bids received were: Mooney Carpentry for \$4,247; Tom Demers for \$6,456; and Tom Clark for \$9,265. Each of them have a little bit of a description of what they are going to provide. Peter said he liked Mr. Demer's bid because of the detail he put in his bid. Peter said the low bid had a statement that it is an open bid. A motion was made by Stanley Holz to accept the bid from Tom Demers for the water department roof for \$6,456. The motion was seconded by John Tholl. All in favor, 3-0. Motion passed. Tom Ladd asked what is the time frame for the water department roof repair? John Tholl said we would like to get it done before winter.

Stanley Holz said that the library roof is not leaking, but the shingles are very brittle. We only got one bid, and it is an open-ended bid. The Board decided that we will put it out to bid again in the winter that people can bid on for a spring job.

The Board discussed with Cabot the new truck he wants to purchase. Stanley was wondering what the original MSRP for the truck was and does this indicate any special pricing for the town. Stanley said service contracts are usually negotiable items. Stanley was wondering if it should be put out to bid. Cabot said that he did get other prices for trucks. Stanley said we should look at three comparable vehicles from three different dealers. Cabot will come back to the Board with more details.

The house at 38 Brown Street was discussed, Peter said we would ideally like that gone before the end of the calendar year. We did get the asbestos removed. We will never recover the full costs to take the property down. We will hopefully get it back on the tax roles.

North Country Council is in the process of hiring a consultant that will conduct the hazardous materials assessment for the local communities at no charge.

John Tholl made a motion to approve the minutes of September 24, 2018 Selectmen's Meeting minutes, the motion was seconded by Stanley Holz, all in favor, 3-0. Motion passed.

A motion was made by John Tholl to enter non-public session at 7:30 p.m. pursuant to RSA 91-A:3, consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present. The motion was seconded by Stanley Holz. Roll call to enter non-public session: Corey-Yes; Tholl-Yes; Holz-Yes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

