

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes
December 4, 2017

At the Selectmen's Meeting held on Monday, December 4, 2017 the following people were in attendance: Wendy Hersom and Peter Corey.

Kelly Smith, Recreation Director, presented her 2018 budget for the recreation department. Kelly said in the 2017 budget that we forget to include, with the new format the auditors asked us to started using, the summer program trip fees. Kelly said she has added this to the 2018 budget. The budget request for 2018 is \$61,295.

Kelly spoke with the Board about an issue with a parent about the ski bus for Bretton Woods. Kelly has suggested she come in and speak with the Board.

Barbara Robinson of North Country Council attended the meeting in reference to a letter the Board sent to her about the concerns with the Capital Improvements Plan (CIP) project. Scott Burns was in attendance as a representative for the CIP and Planning Board. Mrs. Robinson said that Regan Pride is supposed to be here tonight, and Scott said that Regan was late for every meeting they had and even missed one. Barbara said to please reach out to her if there are any issues. She wants to get things back up to speed. Barbara has the Capital Improvement Program with her tonight. Regan arrived at 6:50 p.m. They reviewed the components of the plan, and Barbara said that the first five components are complete and component #6 was not included. Barbara said where we are currently is that the review meeting needs to occur as soon as possible. Regan and Barbara will be available for that meeting in mid-December and the public hearing needs to take place as soon as possible after the review meeting and they would be happy to set that up and adoption of the plan after the meeting to move forward. Regan had three plans that are collated and four more which are not collated yet, which Regan did collate and leave with the Board. Regan said the point they want to make is they will do whatever is necessary to work with us for the review meeting to happen. He is not sure they need to be at that. They will be at the public hearing to present the basic elements of the plan to the public. Regan is not sure how we feel about the timing. Peter suggested that Scott and the CIP Committee come up with some dates for these meetings. Scott said he will speak with Frank Lombardi, as he was in charge of the CIP project last year and see when is good for him. Peter said he sat in on the process and the product that we got is good. Regan's expertise was helpful in the process, and we just haven't finished the process. Peter is not sure what has happened since he got off the Planning Board. If they can get with Scott & Frank and get the public hearing done and get the fully completed copies we should be good. Regan said as soon as it is reasonable please let them know and let Barbara know as well. Barbara said she didn't do the capital improvement program but she can read it and articulate with Regan as well. Barbara said if anything comes up in the future to please contact her and she will work on things.

Scott Burns – Planning Board Budget

Scott said he would say keep the budget the same. He would request \$4500 again the same as it has been. Scott will come back to another meeting with the CIP figures.

The Board had a copy of email correspondence with NHMA re: a commercial logging operation on a private road. There is concern about the impact the operation will have on Parker Road, which is used to access the private road. Peter said that the planning board should have a conversation with Shawn about the condition of the road and the impact of the proposed truck traffic on the road.

Roy Birard attended the meeting to discuss the cemetery budget. Roy wasn't going to increase his budget for the year, but since then they have had storms and a lot of trees came down that cost extra money to clean up. Roy has a problem with his water bill. He can't see the cemetery using \$300 worth of water. He said they don't use the water. It is the people who plant flowers and use the water to water to water their flowers. That cuts in his budget quite a bit and another \$750 for tree removal. Roy has gone over his budget and he was supposed to be able to use that \$800 from the capital reserve account we closed. What can they do about their water? Peter said they have to pay their bill. Peter said someone told him this fall that the people who have summer homes on the lake have migrated up to Park Street Cemetery to get their water since they turned off the water on the common. Roy said he is not sure what is driving up the water bill. That may be something to put controls in place to be sure that is not happening. Roy said he can't sit up there and watch them. He is looking at adding \$1000 for the budget and he would ask for \$31,000 for 2018. Peter asked Roy about using the interest in their trust accounts to offset general taxation because they have significant amount of interest in those accounts. Roy said that he can only use them for certain amounts of graves. Roy's term runs out in 2018. He would like to use the interest funds. Roy said if he could use it he would. Wendy said she is not sure we need to budget for another storm. Roy said there is no way of knowing. Roy said it sure has hurt this year. Scott said on Pine Street his recollection is the interest has to be divided among each grave and only do that grave. Peter said if you look at all those individual accounts some of them have a lot of interest on them and there is no reason we are not using that interest to offset general taxation. Wendy said what are you using the money on? If they are using money to fix a gravestone on a particular lot, the interest for that lot should be used. There is no value leaving the interest in those accounts indefinitely. Shawn asked why don't we pay for the mowing out of those accounts? That is something that all the graves benefit from. Roy said it is tough freeing up the money for cemetery maintenance. Pine Street is costing more each year for maintenance because it is an old cemetery. Those people were buried in wooden boxes and the boxes are deteriorating and they are sinking and they have to be kept filled up. Wendy said those are expenses that could be covered by the interest. Wendy said we have to work with what we got. Wendy said she is inclined to leave the budget the same and try to figure out how to use that interest. Terry Knowles is the one who handles it at the Attorney General's office and the Board asked Judy to reach out and see if she can come up and meet with the cemetery trustees to go over how they can use the interest money.

Josh gave the Board a copy of the Letter of Compliance for Letter of Deficiency from the NH DES in reference to the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) and Compliance Sampling Inspection (CSI) at the Whitefield Wastewater Treatment Facility.

Josh said they did the smoke testing up at Grandma's and you could see it comes down their roof and pushing the smoke around the parking lot and the restaurant. The state said they could put a filter on their vent pipe. Josh would rather put a vent at the town's pump station. They can't definitely say it is from Grandma's. Josh said it probably is coming from ours at times. Josh said he ordered a vent pipe for the town's pump station by Grandma's. He would rather replace ours at this time. It has a carbon filter on it that is supposed to take way any stink. Judy said Dennis was in asking and she told him she would find out and get back to him.

Josh said they pumped all day at Mountain View and they need another day to pump. Josh said when they pumped there are two tanks before it goes in the Pump Station. They probably worked on the one closest to it. It wasn't as thick as the first one. We cleaned out the pump station pit. There is a lot of

grease in it. The solids would be more liquid than the grease. There is a lot of thick grease in there. Peter asked Josh if he spoke to the maintenance man about their grease traps. The only way to move forward with that is to clean them and see where they are after that.

Josh told the Board that one of the pumps at Brown Street broke the other day and hopefully it is a part that they can fix. He is hoping they can scavenge some parts to fix it.

Josh presented the 2018 budget for the wastewater treatment plant. This budget does not include the money for their portion of the Public Works Director position. Shawn gave us a break-out for this cost along with the benefits. The Board thought we could reduce testing by \$3,000 and the pump station line item by \$3,000. Josh asked about the operation and maintenance manual for the collections system. Josh said Bethlehem is doing one and it is costing them \$9,000. Shawn said we budget \$24,000 for the street sewer and it should cover that.

Fred Davis attended to meeting to ask a question about Myrtle Street. He said that they are doing a little project on Park Street. They have to dig across Myrtle Street to get to the sewer. He knows where the town stands, but seeing we have a little break in the weather he is wondering if they could get across Myrtle Street and get in the manhole that would put them ahead. It is an old house they purchased on Park Street, which has a regular septic system with the home. They would like to hook up to the town sewer. It is kind of time sensitive. They have x amount of days under the construction loan to get everything done. Fred spoke to Shawn and he said no about hooking in so late in the year. He is wondering if we ever make exceptions to that. Peter said we wouldn't be able to get that paved up this year. Fred said it is in pretty tough shape. Fred hasn't spoke with the contractor if he could even do it. Can he not operate on the current system? Fred said it is preferable not to. Peter asked about if he has paid the sewer connection fee yet. Fred said he has not yet, but he is aware of it. Shawn told Fred to come see the Board. Shawn said that we have been discussing this since summer. They thought the Myrtle location was the best to hook in to. Shawn said it would be a battle all winter to keep the cold patch in it. Shawn told Fred to come address it with the Board. What is the worse if he did it? Shawn said we would be fixing the cold-patch all winter. Peter is in favor if he can get it paved. Fred needs it in the minutes for the bank that he tried. Pike is the plant that supplies the asphalt. They were open as of last week. Aaron would have to go purchase it from them and get it over to Fred. They are out of Campton. John Ross, Jr. said they may have another plant that may have it available for him as well. If you can pave it, you can do it is the answer.

Wendy reviewed the airport budget and their request for 2018 will be \$9,000 again.

John Ross, Jr. had an appointment form signed by the Board for the deputy fire warden for Alan Smith.

John said that we have done 71 calls so far this year to Dalton, which is about 15% of the calls. Dalton helps us out with calls as well. We got \$10,000 this year from them, and we are asking for \$12,500 for 2018. Peter said that is more than reasonable.

John said in reference to the ambulance billing, he met with Lancaster today. He said that they can do everything we are doing now so we can look at it on a daily basis and they follow-up on a daily basis. We get a monthly report. Wendy asked what they would be charging us, and John said it is the same as what we are being charged right now 6% on whatever they collect. They will do two months for free. Joyce, Judy, and John all feel that we should give Lancaster another shot. They have very detailed reports

which they update daily. They do collections in Lancaster. They do credit cards and are in the process of billing for no transports. They do ask if when they go to training for this insurance that we may be able to pitch in for some of those costs to keep up on all the laws. Peter wasn't sure about paying for the training. We are contracting for the service. They have billing software and they can add us on and take care of that as well. The Board was not in favor of paying for their training costs.

John asked if the Town hire someone under 18 for the Fire Department? It was suggested that we run it by Primex and see if that is something we can do

The Board signed the WEX gas card application.

A motion was made by Peter Corey to approve the November 27, 2017 Selectmen's Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Wendy Hersom. All in favor, 3-0. Motion passed.

The Board discussed representatives to North Country Council. Sam Chase does not want to do it any longer. Wendy suggested asking Bob Bergin to see if he would be interested.

Judy reviewed the budgets for general government, financial administration, legal expense, buildings, insurance – worker's comp, unemployment, and property/liability, NHMA dues, other safety, health and welfare, culture and recreation, debt service, and band concerts.

Tom Ladd asked about what can we do to get the minutes of the airport, cemetery trustees, trustees of the trust funds, and library trustees on the website? Wendy said the minutes of the airport meeting are available at the airport if anyone wants to see them. Judy will check with the cemetery trustees, trustees of the trust funds, and library trustees about adding their minutes to the town website.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.