

MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
October 26, 2020

Call to Order. A regular meeting of the Town of Campton Board of Selectmen was called to order at 5:35 p.m. on Monday, October 26, 2020 by Chairman Craig Keeney in the Campton Town offices and via Zoom.

The following Selectmen were present:

Craig Keeney, Chair
Karl Kelly, Vice Chair
Dan Boynton
Bill Cheney
Sharon Davis

Five members being present, a quorum (3) has been reached. Town Administrator Carina Park was present along with employees Lisa Vincent, Jade Hartsgrove, and Police Chief Kevin Foss. Ron Goggans, Kevin Daugherty, Roger Merrows, Richard Sidor, Bill Thurgood, and Paula Woodward attended as members of the public. Town Clerk/Tax Collector Hannah Joyce joined the meeting at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Minutes. Selectman Davis made a motion to approve the Public and Non-Public Minutes as corrected from October 13 and 19, 2020. Selectman Boynton seconded the motion and the Board voted unanimously to accept.

New Business

Omer C. Ahern Jr introduced himself to the Board and gave a brief description of why he is running for Grafton County Commissioner. He explained that he was previously a Grafton County Commissioner and is currently a Warren Selectman. He believes he can lower the County budget by reducing food costs for the House of Corrections and Nursing Home using the County farm. He suggested that each of the Board members to take a tour of the facilities in Haverhill. Omer thanked the Board for their service and their time.

Citizen Concern - Thornton Collision Invoices: Kevin Daugherty stated his wish to have the town pay unpaid invoices for Police Department vehicle service dating back to 2012. Mr. Daugherty first approached the town in February of 2020 with unpaid claims. Carina Park contacted Town Counsel about these invoices. Ms. Park and Chief Warn then went through invoices back to 2012 and found discrepancies: some did not match the Police Department service logs, and some invoices contained two different dates. Since the town has no documentation of late payment notices being sent and the statute of limitations has expired (3 years), Counsel advised the Board of Selectmen not to pay.

Old Business

Road Betterment Petition-Driftwood Rd & Bootjack Rd: Richard Sidor was present at the meeting representing the six homeowners of the neighborhood. Since the last discussion about this issue, Road

Agent Butch Bain identified three culverts that would need to be replaced in conjunction with the Road Betterment project. The total project cost (paving & culverts) is \$85,028.

Larry Benoit Excavation LLC: \$21,449

R&D Paving: \$63,579

Carina Park stated that each homeowner would be responsible for paying approximately \$1,000/year if the project moves forward. Richard Sidor said that the homeowners had agreed that they would pay up to a maximum of \$100,000 for the project. Selectman Boynton asked what the next steps would be and it was agreed that:

1. BOS decision this night whether or not to move forward to the next step;
2. Obtain/create a map of the subdivision marking intended lay out of road;
3. Ms. Park would publish and schedule a public hearing;
4. Hold public hearing;
5. Present warrant article on this proposal at 2021 the town's annual meeting for vote.

Several selectmen were not comfortable with the town taking on a road that benefits only a few individuals living on it and doesn't connect to any other area.

Selectman Boynton made a motion to "find occasion to lay out a road" for this neighborhood.

Selectman Davis seconded the motion.

Selectmen Cheney, Boynton, and Davis voted in favor.

Selectmen Keeney and Kelly were opposed.

The majority carried the motion and the Board agreed to have the proposal presented at a public hearing. Carina Park will publish the notice and schedule the hearing.

Correspondence

DES: The Board received a letter from DES explaining that a property off US RT 3 has been put on notice to remediate the river bed they disturbed by pushing material into the riverbed. They have 30 days to send a plan of correction and to fix it. Carina said the Conservation Committee was also copied on this notice.

Election: Principal Dave Hamnett requested set up for election wait until Friday Oct 30th after 3 p.m. He would like school to be out of session while set up is going on. There is school on Monday, November 2nd; however, they will not be using the gym. Carina told the board she will get in touch with the Highway Department about the time of setup.

Police Department. The town has received a letter of resignation from Officer Arias. His last day of work will be November 11th. Chief Foss also announced that the purchase of the new Mobile Data Terminals came in well under budget.

A **joint budget meeting** with Thornton and Ellsworth will be held on Monday, December 7th.

Board Concerns and Directives

Dan Boynton – expressed concern that the permanent part-time position for the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors office previously approved by the Board has not yet been posted. The selectmen discussed this at length and unanimously decided that if Ms. Joyce hasn't posted the position by October 30th that Ms. Park was to do so.

Bill Cheney – none stated.

Sharon Davis – none stated.

Craig Keeney – none stated.

Karl Kelly – would like a public hearing regarding Class VI roads. He would like snowmobiles -but not ATVs- to have access to these roads. This topic was discussed at length and it was agreed that Chief Foss would obtain a map and/or description of the Campton Class VI roads and bring this information back to a Board meeting for further discussion.

Privilege of the Floor

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Hannah Joyce asked the Board if they would reconsider hiring the Assistant to the Town Clerk/Tax Collector at full-time position rather than the permanent part-time position. She has a person in mind who is already certified, therefore, would not require training and could start right away. Hannah said that the town voted to have 3 full time people in her office and that is what is needed to serve the town. Currently, she is in her office working by herself due to an employee being out on medical leave. Selectman Davis stated that the Board could have made accommodations for the employee's absence, however, Hannah waited 3 weeks before informing the Board of the employee's medical leave absence. The Board reminded Hannah it was her decision to remove the third employee from her office and on several occasions was asked if there was any work that could be sent to the third employee to be completed in the Board of Selectmen's Office. The Board agreed to hold firm on their decision to remain with a part-time year-round Assistant to the Town Clerk/ Tax Collector.

Hannah asked where the additional funds for the full-time employee will go. Selectman Boynton said the money should go back to the voters to offset the tax rate. Hannah also inquired when she will be getting written documentation about the Board agreeing to payout her unused vacation time. The Board told her the minutes from the meeting in which it was voted upon should be sufficient.

2020 Proposed Budget Workshop

4210 Police Department discussion points.

1. Chief Foss stated that Officer Waterbury starts this week and that Officer Brady will be going to the Police Academy next Spring.
2. The Prosecutor's salary is shared by Lincoln, Woodstock, and Campton. The BOS is satisfied with the arrangement to date but would like to see the hours tracked in order to ensure appropriate salary allocation.
3. Chief Foss stated that vehicle #3 is due to be replaced in 2021. Discussion ensued about what type of vehicle to replace it with. Chief Foss is going to investigate obtaining a truck or SUV instead of a cruiser.
4. Ms. Park inserted a \$60,420 placeholder for PD health insurance in anticipation of personnel changes.
5. A \$9,202 increase in PD retirement is due to a mandated formula change.

6. The \$2000 savings in cruiser maintenance is due, in part, to mechanical work being done by Officer Scott.

Overall, the PD budget increased by only 0.08%. The BOS congratulated Chief Foss for submitting a tight budget.

BOS-Executive, Finance, Buildings, etc. discussion points:

A general agreement for the entire budget is that Carina Park will work on updating salary scales for all personnel. All proposed budget line items stand for the time being unless commented on below.

1. **4130 Selectmen:** Carina Park reminded the BOS that her contract will expire at the end of 2020. Two positions in 4150-001 (Planning/Zoning/Assessing Coordinator and Office Assistant-Minutes Secretary) were removed from Financial Administration and placed in 4130 Selectmen group. The Moderator line was decreased to \$3,000 due to few elections next year.
2. **4150 Financial Administration:** Two positions in 410 (Planning/Zoning/Assessing Coordinator and Office Assistant-Minutes Secretary) were removed from 4150 Financial Administration and inserted into 4130 Selectmen. **The HR/Financial Coordinator will now assume the role of Welfare Director due to the Selectmen's office restructure and this line will increase slightly.**
3. **4194 Gen. Government Buildings:** 4194-012 (Postage and Meter rent) has been increased by \$5,000 due to a significant increase in posted mail re COVID19.
4. **4195 Cemetery:** A 2% COLA was overlooked and will be added to 4195-001 (Labor).
5. **4196 Insurance: Numbers are from Primex. Primex is on a June/July fiscal year.**
6. **4197 Advertising & Regional: Stays the same. Carina advised that she gave all of the agencies a November deadline for submission of their paperwork.**
7. **4199 Other General Government:** No budget has been provided. Carina recommends a new company to handle the capital reserve accounts. Carina said that she spent days trying to do the MS forms with information provided by NH Trust management. The Trustees of Trust Funds were going to approach changing investment firms in 2020 but COVID happened.
8. **4290 Emergency Management:** 4290-002 (Signs, Posts, E911) will be left at \$1500, not revised to \$1,000.

Review of the 2021 proposed budget ended with 4313 (Hydrant Rental) remaining as proposed.

Transfer Station: Chairman Keeney asked if we could request a copy of the budget.

Privilege of the Floor

-None-

Other Business

Wage Study: Selectman Boynton asked about doing a wage study. Carina said we did one in 2018 and that Campton has always been on the lower end. Chairman Keeney said he thinks that the town is paying what it can afford and that wage studies cost a lot of money to have done. Selectman Davis said we could do it ourselves and that she is willing to work on it and do a proposal in late November. Carina said we can do it in house and contact the 8 communities to see what they are getting paid.

Adjournment. There being no further business, Chairman Keeney adjourned the public meeting at 7:31 p.m.

Jade Hartsgrove / Paula Woodward
Recorder