

**MINUTES**  
**SELECTMEN'S MEETING**  
**January, 19 2021**

Call to Order. The Town of Campton Board of Selectmen meeting was called to order at 5:30p.m. on Tuesday, January 19, 2021 by Chairman Craig Keeney in the Campton Town offices and via Zoom.

The following Selectmen were present:

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

Five members being present, a quorum (3) has been reached. Town Administrator Carina Park was present along employee Jade Hartsgrove. Member from the public Jim Butler was also present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Selectman Davis made a motion to approve the Public and as corrected from January 4, 2021. Selectman Boynton seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to accept.

Selectman Boynton made a motion to table to the non-public minutes from January 4, 2021 until legal counsel reviews them. Selectman Keeney seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to accept.

**Town Meeting and Election Preparation**

Town Moderator Richard "Dick" Giehl came before the Board to discuss the Annual Town Meeting. Selectman Keeney asked Dick if he would like to do a Traditional Town Meeting as the Town usually does. Dick stated, 100% yes, same as Town Election. Dick doesn't expect a huge turnout due to the pandemic. Carina said she spoke with Mr. Hamnett, Principal of Campton Elementary School, and he advised that this year the Board will not be able to sit on the stage as years past due to it being used for storage. There was discussion about how to change the gym up and if need be for social distancing the cafeteria could be used as well. Dick told the Board he has signed up for a zoom seminar through NHMA and will contact the Board after and update.

Dick wanted to let the Board know how well the Ballot Clerks and help did during the recent elections, and that he spent 12 hours working on the absentee ballots. Carina asked if voting would be held at the municipal building, and Dick said yes. The Board agreed. Selectman Boynton said they will have to redesign how it has been done in the past and will need an option for no mask voters, Dick agreed. The Board thanked Dick for coming in and look forward to speaking to him after his zoom seminar.

**Budget Workshop**

Chairman Keeney said he would like to go over the budget starting at the bottom line. Carina stated to the Board that they do not have the same amount of the undesignated fund balance as years past. She suggested to the Board that they should save as much as possible due to the unknown of this coming year. Carina also added the CIP items to the budget and for them to be raised by taxation and to see what it would do to the bottom line. There's just not as much surplus to put towards the CIP like the past years. The Board thought it was a good idea, and agreed to keep it to be raised by taxation.

**Conservation Commission:** Standard to last year

**Patriotic Purposes:** Bumped to \$300.00.

**Library:** The budget is down some, and the Trustees are comfortable with their decision.

**Parks & Rec:** Went up \$1000.00, Lisa usually gets about 40% of that back in revenue.

**Town Welfare:** Down \$5000.00, this past year went well due to the moratorium. However, this spring when utility shut offs can take place Carina said she anticipates more people who will need help. Carina said keeping it at \$20,000.00 she is comfortable, and the Board agreed if she is comfortable, they are.

**Solid Waste & Landfill Admin:** The Town received the last quarter bill from Thornton and it seemed a little higher than the other quarter bills. She asked Deb Shepard from Thornton why, essentially it was due to the changes in personnel and part time vs. full time. After some discussion the consensus of the Board was staying at \$225,000 for the transfer station.

**Highway Department:** There is a place holder for a 4<sup>th</sup> full time employee. Carina also added an "on call" stipend at \$75/@16 weeks. After some discussion, Selectman Kelly said he thought it should be bumped up to \$100 as \$75 doesn't seem enough. The rest of the Board agreed. Mowing was increased but Selectmen Kelly suggested to bringing it down to \$8000.00, and to talk about a new mowing plan, and the rest of the Board liked that idea.

Carina did tell the Board that just within the past month, now that the highway department is fully staffed, they have made big strides and have accomplished a lot.

**Fire Department:** Chairman Keeney and Selectmen Kelly thought that the 163K for full time staffing was a separate warrant article. Carina said they are correct however; they have to account for it. Selectman Boynton asked for Carina to put this in a separate space so it is clearer, Carina will move it. Carina also told the Board it was not very clear in the joint meeting but the amount for the full-time staff being added was for a 6-month period, not an entire year. Essentially, next year, double this amount.

**Police Detail:** Carina stated they don't even come close to \$15,000.00. The Board discussed this and they decided to drop this line to \$5,000.00. The Board would also like to see this line item in the Police budget rather than separated out. The Board is good with the rest of the Police Budget.

**Contingency:** All of it was spent this year, and the Board agreed to keep it at \$15,000.00.

**Other General Government:** The Trust management company thinks the Town could get better rates if there were any CIP accounts that could be locked for 6-12 months. Selectman Davis suggested the Board sit down and take a hard look at them the capital reserve accounts and see which accounts could be locked for a period of time. Carina also informed the Board that the trust company had provided inaccurate financial information and she had to return it all so they could correct it.

**Advertising & Regional:** Keeping the same numbers as last year. Carina said that a couple of them never got their requests and forms in on time. Selectman Davis said that for this year, send the donations and also inform them that for next year the Town will require them to be filled out.

**Cemetery:** John Timson, Cemetery Sexton, needs to remove a large tree at Blair Cemetery, and is asking for a slight increase. Selectman Boynton said the gazebo needs to be re-done, and they will revisit that in the spring.

**Government Buildings:** Bumped electricity down to \$15,000.00. Telephone and internet went over a bit, but still better than what it used to be at. The yard care went over, and the Board agreed to put it back out for bid this spring. Selectman Boynton feels that they could get the computer services line down some. Selectman Boynton said it looks like we're doing good, and long-term ending up with some surplus is not a bad thing, the Board agreed.

**Town Mapping:** Went over some, the printer fried. Corey worked very diligently to get the Town a new printer, and due to his hard work, he was able to get a new printer and a full reimbursement for the new one.

**Planning & Zoning:** O.K. as proposed

**Legal Expenses:** Went over this year. The Board would like to bump this line up to \$35,000.00.

**Assessing:** This is a locked rate as the Town has a contract with CNP.

**Executive Administration:** All of the BOS employees are in this budget rather than separated out like years before.

**Town Clerk/Tax Collector:** Carina received a fourth draft from Hannah, wage lines are different than the Selectmen's budget. Carina put the numbers in that the Board agreed on. The Board would like to see public notice line decrease. They know it is not cheap to run an ad in the paper, but the Board has suggested to her multiple times to use indeed to post the job as it doesn't cost anything, and is very effective. The Board agreed to knock this line down to \$500.00.

All areas of the budget were discussed. After the Board went over each line, the budget is now down to an increase of 3.5%. The budget hearing is February 8, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

**Beta Group:** Carina asked the Board when they would like the Beta Group to come in and go over the report. The Board discussed and agreed that after Town Meeting would be best. They all agreed that

Monday, March 15<sup>th</sup> would be best. Carina will let them know.

### Correspondence

**Stipend:** The Board received a Thank You note from Carolyn Hill for the stipend.

**Ellsworth:** Donna from Ellsworth is scrambling to find a place for their Town Meeting. She was wondering if they could use the community room for it or the fire department bays. After discussion the Board is ok with it as long as it doesn't interfere with our Town voting. Carina will reach out to Donna.

**Tax Agreement:** Carina said to the Board without mention of names, there is a mobile home on a piece of land the homeowner does not own, that would like to enter into a new tax agreement for 2013 as she has paid off the 2012 taxes for \$50.00 a month. The whole Board said they are ok with it, and Carina will reach out to her to let her know.

### Board Concerns and Directives

**Culverts:** Selectmen Cheney is asking the Board to agree on allowing the minimum culvert size be 12 inches. The current standard doesn't fit for every instance. The Board all agreed.

### Privilege of the Floor

Jim Butler asked why did the Board cut the winter sub-contractor line but not the other sub-contractor line? The Board explained the winter sub-contractor line was strictly for winter and since the department will be fully staffed, they felt comfortable with the decrease. The other sub line is for anything during the other times of the year where they may need to sub out. Jim also asked that if at town meeting would 2019 #'s will be available, they will be as they are always in the Town Report.

### Committee Updates

-None-

### Old Business

-None-

Adjournment: There being no further business, Chairman Keeney adjourned the public meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jade Hartsgrove  
Minutes Recorder