

MINUTES  
SELECTMEN'S MEETING  
May 23<sup>rd</sup> 2022

The Campton Town, Board of Selectmen met at 5:30 pm on Monday, May 23, 2022. Selectmen Boynton and Coates were not present. Selectmen Sharon Davis, Craig Engel, Mort Donahue, were present. Also present were Campton Town Administrator Corey Davenport, Planning and Zoning Coordinator/Recorder Jade Hartsgrove and Natasha Egger, Minutes Recorder.

**Call to Order:** Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The public members that attended were Willis Merrill, Gerrard J. Boyle, Joyce & Steve Hackett, Mary Edith Kovach-Heise & Joe Heise, Allan T. & Debbie A. Ward, Gordon Rowley, Joyce Hackett and George Cranshaw. Public members present on Zoom were Stephanie Osborne, Gale Johnk, Ann Anninger.

**Non-Public Session:** Selectman Davis made a motion to go into non-public accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II 5:30 PM: Non-Public Session at 5:30pm. Selectman Engel second the motion, and Selectman Davis, Engel and Donahue voted in favor. The board came out of the Non-Public Session 5:40 pm. Selectman Davis motioned to seal the non-public minutes, Selectman Engel seconded the motion and all in favor agreed to seal nonpublic minutes at 5:41pm.

**Selectmen Work Session**

**Approval of the Minutes:** Selectman Davis motioned to approve the public and non-public minutes from May 9th, 2022. Selectman Engel Approved revised minutes at 5:41 PM, Selectman Donahue seconded the motion, and the Board voted all in favor.

**Personnel:** The fire department is still shorthanded by one employee, and the highway department is now only down by one person. Police department is fully staffed, however Jim Morton is retiring in a week, so that will open up another position. Transfer station is still down by one.

**General Update:** Still waiting on Undesignated Fund Balance decision from DRA.

**Financial Review (CIP & Budget):** Corey provided the Selectmen with cash on hand total. That amount is \$740,298.21 The TAN is in place, and all of the documents have been filled out, signed, and sent to DRA for the undesignated fund balance. Financial reports were reviewed for the end of the first quarter of 2022. Corey noted that 48% of the Moderator budget has been expended. Public Notices expense went up significantly over last year. The Fire Department chose to wait until 2024 to purchase a Fire Truck. At the state White Farm auction the Loader went for \$21,000.00 and the plow went for \$750.00.

**CIP:** No changes until DRA makes a decision on the use of Undesignated Fund Balance.

**Correspondence & Other Items:** Ron put out paving proposals for bid for the year and we are still waiting on all to come back. Livermore Road is still the priority. The price of Signs has gone up overall. Corey has seen an increase of citizen requests for Signs and/or Posts. The Selectmen will look into guidelines and/or procedures on this topic. The Planning Board Sub Committee asked if they could use the Community Room to hold events that they propose to get feedback from public. The board agreed that usage for events will be fine however no political issues and/or meetings are to take place in the community room. Corey will remind Jessye B. of the community rooms policy.

**Tracking Report:** Selectman Davis would like to see the Tracking Report from Corey on the meeting agenda on the next Selectmen's Work Session which is scheduled for June 2 at 3:30pm.

**Library Engineer Contract:** The Board would like to see some plan from Jason LaCombe, Architect and principal of SMP Architecture with more specifics. Going forward the Library Study Committee will want several meetings with Mr. LaCombe to discuss the project, establish timelines and for public hearings. The cost for the services is \$29,500.00 and will come from the Library capital reserve account. The board would like the Library Study Committee to review the contract to see if it covers what the Committee needs. Once reviewed by the Committee, the board requested that the Town Attorney review the contract before it is signed

### **Culvert Flood Risk Assistance Grants & Road Counter Discussion**

Road Agent Ron Farnsworth recommended taking out all old culverts and putting in new to reduce the risk of flood. This entails inspecting culverts to determine which culverts qualify and which ones are sound. Once a list is compiled, the Board will review and once approved will submit an application for a grant to the state for Consideration.

Road Agent Farnsworth and Selectman Engel both agreed that there is a high level of traffic on back dirt roads throughout the town. They would like to specifically conduct a study on how many vehicles on those roads, what roads have had what repair and what has been repaired but is in need of repaving. Selectman Engel agreed that these roads do need repair and wants a new proposal on certain roads. Concern was amount of pitch of repair work on the roads between driveways and the roads. Ron will meet with Eric from HEB Engineering to work on a new proposal.

**Turnpike Road Culvert:** Ron just wanted to inform the Board that there is a culvert on Turnpike Road that has been unplugged. It did release into a homeowner's land but it is not too bad.

**Peter Mespelli Lot issue: Planning/Zoning** Coordinator Jade Hartsgrove presented her findings to the Board with regards to Peter Mespelli's remaining lots that were subject to a two-year subdivision extension in the 1990's. Mr. Mespelli did complete the subdivision requirements but there was never a release placed on file at Grafton County Registry of Deeds by the Town to show compliance.. The Board approved signing a release of the lots.

### **Privilege of the Floor**

**Willis Merrill:** Concerns with the cable company Spectrum and how they bury cable lines into the ditches next to the roads. The Board explained to Willis Merrill that in their findings that there are no regulations with the cable company on how and where they install and/or bury their cable wires. The Town of Campton does not have a contract with any cable company and that Board is at a loss on what they can do.

**Tim Sworb on Zoom:** Concerns on culverts on Turnpike Rd. Selectman Engel explained to Mr. Sworb that he was recently near his property observing it, and did not feel there was a large amount of water. Selectman Engel assured the homeowner that the Road Agent will not free up any more culverts abutting his property.

**Gerry Boyle:** Questions culvert issues on Merrill Rd. He explained that Merrill Rd. is the only access road into Page Hill development. Mr. Boyle asked if the Fire Department could clear the culverts as they had done in the past. . Selectman Davis and Selectman Engel both agreed that Town has the right to clear out culverts that they own. It was agreed that Chief Dan Defosses would be contacted about the culvert cleaning.

**Gordon Rowley:** Mr. Rowley has concerns with buried cable between Winterbrook and Merrill Rd. He also asked about how the Town paves and fills in cracking on the roads. Mr. Rowley felt there are more

and more unstable cracks than ever before. The Board did say that the Road Agent will look into the cracks in the roads.

**Joyce Hackett:** Complaint on continuous wash out on Merrill Rd at a culvert that abuts the driveway to her property. Mrs. Hackett provided pictures of the washouts on Merrill Rd to show the difference through the years. The Board did re-assure Joyce that they will look into clearing the culverts and fixing the cracks on Merrill Rd.

### **Public Session**

**New Business-**Butch Bain did not appear for this meeting.

**Willis Merrill Road & Solar Discussion:** The Board went over cracks in pavement on Merrill Rd and the Road Agent will be out to assess the situation. Mr. Merrill asked if there are regulations on Solar panels. The Board explained there are no regulations. There is a height restriction of 35 feet for any building but excludes poles or antennas. The Board will refer the matter to the next Planning Board Meeting for consideration of instituting height restrictions on solar panels. .

### **Old Business**

#### **Board Concerns, Committee Updates & Directives-**

Selectman Donahue inquired if there was a policy providing guidance to the Road Agent with regards to snow and ice weather. It was believed that there is such a policy. It will be researched and brought to the Board at an upcoming meeting.

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Selectman Engel brought up for discussion whether a Selectmen ex-officio has the ability to vote on committees they serve. The consensus was that they do have the ability to vote.

Selectman Davis requested that the Road Agent be present in the work session meeting on June 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30.

Selectman Engel announced that the CIP Committee voted Karl Kelly to be Chair..

It was requested that Karl Kelly attend the Board's work session on June 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Selectman Davis call to adjourn the meeting, Selectman Engel seconded the motion. Board voted all in favor.

**Adjournment:** There being no further business, Selectman Davis adjourned the meeting at 7:18 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Natasha Egger  
Minutes Recorder