

MINUTES
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
June 6, 2022

The Campton Board of Selectmen met at 3:30 pm on Monday, June 6, 2022. Selectmen Davis and Coates were not present. Selectmen Dan Boynton, Craig Engel, and Mort Donahue were present. Also present were Campton Town Administrator Corey Davenport, Chief of Police, Kevin Foss, Campton Road Agent, Ron Farnsworth, Planning and Zoning Coordinator, Jade Hartsgrove, and Natasha Egger, Minutes Recorder.

Call to Order: Vice-Chair Boynton called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm. The public members attending were Kevin Tilton and Brooke Brown from USFS. Public members present on Zoom were Gale Johnk

Non-Public Session: Selectman Engel made a motion to go into non-public per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) at 3:30 PM: Selectman Donahue seconded the motion, and Vice-Chair Boynton, Engel, and Donahue voted all in favor. The Board came out of the Non-Public Session at 3:40 pm. Selectman Engel motioned to seal the non-public minutes, Selectman Donahue seconded the motion, and all in favor agreed to seal nonpublic minutes at 3:41 pm.

Approval Of the Minutes

Selectmen Engel motioned to approve the public and non-public minutes from May 23, 2022, as revised. Selectman Donahue seconded the motion, and the Board voted all in favor.

Highway Department

Road Agent Ron Farnsworth asked the Board to give him the authority to access the capital reserve funds that are set aside for road purposes. Selectman Engel motioned to allow the Road Agent to spend up to \$60,000.00 in gravel, \$20,000.00 for Shoulder Gravel, \$25,000.00 for Crack Sealing, and \$20,000.00 for Culverts from the Road Infrastructure Capital Reserve Account. Selectman Donahue seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

The Select Board discussed paving with the Road Agent. The increased cost of paving was discussed and he is going to alter the target roads due to the increase. The Road Agent talked about a new low-cost way of extending the life of paved roads called Chip Sealing. Selectman Engel and Ron discussed attending a seminar on this process to get more information for the Board. Vice-Chair Boynton asked about his plans on the gravel roads that have been fixed and what Ron's plans were on maintaining them going forward. The Road Agent told the Board that he would use the gravel from the Capital Reserves to put more material on top so that they can properly grade the roads.

The Road Agent told the Board that a current employee gave their two-week notice. Ron stated that he has gotten a few applications and spoken to one of the applicants. The Road Agent has a candidate he would like to offer the job to. They know all the big equipment but do not have his CDL. Ron did say, that he will send the potential hire to go get his CDL. Selectman Donahue made a motion to hire the candidate with a starting salary up to \$18.50 per hour, seconded by Selectman Engel. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Personnel

The fire department is shorthanded by one employee, and the highway department is down by two employees. The police department is now down two full-time officers. Chief Foss did a post for one certified Full-Time Officer. January would be the next academy, and at that point, Chief Foss will post another opening for any interested candidates. Vice-Chair Boynton did entertain the idea of a Sign-On Bonus, but Chief Foss felt it was not needed at this time. Chief Foss explained the schedule as it stands now is four 10½-hour shifts and three days off. The Police Department will continue to be covered 24 hours.

General Updates

ZBA: Currently has a Full Time and Alternate position open that needs to be filled. Corey will be putting out a Facebook and email blast for these positions

Cash Flow & Financial Update: Corey informed the Board that tax bills went out last week. The TAN is still in place but will be unavailable after August 2022. It looks like it will not need to be used now that taxes are starting to roll in. Corey told the Board that he would look to get another TAN in place for the winter as he anticipates the Town might need it. The cash on hand was \$757,285.65.

Correspondence & Other Items

Dog Issue: Campton PD was called to retrieve a loose dog. The dog escaped the officers when it was originally brought back to the PD. The dog was recaptured and was injured by hitting its head while the officers tried to control it. The dog's owner requested the Town of Campton pays for the veterinarian bill. Vice-Chair Boynton asked Chief Foss if anything was different when capturing the dog. Chief Foss said, "The officers were doing everything that they could, and officers did everything that they were supposed to do in that matter." Vice-Chair asked Town Administrator Corey to send a letter to the owner explaining the Town's findings.

Eversource – Eversource will be putting in new poles and replacing them from Beebe River down to Holderness. Eversource will be starting around the spring of 2023.

Public Session

NH US Forest Service: Kevin Tilton Land Surveyor and Brooke Brown, District Ranger from USFS were present to discuss the sale of the Campton Dam. Currently, NHUSFS owns the dam but is selling it to Mad River Power Associates

The Forest Service wants to sell 3 acres to the potential new owner who maintains the power station downstream from the dam. NHUSFS is looking for the public's input on the sale. NHUSFS recognizes there are sensitive species and will have a Biologist on-site during the process. NHUSFS assured the BOS that the Gardening Club would not be affected. The NHUSFS explained that the dam is classified as a High Hazard Dam; however, there were no findings of anything structurally wrong. NHUSFS will meet with Planning Board to present the subdivision plan. It will be about 8-12 months until anything starts regarding the project.

Body Camera Policy

Town Administrator Corey explained to the Board that the Body Cameras are up and running. Chief Foss put together a policy for the Body Cameras. He explained that Police Department's Policy for Body Cameras mirrors the NH State Laws for Body Cameras. Selectman Engel motioned to approve, the Body Camera Policy, Selectman Donahue seconded the motion, and the Board voted unanimously to approve the Town of Campton Police Body Camera Policy.

Tracking Report Review

Vice-Chair Boynton quickly reviewed the tracking report with the Board members and the Town Administrator. The Board went through the tracking report and discussed a few changes that should be made to the report. The Board plans to discuss the topic further at the next work session. The Town Administrator talked about the current internet provider. Vice-Chair Boynton said the Town should be getting 30 MB. Vice-Chair Boynton did explain that our internet is under contract. Corey will look into this and discuss the next meeting. The Town Administrator explained the addition of cemetery rules to the tracking report. As it currently stands, there are no written rules or regulations for the Town of Campton Cemeteries. The Selectmen's Office Staff is researching out to other towns on what they have and will bring it to the Board to determine what would work for the Town. Finally, Vice-Chair Boynton wanted to add an item. He wants to have a map produced to show all the houses affected if the Campton Fire Substation were closed.

Committee Updates, Board Concerns, and Directives

Selectman Engel- Selectman Engel talked with Mary Ann Peabody, and Thornton Selectman, and discussed how Ellsworth, Thornton, and Campton Boards interact with each other. He would like to try to work together more, possibly cookout with all Boards. Selectman Engel's goal is to continue improving relations among the three Boards.

Work Session Next work session was tentatively scheduled for 6/16/22 from 2:00 pm - 4:00 pm. The Town Administrator said he would reach out to the members not present to see if they would be able to attend the meeting. The Board agreed that if they had at least four members present, they would hold the work session.

NCIC Grants- The Board briefly discussed looking into hiring a Grant Writer. The Board agreed that hiring a grant writer would allow for the opportunity to apply for more grants. Vice-Chair Boynton and Selectman Engel agreed to discuss this further next meeting.

Signage for Town- Selectman Engel asked about the budget for the signage. Town Administrator Corey will look into it for the next meeting. Craig mentioned there is a grant through DOJ to get more funding to help with Signage.

Privilege of the Floor

None

Adjournment: There being no further business, Vice-Chair Boynton adjourned the meeting at 5:26 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Natasha Egger
Minutes Recorder