

Campton Board of Selectmen's Meeting

Minutes

November 14, 2022

The Campton Board of Selectmen met at 5:30 pm Monday, November 14, 2022. Present were Chair Sharon Davis, Selectman Mort Donahue, Selectman Dan Boynton, Selectman Nik Coates and Selectman Craig Engel. Other members of the Town present were Road Agent Ron Farnsworth and Library Building Committee Chairperson Mary O'Brien. Also present were Campton Town Administrator Corey Davenport and Planning and Zoning Coordinator Jade Hartsgrove. Members of the public were Sherrill Howard, Janet Lucas, Amanda Lucas, Devin Lucas, Alex Lucas, Beth Read, Jolene Read, and Harry Bertino.

Call to Order: Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm. The Board reviewed manifests, code compliance applications, sign permits and warrants.

Consent Agenda

The Board reviewed the consent agenda, which included public minutes from October 31, 2022, non-public minutes from October 31, 2022, and minutes from November 4, 2022. This agenda also included the new driveway permit revisions, the Administrative Days Policy effective January 1, 2023, and approval of a \$1M tax anticipation note with Northway Bank. Selectman Donahue motioned to approve the consent agenda, and Selectman Engel seconded, and all were in favor.

General Updates and Correspondence

Corey went over the general approval of the TAN. The TAN is only a precaution; hopefully, the Town won't have to borrow. . Corey explained that we are still waiting on DRA to set the Town's Tax Rate.

Second, on the list, Corey explained that cash on hand is around one million. He is hoping next week, that the tax rate gets set.

Winter Subs Pay Rate

Road Agent Ron Farnsworth would like to give a five-dollar an hour increase to the subcontractors. The hourly rates differ for each contractor based on their truck and plow size. Ron currently has four subcontractors and is still looking for one more subcontractor. Selectman Donahue asked Ron if the Town was in line with other towns for the subcontractor rates; Ron explained that other Towns have more help and many don't use subcontractors. Chair Davis asked Corey to draft an addendum to the contracts for the new rates. Selectman Boynton motioned to change the contract and increase each subcontractor by \$5.00/hr. Selectman Engel seconded that motion. The Select Board voted unanimously in favor.

Ron also wanted to ask the Board for permission to add a swale to the town property on Hogback Road. He explained that it would help with washouts and the integrity of the road. The Board saw no issues and gave Ron the go-ahead.

HEB's Gravel Roads Report

The Board reviewed the 29-page executive report of the Gravel Road assessment from HEB Engineers. HEB dug twelve test pits on various roads to observe the quality of the subsurface. Selectman Engel explained that there are two options to fix the roads. The first option would be a full-depth reconstruction of the entire roadway network with a price point of 21.1 million. The second option is rehabilitating fair and good roads with full-depth reconstruction on the poor roads with a price point of 14.8 million.

Selectman Coates asked how many houses were on each road and what traffic counts were. He would like to collect and compile the data to help make an informed decision. Selectman Coates also suggested that the Town do what the State does, preserve the good to fair roads and tackle some of the bad roads if the Town can. Selectman Boynton recommended that we pave those high-volume roads if the data shows that pavement is appropriate. Selectman Boynton said Road Agent Farnsworth should be part of the decision-making process for this project.

Proposed Work Budget

Library Building Committee: The committee has not asked for money in many years. The committee is now asking for \$6,000.00 to communicate via mailers to all residents. Mary O'Brien explained that the committee needs to mail out surveys. The Library Committee meets this upcoming week and will determine if they will do a petition warrant article or bring it to the Selectmen after the meeting.

Executive Administration: Corey went over the changes to the budget. The major changes in the Executive Administration revolved around employee salaries, town report costs, and audit costs. The legal line increased by \$25,000.00 as there are projects to tackle on the horizon. For the government buildings, significant changes are electricity and fuel, as the prices have increased. The computer services went up a bit. The Board brought up energy efficiency and what we can do to make things more efficient. Selectman Boynton suggested smart thermostats as it saves a lot on electricity and heat; Corey expressed these are all things on his radar.

Planning Zoning Budget: Jade presented the Board with a draft budget for planning and zoning. She expressed that she has received two quotes from Place Sense. The first quote was related to developing an impact fee schedule which came in at \$11,000.00. There was also a quote for continuing to improve the zoning ordinance which came in at \$6,400.00. After some discussion, the Board stated they would like to invite the Planning Board to a Selectmen's meeting to hear their ideas for changes. Selectman Coates suggested a build-out analysis before investing money in the impact fee schedule. It was also mentioned that the master plan should be incorporated or considered with any changes. Jade will inform the Planning Board of the discussion and let them know the Selectmen would like to meet with them.

Privilege of the Floor

None

Harry Bertino WVE Water Discussion

Harry Bertino requested the Selectmen to ask WEVD to stop using tax cards to go by bedrooms to use in their formula to come up with the water rates. The Board told Mr. Bertino the tax cards are public records and cannot restrict anyone from viewing them. The Board informed Mr. Bertino that he would have to address his concerns with the Waterville Estates Village District as they are in charge of billing.

Cindy Prescott Right of Way Discussion

Cindy was not present at the meeting. Cindy Prescott's lawyer suggested getting the Selectboard's blessing regarding deeding Prescott Road right of way to the Town. There would be no cost to the Town. Prescott Road is a Town Road adopted at the Annual Town Meeting in 1991. The Board approved the deeding of the road.

Board Concerns, Committee Updates & Directives

Tahoe Bid: The Town received only one bid for the Fire Department's Chevy Tahoe. The bid was from Stuart Pitts, and the offer was \$485.00. The Board agreed to accept this offer. Selectman Donahue motioned to accept Stuart's proposal, Selectman Boynton seconded, and the Board voted all in favor.

Selectman Donahue: Selectman Donahue wanted to discuss moving to LED lighting for the municipal building. He mentioned that there are programs and grants out there. The Board directed Corey to reach out to Eversource as it has some lighting programs.

Selectman Engel: Selectman Engel wanted to review the plat of Campton's Municipal campus. In the last CCDC meeting, he expressed that where the municipal building sits, the Town can do twice the building size based on the survey and give the library the space they are asking for. More discussion on this in the next CCDC and BOS Meeting. Selectman Engel would like to discuss the CCDC ideas with the Library Building Committee.

Selectman Boynton: Selectman Boynton mentioned the unveiling of the Veteran's Memorial. The Historical Society would like to have some lighting. He was looking for the Board's input on how to light up the monument and was thinking they could utilize the flag pole. Chair Davis asked Selectman Boynton to have the Veteran's Memorial Committee make a recommendation for lighting..

Chair Davis: Chair Davis mentioned that after the joint meeting with Thornton she found out that Thornton had a "Run Card" report of the mutual aid calls for the fire department. Corey advised the Fire Chief that the Campton Board of Selectmen would like those numbers when they come out. Corey advised that in the future Chief Defosses provide information to all three boards.

With no further business, Chair Davis adjourned the meeting at 7:01 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Natasha Egger
Minutes Recorder