

Campton Board of Selectmen's Meeting

Minutes

December 19, 2022

The Campton Board of Selectmen met at 3:30 pm Monday, December 19, 2022. Present were Chair Sharon Davis, Selectman Mort Donahue, Selectman Nik Coates, and Selectman Craig Engel on Zoom. Other members of the Town present were Campton Road Agent Ron Farnsworth, Campton Chief of Police Kevin Foss, HEB Engineer Eric Grenier, Campton Town Administrator Corey Davenport, and Minutes Recorder Natasha Egger.

Call to Order: Chair Davis called the meeting to order at 3:30 pm.

The Board went into a Non-Public meeting at 3:31 pm in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (B). Selectman Boynton Motioned, and Selectman Donahue seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows, Selectman Engel, Aye; Selectman Coates, Aye, Selectman Donahue, Aye; and Chair Davis, Aye.

Selectman Donahue motioned to come out of the non-public at 3:44 pm, and Selectman Boynton seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows, Selectman Engel, Aye; Selectman Coates, Aye, Selectman Donahue, Aye; and Chair Davis, Aye.

Consent Agenda

Public Minutes: The Board reviewed all the BOS public meeting minutes from November 21, 2022, November 28, 2022, and Non-Public Minutes for November 28, 2022. The Board unanimously voted to approve them.

Health Insurance Renewal: The Town is renewing the current health insurance plan. The overall increase was 9.78 % for the combined health insurance plan.

Dental & Vision Insurance Policy Change: Corey is looking to get approved for a switch to Anthem Life for Vision and dental insurance. We were able to increase the employee's maximum dental coverage from \$1,500 to \$2,000.00 a year, and the Town saved around 20%.

Selectman Engel made a motion to approve the consent agenda, seconded by Selectman Donahue. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

HEB Report Discussion

Eric Grenier of HEB Engineers was in the meeting to present his report on the gravel roads of the Town of Campton. In the finding of this report, 63% of the roads were in fair condition, 32% were in poor

condition, and 4% were in excellent condition. The full cost to reconstruct all the gravel roads would be roughly \$27.5 million. Eric recommended stone ditches throughout the dirt roads and having a 5-7% grade on the dirt roads. Most dirt roads have insufficient gravel surface depth. Most are at 2 inches, and the roads should be at a 6-inch depth as a minimum. On the rebuilt roads in the spring of 2022, Eric recommends we see how they hold up. Eric explained that dirt roads to target for paving should have 200-400 vehicles per day. Chair Davis asked Road Agent Ron about what he feels are priority roads. Ron mentioned problem sections of the following roads: Lower Beech Road, Mason Road, and Perch Pond Road. Selectman Coates wanted to recommend considering school-age children when picking roads. The ability to get to and from school and the ability for school buses to get down Town roads. Eric explained that drainage of these roads is key and would show what roads must be worked on and what roads should not. Selectman Boynton stressed that not all of the Towns dirt roads need to be done. The Board also reviewed the dirt road spreadsheet that Administrative Assistant Natasha drafted. This spreadsheet shows how many houses are on what dirt roads, what roads are feeder roads, and the daily traffic estimate. The Board believed the estimate of daily traffic was incorrect and needed to be updated. Selectman Engel offered to meet with the Town Administrator and Road Agent to devise a game plan to attack these roads.

Town Administrator

General Updates: Corey went over cash on hand; it is roughly \$350,000.00. Corey explained that Lisa Vincent paid out a lot of bills recently. He explained that taxes are coming in and that we should not have to use the TAN.

Correspondence: First on the agenda, Corey mentioned that Hannah Joyce requested that the Ballot Clerks/Moderator get paid an increase. Statewide the rate of pay ranges from \$7.25 to \$15.25 hourly. Hannah requested \$15.00 to \$18.00 per hour. Chair Davis mentioned that it should not be hourly but should look at it as a stipend.

Second, on the agenda, Corey explained that Carol Lenahan from the Garden Club had requested two funding requests \$500.00 for 2021, and \$500.00 for 2022. The Board indicated they were in favor of the request. Chair Davis expressed her feeling that they do a lot of work to make the Town look good.

Third, on the agenda, Corey questioned all the bills coming in for the Veterans Memorial. Chair Davis and Selectman Boynton recalled that the Board approved up to \$7,000 toward the cost of the memorial. The Historical Society will forward donations to pay for part of the event, and the rest will come from the Durgin Fund.

Last on the agenda, Corey asked to schedule the next Thornton/Ellsworth Joint Town Meeting. Chair Davis wants it sooner than later to get things going. The date of Thursday, January 5th, 2023, at 5:00 pm was agreed on by the Campton Board. Corey will see if all the Towns can do that date and time.

Selectman Donahue motioned to go into a non-public meeting at 5:00 pm in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (c). Selectman Boynton seconded the motion. The roll count vote was as follows, Selectman Engel, Aye, Selectman Coates, Aye, Selection Boynton, Aye, and Selectman Donahue, Aye.

The Board came out of non-public session at 5:14 p.m.

Non-Profit Funding Requests

The Board reviewed the Non-Profit Funding Request spreadsheet that Administrative Assistant, Natasha drafted. Selectman Coates suggested a Non-Profit's Night for the Board to invite the Non-Profit to come and explain what each organization does for the Town of Campton. Chair Davis mentioned that the increase compared to last year is \$13,600.00. The Board felt that they should review this further in the next meeting on January 9th, 2023.

CIP Funding Recommendations & Final Matrix Review

The CIP has been working on the Funding Matrix for a while. The Board has had the final copy (Minus the changes made in November) since September. The CIP has added the additional items requested from the November 7, 2022, meeting. The CIP also made recommendations for funding the various accounts. Overall, there is an increase in the CIP of \$37,500.00, which is about a 6-7% increase. The Board was considering putting additional funds in the Road Reconstruction capital reserve. Selectman Engel wanted some more information before suggesting an amount. Selectman Coates suggested going out for an RFP to help determine costs. The major items that have gone up in the capital reserves recommendations were the Highway Equipment and Fire Department Equipment funds. Corey asked the Board to approve the CIP Funding Matrix unless they had any additional suggestions. The Board reviewed the CIP Matrix, and Selectman Boynton motioned to accept the recommendations. Selectman Donahue seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously in favor.

Budget Setting Discussions

Corey asked Chair Davis if she wanted to start to discuss the Budget during the next BOS meeting on January 5, 2023, to get it started so that we are not bogged down by doing all budget items on January 9, 2023. Chair Sharon said no, she would like to use January 5, 2023, only for the Joint Meeting.

Library Building Proposal

Corey mentioned that Mary O'Brien asked when the Board will decide if this proposal for the new library will be voted on. Chair Davis explained that she felt that \$3.4 million was a lot to ask for a Library. Selectman Coates, Selectman Boynton, Selectman Donahue, and Selectman Engel all were in agreement that it was not the right time to ask for a large bond. The Select Board has targeted repairing the Town's dirt roads due to the feedback they have received. However, the Selectmen wanted to clarify that they supported a new library. Chair Davis also mentioned the request for \$6,000.00 from Mary O'Brien for advertising. More specific information is needed on what that money is going toward.

Privilege of the floor

There was no one present.

Cemetery Budget

This item moved to the next meeting on January 9, 2023.

Board Concerns, Committee Updates & Directives

There was a discussion about finding easy, accurate data for daily traffic on the dirt roads. Selectman Engel said that we have equipment that can give data, but it's hard to extract and organize. The Board suggested maybe looking into another road counter model. Selectman Engel is concerned about funding the dirt roads, not only for 2023 but for possible 2024, and securing the funds. Selectman Coates thinks pushing for RFPs to receive accurate costs and then funding through capital reserves. Selectman Coates expressed that a bond is a one-shot deal due to its long-term nature. The principal and interest payments will need to be paid for years. The Board agreed to take some time to digest HEB's presentation and develop a plan of action.

With no further business, The Board adjourned the meeting at 5:45 pm.

Respectfully Submitted;

Natasha Egger
Minutes Recorder