

TOWN OF HEBRON
SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
FEBRUARY 9, 2023

PRESENT: Rich James, Paul Hazelton, Patrick Moriarty, and Karen Sanborn, Town Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: Tracey Steenbergen (Town Clerk), Cindy Newton, Ed Holbert, Deborah Goodman (Beach Committee Members), Suzanne Smith and Martha Twombly (Conservation Commission), Doug Merrill (Cemetery Committee), Ben Hall (Highway Supervisor), Alison York (Administrative Assistant)

6:00 P.M. **COMMENCED MEETING:** Chair James commenced the meeting.

6:00 P.M. **TOWN CLERK 2023 BUDGET:** Tracey Steenbergen approached the Select Board to present the proposed 2023 Town Clerk's budget. Mrs. Steenbergen reviewed and explained the line items in the budget that were increased. Chair James asked Mrs. Steenbergen what the mailings included in the postage account line. Mrs. Steenbergen replied that dog license renewals are mailed as well as registration renewals. Chair James suggested Mrs. Steenbergen to investigate other mailing companies for bulk mailings. Selectman Moriarty asked Mrs. Steenbergen about any software changes or upgrades in the proposed budget. Mrs. Steenbergen replied no as the Avitar software is integrated with the State of NH Department of Motor Vehicles website.

6:22 P.M. **HEBRON MEMORIAL BEACH COMMITTEE 2023 BUDGET:** Cindy Newton, Ed Holbert, and Deborah Goodman approached the Select Board to present the 2023 Hebron Memorial Beach Budget. Mrs. Newton informed the Board that the budget basically stayed the same except for the Beach Attendant line item. Within this past year, the Beach Committee and the Select Board discussed addressing the issue of individuals from out of town using the Hebron Memorial Beach. The beach is for Hebron residents only by a parking pass to be placed on the dash board of their vehicle. Most people leave the beach when the Beach Attendant speaks to them, but once the Beach Attendant has left for the day, people know, nonresidents then utilize the beach. The Board and Beach Committee felt that another part-time attendant would be able to address the issue by the two attendants staggering their work hours. Vice-Chair Hazelton informed the committee that once another Beach Attendant was hired different scenarios with the work schedule could be tried and if this does not address the issue something could be tested in the next year. The Board agreed to put \$8,000 into the Beach Attendant account line. The Board and the Committee discussed trying to find someone for the position by word of mouth and then advertise for the position.

Vice-Chair Hazelton updated the Beach Committee on the status of dredging the beach. Vice-Chair Hazelton noted that by lowering the lake the erosion seems to be happening more ~~as there is by~~ not enough current to ~~prevent silt from~~~~change the building~~~~ing-up in the lake~~~~of sand in the water~~. Vice-Chair Hazelton informed the committee that the project would have to be reworked since there is a significant amount of material to be removed. Mrs. Newton noted that the leaves will be as much of a problem this year as in the past.

6:46 P.M. **CEMETERY 2023 BUDGET:** Doug Merrill approached the Select Board to present the 2023 Cemetery Budget. Mr. Merrill informed the Board that the budget proposed is the same as last year. Mr. Merrill is proposing moving the water lines and spickets for better access to clean the fence and for patrons to obtain water for plantings on the gravesites. Mr. Merrill feels that there are enough funds to address this as well as to remove any tree damage that occurs from storms.

6:50 P.M. **HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT 2023 BUDGET:** Ben Hall approached the Select Board to present the 2023 Highway Department Budget. Mr. Hall relayed to the Board that he would like to utilize more salt on the roads vs. a mixture of sand and salt in the upcoming year. Depending on the storm, the sand may get blown off the road where the salt adheres to the ground.

Selectman Moriarty commented on the amount of overage spent on the road repairs/maintenance account by \$16,000 and inquired if some of the work done could have been addressed through a warrant article. Mr. Hall replied no that there was a large project done on Hobart Hill Road, but other projects as well. Ms. Sanborn noted that the equipment rental may be included in the account as well. Mr. Hall discussed the road projects proposed for 2023 as Hobart Hill Road and crack sealing the roads that need it the most. Mr. Hall noted that the Road

Surface Management System (RSMS) report had Cooper Road to be done in 2023, but Mr. Hall feels due to the steepness of Hobart Hill and the number of homes it makes sense to move the projects around.

Selectman Moriarty discussed with Mr. Hall funds that are available to utilize on the towns bridges and road maintenance if there are projects that have been put off. Ms. Sanborn noted that the funds were a result of House Bill 401. Chair James discussed with Mr. Hall the schedule for replacing the town truck. Mr. Hall felt that the truck would be replaced in 2024. Chair James looked for affirmation that the truck would last that long due to the amount spent on repairs over the past two years. Mr. Hall felt it would and mentioned selling the tri-axle Mack dump truck to put towards the cost of a new truck in 2024.

Mr. Hall discussed with the Board the amount spent on off-road fuel with Pemi-Fuels and inquired about a contract with the company. Mrs. York informed Mr. Hall that the town does not have a contract with Pemi-Fuels for off-road diesel and the town owns the tank. The Board informed Mr. Hall to purchase fuel at the best price at the time it was needed. Mr. Hall inquired about getting an account with the Tenney Mountain Store. The Board authorized setting up an account. The account for fuel was increased to \$12,000.

7:20 P.M. **CONSERVATION COMMISSION 2023 BUDGET:** Martha Twombly and Suzanne Smith approached the Select Board to present the Conservation Commission 2023 Budget. Ms. Twombly informed the Board that the Conservation Commission was increasing the budget by \$1,000 this year to \$5,000 as it was in the past. Ms. Twombly noted that beavers have moved into the Hebron Town Forest property which the commission would like to address before flooding happens. Ms. Twombly commented that Suzanne and herself had tried to remove the beaver huts but they were reconstructed soon after. Ms. Smith informed the Board that the Cockermouth Trail, which is used frequently, is washing into the Cockermouth River when it floods and at this time railings can be installed to make the trail safer. A couple of trails need to be remarked and cleared.

Ms. Twombly inquired about updates to the Forest Stewardship Plan on the Hebron Town Forest. Ms. Sanborn noted that Forest Resource Consultants, LLC was going to invite the public to a logging operation for a tour so the public could have a better idea on what the operation encompasses, and then they would hold a public meeting on the updated plan to address any questions. Ms. Twombly noted that only herself and Suzanne attended. Ms. Sanborn would follow up on the inquiry.

Selectman Moriarty informed Ms. Twombly and Ms. Smith that Dave Marcus contacted the Select Board Office again looking to donate two lots to the town that are located along Spectacle Pond abutting the Hebron Town Forest property. Ms. Sanborn reported that Mr. Marcus plans on selling the cabin, would like to donate two of the five lots to the town, but it may cost the town some surveying fees. Ms. Twombly stated that she would get in touch with Mr. Marcus as they had discussed this before. Ms. Smith note that the Society for the Protection of NH Forests would be able to incorporate the two lots into the current conservation easement.

7:33 P.M. **PLANNING BOARD 2023 BUDGET:** Ms. Sanborn informed the Board that Ivan Quinchia (Planning Board Chair) submitted the budget before he left town and is proposing the same amount as last year.

7:34 P.M. **MEETING ADJOURNED:** Vice-Chair Hazelton moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:34 p.m., seconded by Selectman Moriarty. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sanborn
Town Administrator