



SELECTMEN'S MEETING

JANUARY 24, 2023

MINUTES

Selectmen in Attendance: Dick Norcross, Ricky Emery, and John Hicks.

Attendees Department Heads: Fire Chief, Richard Perreault; Hailey Boudreau; Dana Forcier, Jr.; Patrick Bryant; Frank Day; Bruce Collins; Animal Control Officer, Cynthia Eaton; Dan Larson; Planning Board Chair, Sonia Frye; and Zackery Brandwein.

Chairman, Dick Norcross called the meeting to order at 5:37 PM.

Payroll and Accounts Payable Warrants were approved.

Minutes of the January 17, 2023 Selectmen's Meeting: Approved by motion from Dick Norcross, John second, and voted by unanimous vote.

Planning Board Chair, Sonia Frye met to discuss reducing the renewal fee schedule for Marijuana and would like to change the requirements for renewals. This would require them to redo the ordinance to make the process easier. Bruce Collins said that he heard that it was unenforceable, concerning the medical part of it. Sonia said that it has been rectified.

The Board discussed the issues with the workers comp audit on the Community Center. It still needs the ramps and a door bell. Dicky said we need to write a plan for how we plan to address these issues. Alvina will talk to Willy about this.

Dick reported that the Public Works guys have been out quite a few hours and have done a pretty good job. No calls on mailboxes. Frank said they even plowed both sides of Dugway. The red international, they got the head, they put it on, the injections are bad now, they stripped one of the bolts in the new head. Dick said it is under warranty.

Patrick gave a report on broadband. The project cost is between 24 to 32 million dollars. They will be applying for grants. There are two providers that would cost zero dollars to have single control, Consolidated and Spectrum but there are other companies interested, all well established companies. Hailey spoke on not having broadband could be limiting the town from growth. Patrick said that he could do a lot more work from home if we had it. They will be meeting again tomorrow night.

Zackery Brandwein, Esq. came to introduce himself on behalf of Bernstein & Shur. Dick said we contacted them because there are things happening and we may need somebody different, we have an ongoing issue and our Attorney may not be able to represent us. Zackery said he grew up in Maine and represents mostly municipal clients. The days of having only one town attorney may be over. With the firm he represents, depending on what the need he could always put us in touch with an Attorney in the firm that could handle

They have a pay as you go or will quote a flat fee for services for two years. Three items outside of the scope are land use enforcement, labor and employment, and civil litigation. Dana asked if there is a cap on the hour and Zackery replied there is no cap on the hour. Rick asked if their fee is negotiable. Rick is concerned that we are only half way through our fiscal year and currently the fee is \$90.00 more than what we are paying right now. He works for Bethel and has been practicing for 8 years. John asked whether he works with ordinances, planning boards and code enforcement. Zackery said yes. John explained that he is looking for guidance on how it is written and recommendations on how to move forward. Zackery asked what are some differences between Attorneys that you are looking for? Dick said that he likes direct answers.

At 6:24pm Rick made a motion to enter into executive session for personnel, Dick second and John said he didn't know anything about this. It was voted in affirmative. At 7:29pm they voted to come out of executive session by raised hands.

John motioned, Rick second, and it was voted 3-0 to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Alvina Day, Administrative Assistant