

## SELECTMEN'S MEETING SEPTEMBER 26, 2023

## MINUTES

Selectmen in Attendance: Dick Norcross, John Hicks, and Frank Day.

Attendees: Fire Chief, Richard Perreault; Animal Control Officer, Cindy Eaton; Code Enforcement Officer, Michael Vane; Public Works Director, Cliff Cousins; Tax Collector, Wanda Bartlett; Town Clerk, Michelle Day; Rec Director, Willy Tracy; Bruce Collins; Dan Larson; Dana Forcier, Jr.; Hailey Boudreau; Chad Pine; Barbara Moulton; Ada Lane; B.J. Parker; Deborah Tait; Brian Merrill; Vincent Carbone; Cindy Walker; & Erik Walker. Zoom Attendee: Lori Brann; Christin Perreault; Hannah Hutchinson; and Deputy Treasurer, Lynn Boyle

Chairman, Dick Norcross called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Frank read information to amend and adopt the municipal general assistance ordinance. John motioned, Frank second to amend it. Voted affirmative by a show of hands.

John motioned, Frank second to accept the Minutes of the September 19, 2023 Selectmen's Meeting. Voted affirmative by a show of hands.

Payroll and accounts payable were approved.

Frank read an e-mail from Zack Brandwein regarding a voice message that was left from someone identifying himself as Bill Chad at our Town Attorney's Office. He also read information saying to pretend to be a federal agent is a federal crime in the United States, punishable under 18 U.S.C. § 912. It is a crime to falsely represent oneself as a federal agent or employee with the intent to intimidate or deceive another person. The offense carries a maximum penalty of three years in prison and a fine. After reading this info, an audio recording of the message was played for the public to hear. Dick added that the FBI Office is downstairs at the lawyer's office.

Frank reported that we have the draft audit for 2021.

Lynn Boyle, Deputy Treasurer provided a Revenue Detail Report on the ARPA Funds.

Jess Davis informed the Town that Terry Blake would like to turn the maintenance of Quint-Rogers Cemetery located on Potato Hole Road, over to the Town. She contacted Dana Batchelder who currently does most of the outlying cemetery maintenance. She said Dana is willing to take it on but suggested the selectboard formally ask him for a bid. Terry will continue to maintain it until Dana can take it over.

An e-mail from the Assessor says he has to take an ethics course this Wednesday and that he will also be taking vacation the week of Fryeburg Fair. He may be in on Thursday.

The Board agreed to hold an Informational Meeting at the Community Center on Oct 17, 2023 at 5:30 PM on the Referendum Questions that are going to be on the Ballot in November. Frank read the four questions that were approved: To change the office of Tax Collector/Treasurer to an appointed position; To change the office of Town Clerk/Registrar position to an appointed position; To create an advisory hiring committee; and to transfer from surplus \$1,000 to the Animal Control Office budget to correct the addition/typo error in article 15 of the warrant. Cindy Walker asked about the payroll article and the answer was no.

The Board reviewed and discussed the Marijuana Establishment Fee Schedule. John motioned, Frank second to accept the fee schedule. Voted affirmative by a show of hands.

Barbara asked about the audit and Wanda said it will be (finished) very soon.

Department Heads, ACO Cindy Eaton reported that some dogs appear to have been dropped off. The barking dog complaint is closed as far as she is concerned. He has a farm and is exempt there is nothing more that she can do, as far as her laws are. Brian asked about beagles, Cindy said it is not breed specific. Brian was given our Dog Control Ordinance. Hailey asked about the tracking collars that he has. Dick said they are going to look into it but feels that it is going to end up being a civil matter between the neighborhood.

PW Cliff Cousins reported that he is going to Portland on 10/4 operator training for the transfer station. He will be working with safety works to get up to date on necessary training. He asked about putting out a help wanted ad for part-time snowplow help for the 550. He and I will get together to write an ad. He has the ballot box painted.

Rec Director, Willy Tracy work in the skate park this week and will be shut down until Saturday. Upcoming events: Paint night and a free homemade pizza from 5-6 that same night. Halloween-Church in town wants to hold a town trunk or treat on the Saturday before Halloween and then on Sunday a Pumpkin Carving event; hosting a fundraiser for the Friends of Rec, "fall ball" (dance) at the Lions building; soccer and yoga are still going on.

CEO, Mike Vane, has issued a few building permits; Assessors are going out and sharing info for violations with him to look into. The colder months bring concern for an ordinance for structures that people are living in like additions and sheds from a safety point of view.

Town Clerk, Michelle Day, for election time, absentee ballots will be ready by October 7<sup>th</sup>; She can link our town ballots so people can vote electronically with the State. Thanked Cliff for work on the ballot box. Heather is working out very well.

Cindy Walker asked about the security cameras in Wanda's office and was told that it is going to stay the way it is. John said they had read that it is her choice.

Vinny Carbone asked if we can get to the bottom of who it was and said it sounds like Erik Walker. He discussed things that were done in the past and said he wonders why they are always questioning and stirring the pot. The current Board needs to address this because these Characters are a serious threat to our community.

Cindy Walker asked also about the overpayment of the Admin Assistant and Dick said it was corrected at town meeting and she said it wasn't corrected. Dick said the money was taken from ARPA funds, she said you can't do that. Frank read the statement concerning the use of the ARPA funds that said they "can also be used to maintain current salary levels". Cindy said we didn't receive those funds for that and they are bullying Erik. The meeting then got unruly and out of hand. The meeting ended at 6:15PM, however the zoom continued to pick up some of the conversation between Frank (Selectman) and Cindy Walker, while people were exiting the building.

Respectfully Submitted, Alvina Day Administrative Assistant