



Warner Board of Selectmen

**Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, February 27, 2018
APPROVED**

Chairman Dabuliewicz opened the hearing at 6:09 pm

Attendance: Selectman John Dabuliewicz – Chairman, Selectman Clyde Carson, Selectman Kimberley Edelman and Town Administrator – Jim Bingham

Others present: Martha Mical, Ed Mical, Alfred Hanson, Ed Ordway, John Leavitt, Judy Newman-Rogers

1. Town Report - Dedication - Presentation

A. John asked Ed and Martha Mical to stand and presented the 2017 Town Report which was dedicated to both for their year's of service to the town. Kimberley took a photo of both holding the Town Report.

2. Emergency Management

- A. Director, Ed Mical, reported he received an email last week about Merrimack County being picked-up for the October storm event. Ed said he attended a session today and registered the town as a recipient of the damage reimbursement, there will be more information coming. He also submitted a preliminary damage assessment to the state for about \$17,000.
- B. Jim said he heard New Hampshire was going to get some Hazard Mitigation money from the previous year and it would be available for this year. Ed said because of the disaster declaration for October, 15% of the disaster amount is available in mitigation funds for projects. The deadline for that is the February 28, Ed believes an extension could be granted with a letter of intent. Jim asked Ed to meet with him tomorrow.
- C. Ed also reported that he continues to work on the EMP Grant for the Emergency Operation Center. He is hoping to hear back by the end of March.
- D. Ed also said the college and church, if they are nonprofit, if they too sustained damage during the declaration can apply as well.

3. Compensation Study

A meeting date has been agreed upon for Monday, March 26 at 3:30 pm to meet with Thornton & Associates, the creator of the study.

4. Drug Testing Policy

Jim is waiting for answers to 4 questions that need clarification, this agenda item will be taken up at the Board's next meeting. Further discussion is needed regarding immediate or not immediate termination. The legalities need to be looked at as well.

5. New Fire Station

- A. John wanted this on the agenda because there was a question at the public hearing as to whether there will be a cap on the interest rate the town would accept from the Bond Bank or anyone else. John told the resident at the hearing that the Selectmen would need to discuss that. John said he is not interested in a cap because if we do that and the town already borrowed money to begin the construction assuming the warrant passes, then where do we stand. John understands the Bond Bank has a 4% cap of their own. Kimberley would like to show a history of the Bond Bank interest rates and the federal rates to see how they trend.
- B. Ed Ordway asked if Sugar River Bank was approached. Kimberley said Sugar River was not interested in bidding and acknowledged the Bond Bank is the way to go. Kimberley continues to do research on banks. The banks know they cannot beat the rates from the Bond Bank. The Bond Bank was created in 1977 by the Legislature specifically to provide good cheap financing for towns.

- C. Jim brought the discussion back to John's question, as Jim understands the question, is there an interest rate limit beyond which the town and/or the Bond Bank will say "no", and if that happens while construction is started with a bridge loan, and the town finds out in June the rates skyrocketed, what then, that's the question. Kimberley remembers the conversation with the bond bank that said no matter what happens the bond would top out at 4%. Banks can't make that promise. Jim will try to get some information from the Bond Bank.
- D. Ed Ordway said to Kimberley that he will send her information on 7 banks.
- E. John asked the audience for feedback about the February 22 public hearing. John Leavitt didn't attend the hearing but one of the comments he heard is you have to do your best and avoid saying "you don't know". He said after 3 years you have to have an answer.
- F. Judy asked how will the taxpayers vote at Town Meeting know what to expect for a tax rate on the bond? Kimberley explained at the public hearing there is a range based on the estimates the town was provided. In the end, the Selectman need to discuss if the loan will be 15 years or 20 years. John said the Board will decide the terms if approval is provided by the voters. Kimberley said the range estimates were .65 cents to .95 cents per thousand dollars.

6. Nonpublic Sealed Meeting Minutes

Jim will create a list for the next Selectmen's meeting of the sealed nonpublic minutes that are ready to be voted on and released. Once released the minutes will only be placed in the binders.

7. Town Administrator's Report

Selectman's Office: The office received notice of annual meeting and public hearing of the Concord Regional Solid Waste & Resource Recovery Cooperative to be held on Thursday, March 1 at 5:30 pm at the Bow Municipal Building. The notice, agenda and 2018 budget for CRSW/RRC is in the read file in the Selectmen's Office. Warner reps to the Coop, David Hartman, and Tim Allen will be attending.

Town Report: Town report is being printed at Brayshaw. Advanced copies should be available at the Selectmen's Office by March 1st, and mailed copies should reach residents by March 6.

Roundabout: A letter requesting the balance of the state reimbursement with all the construction receipts and proofs of payment was mailed on Feb. 22nd to the NH Department of Transportation. The balance amount due to the town should be approximately \$291,344. The town received an initial payment of \$255,935 for construction in early 2017. The final cost for the construction phase came to \$819,868 and the town's 1/3 share was \$273,289.

Solar Array: Harmony Energy Works has been paid in full for their construction cost of \$334,935 for the installation of the solar array. Invoices with proof of payment for the latest payments to Harmony, Resilient Builders, Inc., and Donna Lane, acting as the Federal Compliance officer for this project in order to receive reimbursements on these expenses through the Rural Development Grant.

Holiday Policy: The draft policy on Holidays for town employees has been sent to the dept. heads. To date, I have heard back from The DPW director indicating that he has no issues with the policy as written.

Status of Membership on the Planning Board and ZBA: Presently, the Planning Board has the following members: Full – Ken Milender (2018), Peter Anderson (2018), Donald Hall (2019), Benjamin Inman (2019), Ben Frost, Chair (2020), and Barbara Annis (2020). Ken Milender has stated that he will not seek another term. Peter Anderson is undecided at this time.

Alternate: James Gaffney (2018), undecided about a 2nd term, vacant (2019), and vacant (2020).

The ZBA membership is as follows: Janice Loz, Chair (2020), full voting members are Barbara Marty (2020), Howard Kirchner (2019), Elizabeth Labbe (2020), Sam Bower (2020), Beverly Howe (2018). Beverly would like to be reappointed for another term.

Alternates: Harry Siedel (2021), vacant alt. (2018) vacant alt. (2019)

Both boards are in need of volunteers.

Public Works Dept: the DPW dept. has responded to four winter events (snow and ice) in the past two weeks, using a total of 900 yards sand and 100 tons of salt. Approximately 105 hours, per man, full time and 25 to 40 hours, part-time were logged in for these winter events. As of today 2/27/18, we have 2200 yards of sand and 312 ton salt on hand. The grader has been out pushing back snow banks to help dry out roads and smoothing potholes and the loader and loader-backhoe have been clearing water turnouts and pushing back intersections. Currently making general winter related repairs to equipment. Ed Ordway said when he worked on roads in Maine they used a patch with concrete in it that lasted a bit longer. Jim encouraged Ed to contact the DPW with this information.

8. Election & Town Meeting Preparation

- A. Kimberley reported the Fire Chief has heard there will be a large attendance at Town Meeting and is recommending overflow be located in the lower meeting room. Clyde said the Fire Chief would need to increase the capacity for the lower meeting room. Audio and visual needs will be needed for the lower meeting room, Jim will research resources. Martha Mical said Peter St. James helped out one time as an Assistant Moderator if one is going to be needed.
- B. A Newsletter will be mailed out by Town Meeting. A summary of the warrant articles will be provided along with information about the new fire station project.
- C. The Board will meet on Monday, March 5 at 4:00 pm to go over Town Meeting with the Moderator.
- D. Clyde wants to revisit the November election start time, he would like to see the polls open at 7:00 am. Judy said the change in time needs to be done at least 60 days before the election date.

9. Minutes

Selectman Edelmann made a motion to accept meeting minutes dated January 30, 2018. Selectman Carson seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

10. Manifest

Selectman Carson made a motion to authorize the Selectmen to sign manifests and order the Treasurer to sign Payroll check numbers 5191-5206 in the amount of \$36,695.79 (including 20 direct deposits) and Accounts Payable check numbers 54748-54801 in the amount of \$96,997.99. Chairman Dabuliewicz seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

11. Consent Agenda

Selectman Edelmann made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda for February 27, 2018:

- 1) Building Permits for:
 - Map 3 Lot 51-1
 - Map 32 Lot 002
- 2) Yield Tax Levy in the amount of:
 - \$308.88 for Map 16 Lot 61
 - \$580.00 for Map 16 Lot 67
 - \$4,895.61 for Map 16 Lot 66
 - \$15.00 for Map 16 Lot 65
- 3) Payroll Change Form
- 4) ZBA Alternate Appointment Form
- 5) Kearsarge Elderly Housing in Lieu of Taxes Agreement in the amount of \$15,179.39.

Selectman Carson seconded the motion, the motion carries unanimously.

12. Other Business

- A. Kimberley would like to see the Board move forward and begin advertising for a new Assessing Clerk. There is a training period involved with the position.
- B. John reported that there are 3 people interested in joining the Economic Development Advisory Committee, Emma Bates, Marc Violette and Sarah Hanson. Jim will arrange for them to meet with the Board.
- C. Jim informed the Board that the Electioneering Policy will need to be updated. The current policy is unclear as to what guidance can be given to candidates in terms of what they can do with signs on town property. The policy doesn't designate who the authorizing body is in terms of establishing the rules. Martha Mical encouraged the Board to only allow signs at the Town Hall during election day.

Board Action

Selectman Carson made a motion stating until further notice the town does not allow signs on town property except on election day at the Town Hall subject to regulation by the Moderator. Selectman Edelmann seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

13. Public Comments

No comments received.

4. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 pm

Board of Selectmen

John Dabuliewicz – Chairman

Clyde Carson

Kimberley Edelmann

Recorder of the minutes: Mary Whalen