

Richard Bennett

John Allen

Bob Thompson

**Selectmen's Meeting
October 23, 2018**

Present: Richard Bennett, Chairman; John Allen, Selectman; Bob Thompson, Selectman via phone conference

Visitors: Town Administrator Julie Atwell, Town Administrative Assistant Julie Hoyt, videographer Hank Benesh, Fire Chief Jay Henry, road Agent Pat Kelley, Building Inspector Kevin Bennett, Police Chief Chris Perley, Town Treasurer Kathleen Dougherty, Jerry Dougherty III, Chris McAleer, Margie Furlong, Alicia Hawkes, Lynne Caloggero, George Howard, Bea Davis, Joyce Allen

1. The meeting was called to order at 3:30pm.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Selectmen's Meeting – October 9, 2018

A motion was made by Selectmen Allen to approve the meeting minutes as written; seconded by Selectman Thompson. The motion passed unanimously.

Non-Public Meeting – October 9, 2018

A motion was made by Selectmen Allen to approve the non public minutes that were sealed; seconded by Selectman Thompson. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Update on Action Items:

No action items to report. Note the following meeting dates:

- a. Tuesday, November 6th The State General Election will be November 6th at the Whitney Center from 8am – 7pm.
- b. Tuesday November 13, 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
- c. Tuesday November 27, 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
- d. Tuesday December 11th at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
- e. Tuesday January 8th at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
 - Budget Hearing #1 – Directly following Selectmen's Meeting
- f. Tuesday January 22nd at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
- g. Tuesday February 5th at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting
 - Budget Hearing #2 – Directly following Selectmen's Meeting
- h. Tuesday February 26th at 3:30pm – Selectmen's Meeting

Tax Rate – Chairman Bennett presented the tax rate report with a few options to be selected from, 2 of which were vetted by accountants. He proposed choosing the one that would maintain funding similar to where it has been historically; which would raise the municipal rate 2.51% but lower the overall tax rate 1.29%, while keeping the expendable fund balance the same.

Selectman Thompson motioned to approve the same option, seconded by Selectman Allen. Motion passed unanimously. Town Administrator, Julie Atwell, added that given this option the tax rate would drop from \$11.88 to the new rate of \$11.61.

Cutting by Profile Rock- Chairman Bennett said the Conservation Committee looked at the property in question and approved the cutting as proposed in the October 9th Selectmen's meeting. The cost of cutting and clean up will be covered by the property owners. He asked that letters be sent to the abutters.

4. Building Inspector:

- a. Weekly Report - Kevin Bennett
- b. Building Permits
 - 1. 2018-93/ V10 – L34/ Owner – Shriji, LLC/153 NH Rt 16/add 2 light posts in parking lot
 - 2. 2018-94/ V10 – L130/ Owner – Saunders/12 Balsam Dr/new 2 car attached garage with living space above
 - 3. 2018-95/ V06 – L35/ Owner – Masiello/122 Dundee Rd/demolish existing house and clear property
 - 4. 2018-96/ R31 – L15/ Owner – Moving Up LLC/13 Rogers Location Rd/permit renewal for 2brdm apartment over existing garage
 - 5. 2018-97/ R08 – L22-1/ Owner – Kudrick/NH Rt 16/New 20'x30' cabin 2brdm, 1 ba

5. New Business:

- a. Policy Updates – PD and Office; Chief Perley asked that the Selection accept and approve a policy regarding how to deal with people experiencing mental health crises. The policy tells how to de-escalate a situation if/when necessary. These are part of the IACP 1 mind program that certifies Police Departments meeting national standards. **Selectman Allen made a motion to approve and accept the policy; seconded by Selectman Thompson. The motion passed unanimously.**

Office update- Chairman Bennett explained the update as a potential policy addition for an employee that finds themselves on a temporary leave due to unforeseen circumstances. That employee would, with Selectmen approval, be able to continue to receive health insurance coverage at the expense of the employee. Selectman Allen had concerns about an open ended policy. It was decided to table this until further edits/ clarifications can be made to it.

- b. Whitney Hill Loop – Drainage- Road Agent Kelley met with the DOT representative, Alex, who felt the Whitney Hill Rd was in disrepair and it was causing washouts in a residents' driveway. Whitney Hill is a town road that intersects with the state road. Pat said there are plans to work on that area next year to reclaim the hill, replace the culvert and try to improve the entrance to that road. The State is supposed to repave all the State Aid roads next year to include Moody Farm, Carter Notch, Dundee, Black Mountain, etc.
- c. Trustees of the Trust Funds – Chairman Bennett read the following request into the minutes: The Board of Selectmen are requesting the follow withdrawals from the Trust Funds as indicated below: \$13,170.00 from the Bridge Repair Expendable Trust Fund

(0034). Invoice 0263035 – Dated 10/11/18 – from GPI Greenman-Pedersen, Inc. \$7,062.00 from the Civil Defense Expendable Trust Fund (0025). Invoice 100418.3 – Dated 10/4/18 – from Stonehearth Open Learning Opportunities, Inc. **Selectman Allen made a motion to approve the withdrawal requests, seconded by Selectman Thompson. Motion passed unanimously.**

- d. Cemetery Lot Agreement – Chairman Bennett read the application in consideration of \$600 paid for by purchaser and recorded in the records of the town, for said lots 581 e and f, and 717 a, b, c & d. **A motion was made by Selectman Allen to sign the agreement; seconded by Selectman Thompson. The motion passed unanimously.**

6. Old Business:

- a. Transfer Station updates – Chairman Bennett had received an email from Gene that addressed the need to have the skid steer fixed. Mobile Mike has been called to look at it.
- b. Solar Project- Chairman Bennett would like to have the Selectmen pick a single project from among all the town buildings, which have a combined total cost of \$400,000. If an ‘angel’ funder came in to fund the project, the angel would get the tax credits; the town would have to pay the electricity costs to the angel for the first 6 years, then after 6 years the town would have to pay back the installation costs.
Selectman Thompson would like to see ReVision put together a cost / benefit analysis highlighting the advantages. He stated that municipalities are not eligible for the 30% rebate afforded to residential users. He suggested seeking another vendor to submit a proposal as well so the town can do a comparison on pricing.
- c. Budget – (1st meeting of month)
- d. Pay-As-You-Throw- Minuteman is working on a flyer to present this information.
Selectman Thompson stated that we need to get the information out there in various formats so folks are educated as to what this entails and how it would work.
- e. Old Library – Chairman Bennett had a meeting with Joyce Allan and Peter Benson of the Protestant Chapel Association to discuss whether the Chamber could utilize the Old Library. Research needs to be done to determine whether the Chamber is a non -profit and also to look at the agreement that is in place between the town and the church regarding whether the agreement would allow a long term lease situation. Bea was concerned about septic capabilities but Chairman Bennett did not believe the Chamber would increase the septic usage substantially to be an issue. The question was raised about how townspeople would feel with a business using the building and the townspeople losing access to it. Chairman Bennett felt that the rental fees from the Chamber would cover the costs of heating and power which the groups do not currently cover.

7. Public Comment

Public Comment is a time when town residents can bring matters before the Board. Comments should be short and to the point. Speakers are allotted up to two minutes each to make their comment. Except in unusual circumstances, any matter presented under “Public Comment” will not be debated or acted upon by the Board at the time it is presented. All remarks and dialogue in public meetings must be respectful and courteous, free of rude, personal or slanderous remarks. Inappropriate language and/or shouting will not be tolerated. Furthermore, no person may offer comment without permission of the Chair, and all persons shall, at the request of the Chair, be silent. No person shall disrupt the proceedings of a meeting.

George inquired about the Selectmen’s policy on responding to letters / suggestions since he had submitted some suggestions but had not had a response. Chairman Bennett will consider his suggestions and send a formal response. George also expressed concern about the two minute

limit on speaking during the public comment as he felt it was an imposition on the speaker. Chairman Bennett stated that the Selectmen's Meeting are an opportunity for the Selectmen to discuss issues at hand and the public comment is not a requirement . He includes the comments since he feels it is important to hear from citizens as to what their concerns are. The two minute timeframe can be extended if a civil discussion is taking place regarding the issue brought up.

Joyce wanted to say that allowing the Chamber to rent the Old Library doesn't equal what the town currently has now.

There was a question about the insulation in the ceiling of the Old Library and Kevin said he will be meeting the insulation contractor over there soon. Jay wondered if the Chamber could co-exist with some of these groups or not. Chairman Bennett said these are all parts of the discussion to take place.

Bea pointed out that there is a shredded flag over by the J-Towne and it needs to be replaced. She also mentioned that the bakery has a neon 'Open' sign and she inquired whether the Planning Board allows that or not.

Kevin said there is design done by HEB Engineers for the Whitney Hill area that was done in the 80's that is on file. He also suggested the town reduce the wattage used in the town buildings by changing out the florescent bulbs with LED's which would see a payback in a few years time.

Pat will send GO Solar contact info to Chairman Bennett.

This portion of the meeting adjourned at 4:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted by,

Gloria Hutchings

8. **Non-Public RSA 91-A:3 II(a)** - The dismissal, promotion or compensation of any public employee or the disciplining of such employee, or the investigation of any charges against him, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.