



**TOWN OF PITTSFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN HALL, 85 MAIN STREET
PITTSFIELD, NH 03263**

MEETING MINUTES OF Tuesday September 26, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Call to order at 6:00 p.m. by J.C. Allard, Chairman

MEMBERS PRESENT

J.C. Allard, Chairman
Gerard LeDuc, Vice-Chairman
Carole Richardson
Carl Anderson
James Adams

OTHERS PRESENT

Cara Marston, Town Administrator
Ammy Ramsey, Recording Secretary

PUBLIC INPUT – regarding agenda items only

None

AGENDA REVIEW

Gerard: Information item concerning budget.

Jim: None.

Carole: Attended the Senior Center Open House to represent the board, she stated it was very nice, and that they are a great group of people.

J.C.: None.

Carl: None.

NEW BUSINESS

J.C. announced Chris Pappas from the Executive Council is here to speak with us this evening. Chris introduced himself to everyone and thanked Jim for inviting him and thanked the board for having him. He is the representative for Pittsfield on the Executive Council, which is like the Board of Selectman for the State of New Hampshire. They handle the state contracts, governor's nominations, and are the point of contact for the constituents with questions and communities who have questions for the State. He stated that if there is anything that he can help with to please contact him.

Transportation is usually what most communities like to talk about. He stated that there was a recent increase in the gas tax of 4.2 cents and some of that has been used to pave

rural roads that have been neglected for a long time. They have upped their paving to about 500 miles of road per year. Chris explained they are starting the process in looking at the State's highway 10 year plan and they have public hearings scheduled all over the state. They have a hearing in Concord on October 4, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. if there is any interest in attending or you can communicate your needs here in town to me tonight or in another forum. Chris explained they spend around 3.5 million dollars on projects around the state. J.C. commented about Pittsfield's Main Street being considered a state highway and how that could have its plus and minuses, and how it can limit what the town can do for repairs and appearance for the community. J.C. explained he understands that we are on the State's plan for 2018 and we would like to stay on that plan.

J.C. also explained that Pittsfield finds themselves in need of doing some very costly repairs to the Clark's Pond Dam. J.C. stated we are in a position that we are having to find the money to do the repairs and any help would be greatly appreciated. Chris asked for the location of the dam, and asked if the town has worked with the DES. Cara explained that we have an order of compliance that the work was originally supposed to be done by 2017, which has not happened, and that we have engaged an engineer providing town meeting approves the contract in March of 2018. The engineer will reach out to DES and hopefully they will be agreeable to the revised plan because we just don't have the funds approved for it in 2017.

Jim stated another concern would be any fines that would be associated to not being in compliance by the original agreed date being waived, because we have to take this to the voters. Jim pointed out they have been very helpful but they were told something was going to happen and it didn't.

Chris stated that there is a new commissioner at DES, Bob Scott, and he has pledged to have an approach that's responsive to communities and businesses that have issues and not come down with a heavy hand, unless it is warranted. Chris stated he will take this to him and hope that he can work with your time frame.

Chris asked if there is any considerations with the paving project for Main Street that the State needs to be thinking about. Jim stated that one concern is when it is paved going from curb to curb and not line to line, because the last paving project that was done here in town only went from line to line and it ended up costing the town money that was not budgeted for to complete the project. Jim stated he understands why they go from line to line, but with this being the main street that goes through town, any help we can get with that would be greatly appreciated. Chris stated he will follow up with the district and the DOT to check in with that project and sensitivity with it being the main street going through town. J.C. stated that certainly the look and feel of Main Street really drive a lot of first impressions when people are driving through Pittsfield and could be a contributor of what they think of Pittsfield.

Carole stated that the other issue here in Pittsfield is the there are 3 DOT districts and it looks like they don't communicate together, and thinks it could be easier if we can reduce that.

Chris thanked everyone for having him and stated he will get back to them with some information about what was discussed tonight.

ACTION ITEMS

1.2017-2018 Heating Fuel

J.C. announced item number 1, Cara explained that we only received one sealed bid and our current company sent a bid by email. J.C. opened the sealed bid from Davis Fuel. Cara announced that number 2 fuel oil Davis Fuel bid is 2.099, and Dead River bid 2.019. Cara also mentioned that the library contracted with Rymes for 2.059.

Carl: I make a motion to stay with Dead River for our fuel company.

Jim: Second.

Discussion: Gerard asked if we still use Davis Fuel for welfare emergencies, Cara stated we have not had to use them for emergencies for a long time. Cara also stated that we don't have an existing agreement with anyone for emergencies, the welfare director would work with the welfare applicant's fuel company on a case to case basis for emergencies.

Motion carries 5-0

2. 2017 Tax Deeds (land only) Tax Map R4 Lots 1, 1-6, & 1-7

J.C. announced item number 2, as land only tax deed Tax Map R4 Lots 1, 1-6, & 1-7 on Laconia Rd. Carl asked if they have already been tax deeded, Cara confirmed that and the date was last Tuesday. Cara stated she has the deeds here and was wondering if the board would like her to record the deeds with the registry and what the board would like to do with the property moving forward. Cara stated that typically in the past we have recorded the tax deeds, but in recent discussion this year it was mentioned that we may not want to record the deed in case of a repurchase.

Carl suggested tabling this for 2 weeks because he feels that maybe the right phone call could get those back on the tax roll? Cara mentioned that the property owner has all of the information and picked up all the mail informing him of the situation. Carl stated he would be willing to try and make that phone call to see if we can get this back on the tax rolls instead of deeding the property and not gaining any tax money and we have more property that we have taken by tax deed.

Jim asked if the property owner came back last time this property was deeded, and Cara stated yes, it was the same process last time. The property went to deed and then the owner came and repurchased the property and has not paid anything since then.

Erica stated that the day the property was deeded she sent a letter explaining that the property was tax deeded and informed him of his rights to repurchase by certified mail and that was signed for.

Gerard suggested not tabling it because this process was done 3 years ago and we are here again.

Carl: I make a motion to table this for 2 weeks until the next meeting to try and get this resolved and get it back on the tax rolls.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: Carole asked if this is costing anything, Cara stated no. J.C. confirmed with Cara that this is land only with no structure. Jim inquired about the location of the property and

Cara explained that it was between Provencal's garage and Townsend property on the way to the dump. Carole confirmed with Carl that he was going to contact the person.
Motion carries 4-1 Gerard opposes.

3. Fire Chief employment contract

J.C. announced item number 3.

Gerard: I make a motion to approve and sign the Fire Chief Employment Contract.

Carl: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 4-1 Carole opposes because she is not in agreement of 3 year contracts.

Carl stated he understands and typically does not agree with contracts for 3 years but feels that Pete exemplifies what the town should have for a Fire Chief. He feels Pete makes every effort to get done what we ask of him and feels that should be rewarded. Carole stated she is not speaking against Pete but the 3 year term of the contract. Carl asked how much of the contract is public, and Cara stated the entire thing now that it is agreed upon and signed.

4. Fire Department proposed EMS per-diems

J.C. announced item 4. Pete stated they spoke back in May about hiring some per-diems and wanted to introduce Tyler and Howard. The board thanked them. Pete stated they have one more but he could not make it tonight but will bring him in.

5. Fire Department full time EMT vacancy

Pete Pszonowsky is seeking permission to advertise and hire to fill Lt. White's position. Jim asked how many full timers they have now, and Pete stated 5. J.C. confirmed with Pete that it is on the EMT side but the candidate will also be firefighter certified, as well. J.C. also confirmed that we will not be hiring at the Lt. rate, and inquired how that position will be filled. Pete stated that he will consider and think about a person from within the department. Carl confirmed with Pete that it would not be viable to stick with the current staff and continue having the coverage the town needs without having an overtime issue, and that is why we need to hire.

Carl: I make a motion to approve the posting for the vacant EMT position.

Jim: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

6. Timber Yield Tax Warrant – Tax Map R52 Lot 2, \$37.65

J.C. announced item number 6 is a Timber Tax Warrant for Tax Map R52 Lot 2, in the amount of \$37.65. Carl stated that is not a large amount for a cut, and Cara stated it was the tail end of a cut left over from the year before.

Carl: I make a motion to approve the Timber Yield Tax Warrant for Tax Map R52 Lot 2, in the amount of \$37.65.

Gerard: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

7. Application for All Veterans' Tax Credit – 15 Will Smith Road

J.C. announced item number 7 is an All Veterans' Tax Credit for 15 Will Smith Road.

Carole: I make a motion to approve the All Veterans' Tax Credit for 15 Will Smith Road.

Gerard: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Public Hearing on 79-E application – Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 6:15 p.m.

J.C. announced that this is an application for tax relief for 1 Fayette Street.

2. BCEP Solid Waste District Interim Administrator – Lisa Stevens

Gerard stated that because of the quick departure of the administrator that Lisa Stevens is acting as the interim administrator temporarily.

3. Waste Water Treatment Facility – August report

J.C. stated this report is in the agenda packet, and there were no questions concerning the report.

4. Budget

Gerard informed the board that the budget process will be different this year because of the SB2. The meetings may be changed to Mondays so that Cara can be at the meeting for information and communication accuracy. Gerard also would like to request the selectmen's meetings be weekly during the budget process.

CHECK MANIFESTS

1. Accounts Payable

Gerard: I make a motion to approve Accounts Payable.

Carl: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

2. Payroll

Gerard: I make a motion to approve Payroll and Direct Deposit.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

MINUTES

1. September 12, 2017 – Public Meeting Minutes

Gerard: I make a motion to approve the May 23, 2017 Public Meeting Minutes.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: Carole has grammatical corrections for Ammy.

Motion carries 5-0

2. September 12, 2017 – Non-Public Meeting Minutes

Gerard: I make a motion to approve the May 23, 2017 Non-Public Meeting Minutes.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

PUBLIC INPUT

Kevin Gibson stated that there are some concerns with people in the community about the recent arrest of Officer Walker who has been placed on administrative leave. He was wondering if there is any more information that can be released. J.C. stated that since the information is concerning personnel of the town it legally cannot be discussed publically.

Heather Dragoiescu stated she would like to see a statement from the police department reassuring the community that they don't condone domestic violence and that the department will protect the community and anyone in a domestic violence incident. Police Chief Cain stated he did release a statement to the media stating that they do take these matters seriously and will do their best to protect and serve this community. They are aware of the matter and that Officer Walker was put on administrative leave, but out of respect for the process and Walker's due process at this point they cannot make any further comment. Heather would like to see or hear reassurance to the community that they can count on the police department if they find themselves in a domestic violence situation. J.C. stated from what they know at this point this situation is not being investigated in Pittsfield and therefore not a Pittsfield issue. Heather stated that the issue is that these officers are in a well-knit work environment and support each other and it is a Pittsfield issue.

J.C. stated that he understands the concern but those are all things that we cannot talk about. Chief Cain stated that we can't comment on the situation itself and that he has been put on administrative leave and will not be responding to any calls.

Adam Gauthier understands everyone's concern with this situation and encourages everyone to remember that he has not been found guilty until the court process is complete.

Heather Dragoiescu stated she has not had any issues with any of the police officers that we have, and they have always been nice but is concerned about them being biased when it comes to their fellow co-worker.

Jim stated that the police chief cannot make any comment concerning this employee because of legal issues.

Kevin Gibson stated he feels that the women in the community would like to be reassured that the police department does not condone domestic violence and that they can depend on the police department to help them in a domestic violence situation. Kevin also stated

that the other issue is the mug shots that are put on Facebook because the victims may not report a situation in fear of their attacker being put on social media.

Heather Dragoiescu agreed with Kevin and also stated that she feels the mug shots on Facebook is a form of bullying.

Adam Gauthier asked if there were any changes to the Fire Chief contract and Cara confirmed that there are a few.

Jim stated that they will take all comments under advisement this evening and that we can't comment on them but will take all comments under advisement.

J.C. stated the board will be going into non-public under RSA 91-A.

Carl: I make a motion to go into Non-Public under RSA 91-A:3, II (a) & (c)

Gerard: Second.

Discussion: None - Roll call was done and all approved.

The Board returned to public session.

Gerard: I make a motion to seal the non-public minutes as they may affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board.

Carole: Second

Motion carries with a 5-0 roll call (2/3 achieved) vote, all approved.

Carl: I make a motion to adjourn.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

Approved:


James C. Allard, Chairman

12 OCT 2017
Date



MEETING AGENDA
TOWN OF PITTSFIELD
BOARD OF SELECTMEN
TOWN OFFICE, 85 MAIN STREET
PITTSFIELD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03263

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2017

6:00 p.m. – call to order

PUBLIC INPUT – regarding agenda items only

AGENDA REVIEW

APPOINTMENT – Councilor Christopher Pappas, Executive Council District 4

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS

1. 2017-2018 Heating Fuel
2. 2017 Tax Deeds (land only) Tax Map R4 Lots 1, 1-6, & 1-7
3. Fire Chief employment contract
4. Fire Department proposed EMS per-diems
5. Fire Department full time EMT vacancy
6. Timber Yield Tax Warrant – Tax Map R52 Lot 2, \$37.65
7. Application for All Veterans' Tax Credit – 15 Will Smith Road

COMMITTEE REPORTS

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Public Hearing on 79-E application – Tuesday, October 10, 2017, 6:15 p.m.
2. BCEP Solid Waste District Interim Administrator – Lisa Stevens
3. Waste Water Treatment Facility – August report

OLD BUSINESS

1. Town hall basement code issues (4/5/16)
2. Sale of town owned/tax-deeded property
 - a. 37 Main Street – (deeded “back” to town, discussed 1/3/17)
3. Voter petition for formation of a Village Water District (4/4/17)
 - a. Public Hearing on proposed boundaries for a Village Water District (tabled 6/27/17)
4. Pittsfield Historical Society proposed relocation (6/13/17, review requested on hold 7/31/17)

CHECK MANIFESTS

1. Accounts Payable
2. Payroll

MINUTES

1. September 12, 2017 – Meeting Minutes
2. September 12, 2017 – Non-Public Session Minutes

PUBLIC INPUT

Public Input standards: The Board of Selectmen may accept the public's input that is addressed directly to the Chair in a courteous and respectful manner in a time frame of three minutes or less.

NONPUBLIC SESSION

The Board of Selectmen may enter into Nonpublic Session under RSA 91-A:3
Please note: The meetings of the Board of Selectmen are recorded, audio and video.
