



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

MEETING MINUTES OF Tuesday February 21, 2017

CALL TO ORDER

Call to order at 5:00 P.M. by Larry Konopka, Chairman

MEMBERS PRESENT

Larry Konopka, Chairman
Gerard LeDuc, Vice-Chairman
Carole Richardson
Carl Anderson
J.C. Allard

MEMBERS ABSENT

None

OTHERS PRESENT

Cara Marston, Town Administrator

NON-PUBLIC

Gerard: I make a motion to go into Non-Public session for RSA 91:A-3, II a,c.

J.C.: Second.

Discussion: None.

Roll call was done and all were in favor 5-0

Gerard: I make a motion to seal the Non-Public session minutes.

J.C.: Second.

Discussion: None.

Roll call was done and all were in favor 5-0

PUBLIC INPUT – regarding agenda items only

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6:05 p.m. – Acceptance of unanticipated revenue (RSA 31:95-b), \$14,095 for Floral Park Cemetery Fence
Cara read the Public Hearing Notice. Merrill Vaughn asked about parts of the fence that are not completed, and his question was answered. Dan Schroth asked about how much of the fence is done and it was stated about three quarters of the fence is complete. Dan stated the Carole did a great job and thanked her for her hard work.

Gerard: I make a motion to formally accept \$14,095.00 for the Floral Park Cemetery Fence Fund project.

Carl: Second.

Discussion: Larry stated that this was to create an expendable trust fund for this particular project. And Gerard stated yes.

Motion carries 5-0

6:30 p.m. – Wellbuilt Cabinetry, LLC, RSA 79-E application for Community Revitalization Tax Relief

Cara read the Public Hearing Notice. Alex, the owner of Wellbuilt Cabinetry, explained the repairs that have been done. Dan Schroth asked how the tax relief worked, and Cara explained the process. Carl asked about the public benefit. Larry stated he would like to send this to the attorney to see if they qualify or not. Cara gave some information regarding the public benefit and more details of the process. Clayton Wood commented on the qualifications, and gave some information about how the planning board can help. Roland Carter asked about the timing of turning in the application for the tax relief and having done the work already. Chief Psonowsky commented on the upgrades to the sprinkler system that have been done and how they have done everything that has been asked of them from the fire department. Carole asked if there will be a sign put up, and they stated yes. Paul Richardson commented about the history of the building and how it would be beneficial if the communication could be keep open with the fire department in case of a fire. Mike Wolfe stated that if we can show that we are a business friendly town it could be a benefit to take a hit in taxes now. Carl stated the taxes that we are collecting now are more than it would be with the building empty. Larry suggested we table this for now and get more information about the concerns. There was some discussion amongst the board about the concerns, and it was decided to move forward, work on the covenant to be able to give the tax relief. Several people welcomed the business to Pittsfield.

7:00 p.m. – Citizen Petition on adoption of RSA 40:13 (SB 2), 2017 town warrant article #7

Cara read the Public Hearing Notice. Dan Schroth asked if someone could explain why we are doing this. Clayton Wood is the citizen who submitted the petition so he explained the SB 2 process. He further explained his reasoning for doing this petition. Merrill Vaughan asked how SB 2 would bring business to town compared to the way it is being done now. Mike Wolfe stated that by going with SB 2 you would have more uninformed voters. He also stated that if we were a SB 2 town now and the people voted down the proposed budget that people are having a problem with, it would go to the default budget that would keep the 8 teachers we are getting rid of and keep the police budget as it was and be more than the proposed budget this year. He does not feel that it is clear cut as you feel it is. Jim Pritchard asked what the purpose of the public hearing is. Larry stated that when there is a citizen's petition you have to hold a public hearing. Dan Schroth stated that he was in favor of SB 2 when he was mad at the school for the tax rate, but since then he feels the school has gotten better. He stated that he thought SB 2 would lower taxes and he has learned that is not the case. Noreen Rollins asked who would come up with the budget and if that would mean there would be no need for a budget committee. Clayton explained that process. Darren Neilson feels that it is not clear if it would save or not save money. But it would give more people the chance to vote without peer pressure from their neighbors. Mike Wolfe stated that there could be a secret ballot with any warrant article with 5 signatures. There was some discussion about when the budget would be presented in the case of SB 2 or the way we do things now. Jim Pritchard stated he does not think there are many uninformed voters because of the internet. Gail Nickerson commented about how it would be an advantage to see the budget before voting day to give people a chance to look into things if they choose to. Nick Hayes stated that the wording of the articles wouldn't change, and stated that it will be difficult to give an accurate budget when the deliberative session comes because the last quarter of revenues and expenditures are not finalized in until a month after year end. Clayton stated that

there is a great article in City and Town about the transitioning process. Dan Schroth asked about the articles that do not have a monetary value, Cara explained that process. There was some further discussion about voting and secret ballots. And also about the need for a special meeting in case of an error.

AGENDA REVIEW

Gerard: Budget Committee report and Winter Parking in info.

Carole: None.

Larry: None.

Carl: None.

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS

1. Account transfer - \$15,000.00 to the 31 Berry Avenue escrow for building improvements

Cara explained this transfers the amount collected at the closing to the escrow account that was set up per the purchase and sales agreement.

Gerard: I make a motion to transfer \$15,000.00 from the 31 Berry Ave. escrow account to the general fund.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

2. Publishing contract - Pittsfield NH Town Road Maps & Business Guide

Cara explained the process that has been done for the past couple years and stated that they just need to update the contract. Carl asked if they were free and Cara stated yes.

Carl: I make a motion to accept and sign the Publishing Contract.

Gerard: Second.

Discussion: Carole asked about the photo and that was explained.

Motion carries 5-0

3. 2017 Town Meeting Warrant

Cara asked if any board members wanted to make any changes to the warrant. Carl stated that he believes Article 8 is controversial, and he would like to have another vote by a full board. He stated that when the vote was done there was not a full board here to vote so it shows a 2-2 tie vote. He would like to have another vote by the full board so the public knows where all the members of the board stand.

Carl: I make a motion to re-vote Article 8.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: There was some discussion on what the board was voting on and it was decided that they are voting on Article 8. Larry and Gerard are in favor of the Article 8 and Carl, Carole, and J.C. are not in favor.

Motion dies 3-2

Merrill Vaughan asked what just happened because he could not hear. Larry explained what happened. Mike Wolfe asked if the Article was still going to be on the warrant. Cara stated yes.

Cara stated that Article 25 needs to be voted on for the tally reporting on the town warrant.

Gerard: I make a motion not to recommend the Pittsfield Budget Committee's Budget in the amount of \$4,428,184.00.

Larry: Second.

Discussion: Gerard stated he didn't vote to approve this budget during the meeting and he can't now. Larry also stated that he can't support this budget, either. There was further discussion concerning what the budget committee was suggesting to cut. The suggestions included breaking contracts, employees, and money in the welfare department. Gerard explained that they are ultimately cutting the bottom line. Larry stated that the cuts that are proposed is 21 cents, and that would be an additional 42.00 for a 200,000 home. Larry made some further suggestions. Carl asked if we vote yes it would be not to recommend the budget committee's budget.

Motion fails 3-2 Larry and Gerard opposes.

There were some questions from the public that were addressed.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Gerard mentioned to the Chair of the Selectboard that the budget committee's minutes were not submitted in a timely manner and that they are inaccurate. It is a concern of Gerards that we are in violation of 91 A. Larry stated that legal was contacted and that we are in violation and the budget committee and the members could be held accountable. Bob Schiferle was present at the meeting and stated that the secretary has done the minutes and released the draft minutes to the committee members. Bob stated that he has not forwarded those to the town office but they have the recorded minutes. Bob stated he will forward the draft minutes to the town offices.

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. January 2017 Waste Water Treatment Facility report

Cara stated they provided the January update and it is included in the packet. Carl asked about the pump station on Joy St., Cara said she will be discussing this with the building inspector.

2. January 2017 Transportation Advisory Committee report

There was an update provided and there were no questions.

3. NH RSA 155-B – Hazardous & Dilapidated Buildings

Cara stated that this is the action that the board can take in response to concerns from Fred Hast. There was some discussion about if it has been done in the past successfully. Cara stated yes.

4. Parking

Gerard stated that he did a ride along with George and he noticed that there are several ongoing problems with people parking during the winter parking ban. Cara stated that if she had a list of the areas that are a problem she can have that looked into.

OLD BUSINESS

2. Sale of town owned/tax-deeded property (7/26/16)

a. 81 Main Street – (under agreement 8/23/16)

i. Revised assessment done 2/17/17

Cara stated that this was down to \$48,700.00, and the value of the land is 27,000.00.

b. 37 Main Street – (deeded “back” to town, discussed 1/3/17)

i. Condominium association

Cara explained that it can't be reassessed as one parcel until the condominium association is dissolved. It was discussed a while ago and no action was taken because the board did not know who was going to bear the cost of dissolving the association. As it stands with the registry of deeds it is still a 5-unit condominium and can't be assessed as 1 parcel. Carl stated that he does not feel we will be able to do anything with that building until the association is dissolved.

Carl: I make a motion to get the condominium association dissolved.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

5. Town Hall Security Cameras (2/7/2017)

Cara explained that the security camera company has been in contact with the IT company. There would have to be a breach put in the firewall in order to allow the access of the live feed out of the system. The IT company is suggesting a parallel secure network for just the cameras alone, and the cost would be around \$400.00 onetime cost. Carl stated he thinks it is a good idea. Carole asked what this would do and Cara stated that this would allow viewing on a cellphone, currently it is now being recorded at the police department. Carl asked if it was currently being recorded, and Chief Cain stated that it is recorded and saved for about 90 days if they needed to review any footage. Gerard expressed that he was under the impression that the security cameras were going to be installed and the police department was going to be able to record and have footage available if anything happened. Carl was under the impression that it was included, but if we have the ability to view the recordings that it would be fine. Chief Cain stated that he and his department are not going to have the ability to view the footage from their phones, and have no plans to have that ability for the police department.

6. Abatement (2nd hardship request) – Tax Map U3 Lot 15 (tabled 2/7/2017)

7. Abatement (2nd hardship request) – Tax Map U4 Lot 16 (tabled 2/7/2017)

Cara stated that Cedric Dustin emailed her and stated that the PCDC had an unexpected good financial time in the past couple months and were able to pay their taxes and would like to withdraw their abatement request.

CHECK MANIFESTS

1. Accounts Payable

Gerard: I make a motion to approve Accounts Payable.

J.C.: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

2. Payroll

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

J.C.: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 5-0

MINUTES

1. February 7, 2017 – Public Meeting Minutes

Gerard: I make a motion to approve the February 7, 2017 Public Meeting Minutes.

Carl: Second.

Discussion: Carole had a concern with page 7 and asked if Ammy could review the tape.

Motion carries 4-1 J.C. abstains.

2. February 7, 2017 – Non-Public Meeting Minutes

Gerard: I make a motion to approve the February 7, 2017 Non-Public Meeting Minutes.

Carole: Second.

Discussion: None.

Motion carries 4-1 J.C. abstains.

PUBLIC INPUT

Roland Carter asked about the publishing contract and the EDC, and Cara stated that there will be a draft before it is printed.

Mike Wolfe asked about the plow truck that the town is down, and it was stated that it was fixed.

Chief Cain invited the board members to come and look at the security camera set up at the police department if they would like to see the set up.

Sharon Genest expressed her concern about the snow removal pile on Joy St. next to the river and the DES and the salt and trash from the roads getting into the river. Larry stated they have talked with the Highway Superintendent and he stated that the pile is where the DES would like it. And the trash can be taken care of the best they can.

Approved:


Lawrence Konopka, Chairman Date 3/21/17



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

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2017

5:00 p.m. – Call to order – Non-Public Session

6:00 p.m. – Call to order – Regular Session

PUBLIC INPUT – regarding agenda items only

PUBLIC HEARINGS

6:05 p.m. – Acceptance of unanticipated revenue (RSA 31:95-b), \$14,095 for Floral Park Cemetery Fence

6:30 p.m. – Wellbuilt Cabinetry, LLC, RSA 79-E application for Community Revitalization Tax Relief

7:00 p.m. – Citizen Petition on adoption of RSA 40:13 (SB 2), 2017 town warrant article #7

AGENDA REVIEW

NEW BUSINESS

ACTION ITEMS

1. Account transfer - \$15,000 to 31 Berry Avenue escrow for building improvements
2. Publishing contract - Pittsfield NH Town Road Maps & Business Guide
3. 2017 Town Meeting Warrant

COMMITTEE REPORTS

INFORMATION ITEMS

1. January 2017 Waste Water Treatment Facility report
2. January 2017 Transportation Advisory Committee report
3. NH RSA 155-B – Hazardous & Dilapidated Buildings

OLD BUSINESS

1. Town hall basement code issues (4/5/16)
2. Sale of town owned/tax-deeded property (7/26/16)
 - a. 81 Main Street – (under agreement 8/23/16)
 - i. Revised assessment done 2/17/17
 - b. 37 Main Street – (deeded “back” to town, discussed 1/3/17)
 - i. Condominium association
3. Joy Street Pump Station concern (8/16/16, building/health to follow up)
4. Consulting Services Contract for Municipalization of Pittsfield Aqueduct Co. (tabled 9/27/16)
5. Town Hall Security Cameras (2/7/2017)
6. Abatement (2nd hardship request) – Tax Map U3 Lot 15 (tabled 2/7/2017)
7. Abatement (2nd hardship request) – Tax Map U4 Lot 16 (tabled 2/7/2017)

CHECK MANIFESTS

1. Accounts Payable
2. Payroll

MINUTES

1. February 7, 2017 – Public Meeting Minutes
2. February 7, 2017 – Non-Public Meeting Minutes

PUBLIC INPUT

Board of Selectmen Meeting Agenda – 2/21/2017

Page | 1