

Town of Danbury
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES
December 15 , 2021 6:00 PM

Present: Selectmen Jessica Hatch(arrived 6:20pm), James Phelps, Tracy Shepard
Administrative Assistant Karen Padgett

Appointments Chief Martin 6:10
Road Agent Cornell immediately following

Checks/Applications/Signatures)

- **Payroll & accounts payable** were signed.
- Jim motioned to adopt the meeting **minutes of 12/7 and 12/8**, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed unanimously. Jim motioned to adopt the meeting minutes of 12/5, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed unanimously.
- The bank loan forms from Bar Harbor Bank and Trust for the new highway truck in the amount of \$99,500 with an interest rate of 2.59% and monthly payments of \$4,258.55 were received from Marie Pelletier. Jim made a motion to authorize the signatures of the bank loan forms for the highway truck, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0. Motion was seconded by Tracy and passed unanimously.
- Jim motioned to sign the CNP 3 year assessing contract, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0. Pickups will be \$58, hourly \$90 and BLTA appeals \$109.
- The NH DRA Equalization Assessment Data Certificate was signed.

As discussed in previous meetings **Chief Martin** is proposing changing the way the fire fighter stipend is paid out. Instead of a universal flat rate for all members, he would like to pay based on the number of call responses by each firefighter/EMT. Jim asked if he had discussed this change with all the members and he responded that he has not. Chief Martin spoke with the Fire Chief in Salisbury, and this is how they pay out the stipend. Wilmot requires that the members show up for a percentage of the calls.

Jessica feels it's a good idea but would like him to present it to the department members first. Jim agrees and doesn't want to see him alienate members. Chief Martin will send an email to the members.

Chief Martin has heard that the Board is not in favor of the new forestry truck mini pumper purchase for the upcoming warrant. He said that if they purchase a straight forestry truck this upcoming year, it will be necessary to replace Engine 1 within 2 years. If the proposed forestry truck is purchased that could push out the purchase of a new engine 1 to 2028-2030. Jessica says calling it a forestry truck is not necessarily accurate. The mini pumper would be used for motor vehicle accidents instead of bringing out the big engine.

The size of the station is an issue with a limited amount of space. He is trying to optimize the space with the vehicles that he has. Jim questioned whether the town needs three fire trucks. With the ability to have mutual aid is this necessary?

Chief Martin will present a proposal at the next meeting.

Jim motioned to sign the following Fire Department purchase orders:

1. Lexipol for online training \$1,145
2. Zips AW Direct \$550 100' winch cable for rescue 1

Motion was seconded by Tracy and passed unanimously.

Road Agent Cornell

Asked about the status of the Eastern District guardrail and the Frazier Bridge damage. For the Frazier bridge, the insurance company needed more information. Road Agent Cornell does not have the answers. Jim said that the ball is in his court.

The 2015 truck is in the shop in Concord. The 2018 truck is in Londonderry having the springs replaced. The 2008 truck is being used sparingly The new truck should be ready in three weeks.

He would like to have a help wanted ad for a helper for office work and cleaning on Mondays. It will be posted on the town website and the Friends of Danbury Facebook pages.

Jim motioned to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$2,629.20 for grader tires. Motion seconded by Jessica and passed. 3-0.

Cornell got 2 quotes for a new loader. The quotes include a trade in for the old 1995 grader. The quotes were reviewed.

He would like to purchase the storage container that the town has been leasing since the fire. The Board needs to have a cost before any decision can be made.

New Business

- The Board reviewed and approved the flyer for the public forum being held to gather community input for the joint police department proposal.
- Karen discussed with the Board an IRS 941 payroll tax reporting issue where a weekly deposit was attributed to the wrong quarter by the IRS. Hopefully the issue has been resolved.

Selectmen

- The Selectmen worked on finalizing their recommendations for departmental budgets for the 2022 budget. Warrant articles will be discussed at the next meeting.
- Jim received a complaint from a resident of Railroad Drive that equipment is being parked in the roadway across from his house making it difficult to get out of his driveway. Jim contacted his contact at Eversource to ask them not to park there.
- Jim reported on the 12/7 Planning Board meeting. He found a map that shows the village overlay districts that was done by the Lakes Region Planning Commission in 2004. Also, the accessory dwelling unit portion of the Land Use and Zoning Ordinance was amended to conform with changes in the state law. Home Occupation and Cottage Industry has been worked on as well as the maximum 10,000 square ft portion of the LUZO. The public hearing on the changes as well as a petitioned change that would eliminate a portion of the LUZO that lists excavations as an allowable use will be held on January 11 at 7pm.
- Tracy questioned what the cost to Danbury to have 2 full time and 2 part time police officers on our own as opposed to the proposed merger with Alexandria. Jim suggested it might be about \$400,000.
- Possible warrant articles were discussed:
 1. Closure of roads that are essentially driveways. Owners would have to be notified by January 22.
 2. Authority to sell town owned property that is not tax deeded property.
 3. Loader purchase, public hearing on a bond over \$100,000 must be noticed by 1/11/22 and hearing held by 1/18/22.

At 7:21 Jessica motioned to enter nonpublic session per

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 or her, unless the employee affected (1) has a right to a public meeting, and (2) requests that the meeting be open, in which case the request shall be granted.

Motion was seconded by Jim and passed unanimously.

At 7:27 Jim motioned to return to public session, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0. No decisions were made, and no votes were taken.

Jessica motioned to adjourn at 8:30, seconded by Tracy. Motion passed 3-0.

FYI/No action needed

- Well release form 101 High Street
- Wiggin Rd – 411-082-004 septic operation approval
- November property sales
- Historical tax rate information

Respectfully submitted, Karen Padgett, Administrative Assistant