



Board of Selectmen's Work Session Minutes September 22, 2023

Present Chairman Espie, Selectman Seamans, Selectman Racine, Susan Slack of the Historic District, Fire Chief Harmon, and Administrative Assistant Pitts

Chairman Espie called the meeting to order at 9:01 am

Susan Slack of the Historic District Committee mentioned the New Hampshire Preservation Alliance could be including the Tavern for the Alliance's "7 to save" list for important historic buildings that need work to hold their historic value. Susan stated it wouldn't change any responsibility, but that it could draw attention to the tavern. Susan mentioned that the list would come out around middle to late October and that Town could be contacted.

Susan Slack talked about the Tavern being a tax-deeded property and that have been changes to the constitutional law. Susan talked about the Supreme case stating the Municipality cannot keep excess proceeds even though there are RSA's that say otherwise. Selectman Seamans expressed his opinion and thoughts of whether the Town kept the property.

Chairman Espie made a motion to accept the correction Manifest in the amount of \$86,562.62, seconded by Selectman Racine. Motion passed (3-0).

The Board of Selectmen discussed the RFP for Ryefield Road where they had made corrections to language, additions, and numbers regarding square footage of the road. The Board of Selectmen agreed to hold the Mandatory Contractor's Meeting on November 14, 2023, at 11:00 am, Proposals will be accepted until 2:00 pm on November 21, 2023, and proposals will be opened at 5:00 pm on November 21, 2023.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to have a meeting every Tuesday during the Budget season.

The Board of Selectmen re-visit the purchase of a used Suburban for the Fire Chief being sold by the Town of Tuftonboro. Fire Chief Harmon announced his results from researching other used vehicles with fire equipment and states the Suburban is the best find. He also mentioned logging his miles for the month of September with a total of 300 miles at the time of the meeting. Chief Harmon mentioned offering the Town of Tuftonboro \$7,000 with a limit of \$8,000. He also mentions there has been no use of the Expendable trust and he has those funds, if needed. Chief Harmon received an estimate for all suggested work that will be eventually needed in the amount of \$5,500. Selectman Seamans recommended not purchasing the vehicle at this time but purchasing brand new in the new year and slowly purchasing the Fire equipment. Selectman Racine agreed. Resident Steve Regal recommended having the Fire Chief request his mileage for Town Business. Chief Harmon expressed concern of his personal vehicle being covered if something happened with on town business. Resident Vicki Kirkwood asked if the Fire Chief lived far away from the Fire Station. Chairman Espie expressed he did not have any issues with the purchase of the used vehicle. Vicki asked if the rocker panels needed to be replaced immediately. Chief Harmon mentioned it would not need to be done during this budget season and that the only recommendation is undercoating at an estimate of \$250.00. The Board agreed to discuss further in a Non-Public.

The Board of Selectmen had conversation on the upcoming budget.

The Board of Selectmen mentioned moving Chris Boldt payments from Professional Services to Legal and discussed increasing the Legal budget to \$50,000.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to level the budget for TAN Interest at \$1.00.

The Board of Selectmen discussed the budget for Highways & Streets. Selectman Racine recommended adding a line item for ditch maintenance. Administrative Assistant Pitts advised that ditch maintenance was listed in the Summer Road Contract. The Board of Selectmen agreed to increase the Road Contract budget to \$120,000.

Selectman Seamans mentioned he should be receiving a phone call regarding FEMA money from the storms that had taken place in April and June.

Selectman Racine discussed calcium chloride and if the town should remove it. Chairman Espie disagreed, and Selectman Racine recommended the town become more resourceful. Budget Committee member, Steve Regal, stated project calcium rate at \$77,000 would increase taxes by \$1.23 per thousand. The Board of Selectmen agreed to increase Calcium Chloride to \$40,000.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to level Crack Sealing at \$17,500.

Selectman Seamans talks about the work needed on Molly Philbrick Road that is roughly four tenths of a mile. Chief Harmon asked about quotes from FEMA for reimbursement.

The Board of Selectmen discussed cold patch work on Pine River Road.

The Board of Selectmen discussed re-visiting Fire Station door and parking lot paving.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to level materials at \$60,000.

The Board of Selectman stated Winter Road is contracted at \$257,000.

The Board of Selectman to level roadside mowing at \$25,000.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to level Signs & Equipment at \$1,500.

Discussed winter road materials and going to 600 tons at \$82.00/ton for salt through Eastern Minerals and putting out a bid for sand. The Board agreed to increase Winter Road Materials to \$80,000.

The Board agreed to level Bridges at \$1,000.

The Board of Selectmen agreed to level cemeteries for a grand total of \$2,000.00.

Selectmen Seamans discussed Summer Road Contract and requested to have more equipment listed in the RFP.

Administrative Assistant Pitts asks for the Board's approval to have the Municipal Building deep cleaned by Sarah Whitten. The Board of Selectmen approved the deep cleaning of the Municipal Building.

Selectman Seamans made a motion to enter Non-Public session pursuant to RSA 91-A, II (a) Personnel, seconded by Selectman Racine.

The Board of Selectmen went into Non-Public Session at 11:40 am.

The work session meeting reconvened at 12:15 pm.

Chairman Espie made a motion for the Fire Chief to make an offer to the Town of Tuftonboro with a maximum set at \$8,000, seconded by Selectman Seamans. Motion passed (3-0)

The work session adjourned at 12:16 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Caitlyn Pitts

Dated: September 27, 2023

Leonard Espie

Chris Seamans

Leo Racine