

TOWN OF HEBRON
SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 18, 2023

PRESENT: Rich James, Paul Hazelton, Pat Moriarty and Karen Sanborn, Town Administrator

OTHERS PRESENT: Sean Downey – Hilltop Public Solutions, Terron Hill, National Grid - Project Development Director, Danielle Aretz, National Grid - Director Stakeholder Management, Dan Belin, VHB, Jessica Farrell, National Grid - Transmission Engineering, Jamie Moulton (Fire Chief), Audrey Johnson (Treasurer),

6:45 P.M. **COMMENCED MEETING:** Chair James commenced the meeting at 6:45 p.m.

6:45 P.M. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Chair James opened the public hearing to expend funds from the “Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund”, the “Police Special Detail Fund” and the “Assessment Services and Contract Payment Capital Reserve Fund”. Ms. Sanborn noted the request from the Assessment Services and Contract Payment Capital Reserve Fund was for ~~the-an~~ amount which exceeded ~~the~~ Assessing Services account line in the budget totaling \$4,262.00. The request to be withdrawn from the Police Cruiser Capital Reserve Fund was for half - ~~-\$~~\$4,500.00 of the additional equipment required to outfit the new police Dodge pick-up cruiser. The balance of the purchases would be withdrawn from the Police Special Detail account in the amount of \$4,555.41. Vice-Chair Hazelton moved to expend the funds as discussed, seconded by Selectman Moriarty. The vote was unanimous. Vice-Chair Hazelton moved to authorize Chair James to sign the request to expend funds from the Police Special Detail Fund, seconded by Selectman Moriarty. The vote was unanimous.

6:49 P.M. **CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING:** Chair James closed the Public Hearing at 6:49 p.m.

7:00 P.M. **TWIN STATES CLEAN ENERGY LINK PRESENTATION:** Sean Downey, Terron Hill, Danielle Aretz, Dan Belin, and Jessica Farrell approached the Select Board to review a power point presentation on the Twin States Clean Energy Link proposed project. Mr. Downey informed the Board about the proposed project of utilizing existing towers located in Hebron to bring power from Quebec Hydro through to the lower part of New Hampshire. This power would be utilized in other states as New Hampshire generated more electricity than it currently uses. The power could be utilized in NH when the demand is high. This project is still in the early stages and the organization wanted to give the communities which the powerlines would run through good information about the project. Selectman Moriarty commented that communication is important to the residents and taxpayers. Tyron Hill reviewed with the Board the proposed project, the changes to the existing power line towers, the benefits to the community and state, and who will benefit from the power running through the lines. Danielle Aretz informed the Board that the organizers involved with the project will be looking to partner with the local trade schools, community colleges, and with the communities in ways this project could benefit all. Selectman Moriarty informed the presenters that the town has an environmental project they are working on and inquired about contributing to assist with the costs of the project. Ms. Aretz replied that yes, they would be interested. Chair James suggested to Mr. Downey putting ~~something-an article~~ in the town newsletter regarding the project. Mr. Downey and the presenters thanked the Select Board for their time and for listening to the presentation.

7:45 P.M. **DISCUSSION:**

- Audrey Johnson approached the Select Board to review the **proposed rates for ambulance billing services**. Chair James moved to approve the 2023 ambulance billing rate changes to the Average Bundled Comstar Top 50, seconded by Selectman Moriarty. The vote was unanimous. Ms. Johnson reviewed with the Board how the income was tracked with Comstar based on the patients billed for services. Selectman Moriarty inquired about obtaining addresses for non-residential patients. Ms. Johnson informed Selectman Moriarty that this

has been an issue which the department is addressing with the EMS personnel. Ms. Johnson informed the Board that she keeps records monthly regarding billing to Comstar and receivables resulting from billing for ambulance services. This will be given to the new Treasurer.

- Jamie Moulton approached the Board to discuss **some issues of concern at the Fire Department**. Chief Moulton discussed with the Board getting the proposed addition to the Public Safety Building on the warrant next year. Chair James informed Chief Moulton that the Community Center/Library Building Committee had one more meeting to address a direction for moving forward and that Chief Moulton could attend. Chief Moulton inquired about a policy for permitting the inspection of oil burners and propane units. Ms. Sanborn replied that she was not aware of the policy and in the past the plumbing and heating installers of home furnaces would submit the request for inspection directly to the Fire Department. Chair James suggested to Chief Moulton to start small with the permitting process and build-up as time goes on. Chair James suggested meeting with Ivan Quinchia (Planning Board Chair) to start.

8:20 P.M.

ACTION ITEMS:

- The Select Board signed the **accounting manifests**.
- Chair James tabled the **Memorandum of Understanding for the Fiber Optics Project** as there needs to be some clarification with Hub66.
- The Select Board signed **Raffle Permits** for the Hebron Union Congregational Church and the HAWGS with both drawings to be held on July 29, 2023.
- Selectman Moriarty moved to authorize Chair James to sign the memorandum to process the **annual ~~appropriation-donation~~ of \$300.00 each to the local hospitals**, seconded by Vice-Chair Hazelton. The vote was unanimous.
- Vice-Chair Hazelton moved to **appoint Chris Sullivan as a Beach Committee member**, seconded by Chair James. The vote was unanimous.
- Vice-Chair Hazelton moved to authorize Chair James to sign the **Hold Harmless Agreement with Hebron Historical Society**, seconded by Selectman Moriarty. The vote was unanimous.
- The Select Board signed the **2023 MS-232 Report of Appropriations Actually Voted form**.

8:30 P.M.

DISCUSSION:

- Ms. Sanborn relayed to the Board that Paul Morrison (electrician) found more **damage at the Public Safety Building to the underground electrical wires to the exterior parking lot light**. The damage was from the plow truck hitting the pole ~~hitting the pole~~ this past winter. The Board reviewed the estimate for the additional damage of \$3,200 from Paul Morrison Electric, LLC. Vice-Chair Hazelton moved to authorize Chair James to sign the proposal from Paul Morrison Electric, LLC, seconded by Selectman Moriarty. The vote was unanimous.
- Ms. Sanborn relayed to the Board that the **Hebron Common Landscape and Playground Committee met with the Historic District Commission** regarding their proposal for planting trees and shrubs on the common and to relocate the bocce court. The Historic District Commission approved the planting of shrubs and trees but would like the bocce court removed from the Hebron Common. The Board asked Ms. Sanborn to invite John Dunklee (Historic District Commission Chair) to the next Select Board Meeting.
- The Select Board discussed the **area owned by the town beside the Hebron Village Store** that is utilized for parking by the public. There were concerns by the Board that this location should be posted for people to park at their own risk to protect the town.
- Ms. Sanborn informed the Board that the New Hampshire Municipal Association launched a **new Financial Policies Certificate Program** and that she was interested in attending. Chair James expresses interest in one of the training courses as well.

8:45 P.M.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- **Resignation** – Alan Baker, Beach Committee member
- **Grafton County Commissioners’ Proposed Fiscal Year 2024 Budget**
- State of NH Department of Revenue Administration – **Hebron 2022 Cyclical Monitoring Inspection Report**

8:51 P.M.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS:

- Chair James reported to the Board on the **meeting with Hub66** and the Fiber Optics Project. There is still an issue with pole replacement as several companies own the poles.
- Chair James recommended **placing an article on the warrant** next year authorizing the Select Board to be able to sell town property.
- Chair James discussed with the Board ways to **acknowledge Ben Hall, Highway Supervisor, for attending training**. Since the Highway Department is a part-time operation, there should be an hourly rate of pay to encourage Mr. Hall to take time out for the valuable training offered. Ms. Sanborn informed the Board that UNHT2 offers most of the courses to the Public Works Departments. ~~Selectman Moriarty replied to Chair James—his salary.~~ Chair James noted that Mr. Hall does not receive a salary like the rest of the department heads, but an hourly rate of pay. Vice-Chair Hazelton suggested \$75/hour.

9:03 P.M.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES: The Select Board reviewed the Select Board Meeting minutes of May 4, 2023 and made the following correction: page 1, first sentence under *George Road Right of Way* – delete “agree for a right of way to” and insert “granted by David Jaques” after “Town of Hebron”, page 1, under *George Road Right of Way*, third sentence – change “span” to “spanned”, page 1, under *George Road Right of Way*, fifth sentence – change “engineer” to “engineering”, and page 1, under *George Road Right of Way*, after the ninth sentence – insert “The Board declined to respond to compensation for the right-of-way.”. Chair James moved to accept the Select Board Meeting minutes of May 4, 2023 as amended, seconded by Vice-Chair Hazelton. The vote was unanimous.

The Select Board reviewed the Select Board Meeting minutes of May 15, 2023. Chair James moved to approve the Select Board Meeting minutes of May 15, 2023 as written, seconded by Vice-Chair Hazelton. The vote was unanimous.

The Select Board reviewed the Select Board Non-Public Session minutes of May 4, 2023. Vice-Chair Hazelton moved to approve the Select Board Non-Public Session minutes of May 4, 2023 as written, seconded by Chair James. The vote was unanimous.

The Select Board discussed changing the time of both Select Board Meetings to 2:30 p.m. as the first Thursday of the month meeting is scheduled. Selectman Moriarty suggested the third Thursday of the month meeting be held at 4:00 p.m. to allow the people that work to attend the meetings. The Board asked Ms. Sanborn to put an article in the newsletter looking for input.

9:12 P.M.

MEETING ADJOURNED: Chair James moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:12 P.M., seconded by Vice-Chair Hazelton. The vote was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Sanborn
Town Administrator