

Minutes Danbury Board of Selectmen's Meeting 5/6/2020

Date and time: 05/06/20 06:00 pm

Present: Selectmen **Jessica Hatch, Lyn England, James Phelps**

Administrative Assistant Karen Padgett

1. Appointments

1-1. 6:30 pm Wade Heberling/Chief Suckling

Note Mr. Heberling contacted Chief Suckling about excessive noise from shooting on the property at the corner of School Pond Rd and North Rd. The property is across the street from the Heberling house. The shooting would go on for three plus hours, several times a week. Chief Suckling met with the son of the property owner along with Officer Towne of NH Fish and Game. They found rounds of ammunition that had missed the backstop and landed on adjacent property. They looked for alternative areas to shoot. Chief Suckling reviewed RSA 644:13 regarding unauthorized use of firearms. It was determined that shooting within the compact area of town did not apply. Chief Suckling feels that the disorderly conduct statute would be a tough statute to enforce. At what point does it become disorderly? Jim asked if the shooting went on for greater than 1/2 hour, would that be considered disorderly? Mr. Heberling stated that it started sometime in February but has increased in frequency and duration during the stay at home order.

The Chief is looking to the Board of Selectmen to pass some type of noise ordinance that would be enforceable.

Decision Chief Suckling requested a purchase order for a new laptop for the PD. Jim motioned to approve a purchase order in the amount of \$469, seconded by Jessica. Motioned passed 3-0.

1-2. 6:15pm Fire Chief Jeremy Martin

Note Chief Martin expressed interest in the 2010 police cruiser to use as a Fire Department command vehicle when the new police department cruiser arrives.

Governor Sununu has authorized a hazard pay stipend for police, fire and ems first responders. The Fire Department has 10 members who are eligible for the stipend. It is paid out by the town and reimbursed by the State of NH. Volunteers without medical training receive \$50/week and volunteers with medical training receive \$150/week. The time frame for the stipend is May 4 through June 30. The Town can pay weekly, monthly or in one lump sum.

There is a generator that was donated to power the Danbury Community Center in the event of an emergency so it could operate as an emergency shelter. The generator has been stored at the fire station and Chief Martin would like to have it moved elsewhere because it takes up a great deal of room.

Decision Chief Martin has volunteers willing to paint the floor of the fire station. The cost of the paint is approximately \$660. Jim motioned to approve the expenditure of \$660 for the paint, seconded by Lyn. Motion passed 3-0.

1-3. 7:00 pm Andy Phelps, Cemetery Sexton

Note Mr. Phelps presented a synopsis of suggested pay rates for the cemetery workers based on experience and what equipment they can operate. No action was taken. Pay rates and performance appraisals will be reviewed at the Selectmen's meeting on 5/13/2020

2. Manifests/Minutes/Signatures

2-1. Payroll and Accounts Payable manifests were signed.

2-2. April bank reconciliations were signed.

2-3. Meeting minutes from 4/15/2020

Decision Jim motioned to approve the minutes of 4/15, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.

2-4. Tax Collector Request for Abatement of Lien Costs of \$277.50/Abatement # 01-2020

Decision Jim motioned to grant the abatement 01-2020 for \$277.50, seconded by Lyn. All in favor.

2-5. Land Use Change Tax /Thomas/12 Wiggin Rd/411-082-002/\$7,500

Decision Jessica motioned to assess the land use change tax, seconded by Lyn. Motion passed 2-0, with Jim abstaining from the vote.

2-6. Intent to Cut for Forever Forestlands, LLC 401-001, 403-020, 406-186

Decision Jessica motioned to approve the intent to cut, seconded by Jim. Motion passed unanimously.

3. New Building Permits

3-1. 11-2020B 201-023/120 High St/Parsons/12x6 storage shed

Decision Jim motioned to approve, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.

3-2. 12-2020B 413-022/357 Walker Brook Rd/Charlebois/20x21 metal car port

Decision Jim motioned to approve, seconded by Jessica. Motion passed 3-0.

3-3. 13-2020B 406-217/284 BOHONON RD/WAGNER/27 X 62 DECK

Decision No action was taken on the application as there seem to be some inconsistencies in the sketch dimensions.

Task *Jim will visit the property and speak with the owner for clarification.*

3-4. 14-2020B 201-102 33 Courtland Dr/Towne/7x7 rib and membrane structure

Decision Jim motioned to approve subject to receiving a sketch showing the setbacks. Motion was seconded by Lyn and passed 3-0.

Task *Karen will request sketch*

4. Previously Signed Building Permits

Decision Jim motioned to approve the previously signed building permits, seconded by Lyn. Motioned passed 3-0.

4-1. 06-2020B 406-096 22 Aspen Lane/Oakes/Placement of Mobile Home(smaller)

Note Revised sketch

4-2. 07-2020B 406-67/781 North Rd/Burbach/primitive campground and tent platforms

4-3. 08-2020B 406-203/50 Brad Chase Rd/Hibbard/2 preassembled sheds

4-4. 09-2020B 412-056/138 Old Turnpike Rd/Ladd/floating porchaddition

Decision The Board will request a sketch showing that it meets setback requirements. When signing the permit, the Board thought the floating deck was on the back of the house.

4-5. 10-2020B 201-135/18 Railroad Dr/Barnett/10x8 storage shed

5. COVID-19

5-1. NHMA Guidance on Emergency Order #25 relative to abatement of property tax interest

Note Emergency Order 25 permits granting of blanket abatements on interest charged on all property taxes. Abatement applications are not required. Select board can exercise as a local option the ability to declare that any interest accrued on presently delinquent property tax payments will be waived and can include interest accrued before the State of Emergency. They can set conditions, time limits and amounts on the interest that can be waived, but conditions must be uniform with all taxpayers treated on equal terms. Also, they recommend consulting with town counsel before liening properties since the interest rate increases from 8% to 14%.

Decision No action was taken relative to the abatement of property tax interest.

5-2. Deputy Treasurer

Note Gayle Irick took the oath for Deputy Treasurer in 2016. On 5/1/2020 she was added as a signer for the bank accounts

6. Old Business

6-1. Opening of Sand Bids

Note Two sand bids were received and were as follows:
Phelps Construction- \$5.50/yard pick up \$6.75/yard delivered
Huntoon Excavation - \$4/yard picked up \$8/yard delivered
The Board will discuss the bids with Road Agent, Jeremy Cornell.

6-2. Transfer Station

Note There will be an increase in tire disposal pricing effective 6/1/2020. Passenger tires will go from \$1.75 each to \$2.25 and truck tires over 19" will go from \$5.50 to \$12.50.

Concerns were expressed that people from out of town are dropping of trash at the Danbury Transfer Station when it is closed.

Jim will get a cable and combination lock to limit access until a gate can be installed. The Selectmen agreed to check dump stickers on a Saturday morning in the future.

With the new highway pickup truck being diesel, there is concern that the town gas is going to sit in the tank and go bad before it will be used.

Note NH the Beautiful signs were picked up in Epsom 4/28

Decision Jessica made a motion approve the purchase of a new compactor in the amount of \$19,474 which includes the trade in value of \$2000 for the old compactor. Motion was seconded by Jim and passed unanimously.

6-3. New Canada Rd Turnaround

Note No response was received from Wilmot Board of Selectmen regarding the New Canada Road turnaround, but I found a memo on their website from Road Agent Tim Martin to Wilmot BOS stating that he does "not believe this would be a good bargain for the Town of Wilmot." In his opinion a plow truck can turn around in the right of way.

Decision No action was taken on the easement document.

6-4. Timber Tax Appraiser

Note Letter received from Matt Apgar of HHP, Inc in Henniker offering services for municipal timber appraisal. Karen will request more information about the process he uses.

6-5. Health Officer Liaison

Note A regional public health resource officer by the Partnership for Public Health. His name is John R. Carlson and for the first year his services are free to our town.

6-6. Sale of Ford F350 Highway Truck

Note The high bidder backed out(\$5100). The next highest bidder (\$3600) paid and picked up truck on 4/24/2020

7. New Business

7-1. Request to cut trees on town owned property on High St

Note Jeremy Nelson of 4 Waukeena Lake Rd called about the town owned property on High Street. He would like permission to cut and remove the dead wood on the property for the following reasons:

- The trees have wood boring insects and he has had an issue with wood boring insects in his house.
- There is a great deal of dead wood that could be considered a fire hazard.

He states he has experience with tree cutting and removal.

Decision The Selectmen granted permission for Mr. Nelson to cut the dead wood and clean up the brush provided that he signs a release of liability.

7-2. Sign Ordinance

Note As noted by D. Aylward, the sign permit application does not match the sign ordinance passed with the LUZO.

Task Karen will revise the building permit application to reflect the language of the Land Use and Zoning Ordinance.

7-3. Request for Tax Payment Plan

Note L. Robie, 70 Aspen Lane, is requesting a tax payment plan for overdue taxes. The amount owed is \$9482.09. Originally, she offered to pay \$1000 now and then \$100 /week. She amended her proposal. She paid \$500 on 5/4 and will pay \$75 / week.

Decision The Board of Selectmen approved a tax payment agreement with Louise Robie provided she pays the additional \$500 (for a total of the \$1000 originally proposed) and \$100/week. The payments will

be applied to the oldest taxes first.

7-4. Bristol Select Board - Wayne Anderson

Note Call received on 5/4 about revisiting the NASD budget in light of COVID -19. Would the Danbury Board of Selectmen be in favor of asking for a special meeting to revise the school budget? The Board of Selectmen would like more information on what he is proposing before taking a position. The Board of Selectmen would like more information on what he is proposing before taking a position.

7-5. Beavers

Note A concerned citizen reached out to the Selectmen's office about the handling of beaver control and shooting beavers.

Kevin Cook, working at the direction of the Road Agent, is a licensed Wildlife Control Operator. He does not charge the town for his services, which to date total just over \$500. Karen spoke with Josiah Towne of NH Fish and Game to ensure the beaver control is being handled properly. There is no issue as long as he is in the road right of way under the direction of the Road Agent.

7-6. Wilmot Perambulation Request

Note The new Property and Land Use Clerk is requesting that the Wilmot/Danbury town line be perambulated. It has not been done since 1999. By law, it should be done every 7 years.

7-7. Vote to authorize withdrawal of GGB capital reserve funds

Decision Jim motioned to authorize the withdrawal of \$9500 from the General Government Building Capital Reserve Fund for the cost to replace and repair the trim on fire station. Motion was seconded by Jessica and passed unanimously.

8. SELECTMEN ITEMS

8-1. JESSICA

Note 1. Believes that the owners of 118 Waukeena Lake Rd need to file for a new driveway permit, as the driveway has been moved.

2. Noted that someone has posted a speed limit sign in Echo Glen with a speed limit of 25. There is no Echo Glen Association. Nor is the speed limit 25. If no limit is posted, the speed limit is 35.

3. There is a house on Walker Brook Rd that appears to be building without a permit. Karen will send a letter.

4. A taxpayer had questions about the intent to cut he filed last year, wanting to extend it. A new intent to cut will need to be filed. Jessica will let him know.

5. Are we going to proceed with the bridge work on Walker Brook Rd, or do another bridge or do nothing. There is currently \$99,000 in the bridge fund. Bridges were discussed. No action was taken.

8-2. JIM

Note 1. Jim spoke with the Secretary of State regarding the upcoming elections. He is open to suggestions on how to expedite the process to get people through quicker. He also noted that absentee ballots can be opened starting at 10 am. We will need 6 feet of separation. Additional voting booths can be ordered or a different configuration to improve the flow of traffic. The Secretary of State is very receptive to receiving suggestions for changes.

2. He received notification that the state bid date for the replacement of the Route 4 bridge over the rail trail has been moved out to January of next year, and they are seeking community input for a redesign of the plans.

3. There is a need to follow up on courtesy letters that were sent last year regarding junkyards and land use violations.

FYI and Review

- 4th QTR Highway block grant received \$28,484.20
- Official 2019 equalized valuations
- Letter sent to Carl Huntoon re no intent to excavate filed for 2019-2020 year. Cam Huntoon called to have one sent to him.
- Primex property and liability for 2020-2021 \$22,899 up \$1,891 from last year.
- NHES and 941 1st QTR wage reporting complete
- Unclaimed property check received from state \$86.64
- NHMA survey results
- Letter sent to Congress
- JSJ spring surplus auction cancelled
- Right to know response

At 9 pm Jim motioned to adjourn seconded by Lyn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

Next Meeting

May 13, 2020 6pm