MINUTES

SELECTMEN'S MEETING **June 19, 2023**
TOWN HALL **6:30 PM**

ATTENDEES:
Selectman Troy Merner Selectman Leon Rideout Selectman Shane Beattie
Town Manager Benjamin Gaetjens-Oleson Charity Baker Michael Nadeau
Department Heads Members of the Public Phlume Media

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Selectman Troy Merner.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES –

Fire Chief Randy Flynn reported they responded to 208 EMS calls last month – 135 transfers and 73 911 calls. They also responded to 10 Fire calls.

The new ambulance should be here this week. They are working with the fire truck company on either replacing E2 or refurbing it. He hopes to have those numbers before the budget meeting next month. Ben mentioned one of the issues with refurbing is it has to be brought up to current NFPA standards.

Police Chief Timothy Charbonneau reported they have way too much on their plate. The next week is going to be very busy along with the upcoming month.

Librarian Barbara Robarts mentioned the summer programs for kids and adults start next week. The Trustees continue to work on meeting room policy. It may be late summer to early fall before they have that in place, until they have that in place any new use of the meeting room has been suspended.

Recreation Director Eli Vincent reported they have started summer program training for the staff. They lost a couple of their older staff members that they were planning on having this year so they now need to start cutting off sign ups because they will not have enough experienced staff. The pool opens tomorrow, June 20th. The baseball season ended last week and softball will finish tomorrow due to rain delays. The new playground materials/equipment have arrived so they will be working to get that installed and finalized.

APPOINTMENT: Bob Hayden from Standard Power was present to talk about a program called Community Power. Community Power allows the town to buy electricity on behalf of their residents at much lesser cost then their current supplier. He went over what his program in conjunction with Good Energy has to offer and the process the town would go through if it was voted on at town meeting to participate in the program. There was a lot of discussion as to the contract requirements and whether the rates will change. No decision was made at this time.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Review and approval of the June 5, 2023 meeting minutes.

Motion made by Leon and seconded by Shane to accept the June 5, 2023 meeting minutes. All in favor. Motion carried.

- Sign paperwork –
    - Fireworks Permits – Thomas Schmidt, 260 North Road; Millard "Sonny" Martin, 237 North Road; Paul H Hood, 44 Pleasant Valley Road; Riverside Camping, 90 Bridge Street; Charles Martindill, 525 North Road; Andrew Buteau, 29 Kilkenny Street.
    - Timber Tax Warrant –
        - Sally Gaynor-Knecht/Nancy Gaynor, Tax Map R03 Lot 017 for $410.49

NEW BUSINESS:

- Health Officer – Ben mentioned the Board of Selectmen is considered the board of health for a municipality in the absence of a Health Officer. They are looking for someone to fill the vacancy created by Ted Joubert's departure.
- Dog List – Charity will print the list and put in the box for them to review. She is going have warrant for them to sign which directs the police department to issue civil forfeiture for each dog not licensed.

Ben mentioned the Historical Society is applying for a grant through LCHIP for $20,000 with no match required to re-side the Historical Society building. The grant application asks if the governing body is in support of the project.

Motion made by Leon and seconded by Shane to approve the re-siding project of the Historical Society building. All in favor. Motion carried.

Troy asked if the board was interested in having only one meeting a month for July and August. Shane felt he lost touch last year with only one meeting and it didn't matter to Leon. It was decided to stay with two meetings a month.

INFORMATION:

- Ben read a couple letters of appreciation and gratitude for the help of Lancaster's Police Chief Tim Charbonneau and Mechanic Tom Hickey when her car went off the road over an embankment in Northumberland and they responded quickly to assist her from the wreckage.
- Zoning Board monthly meeting notice for June 28, 2023 @ 6:30 p.m.
- NHDES Wetlands & Non-site, specific permit for David Hill, 71 Rowell Road
- Update of mapping project from Franco Rossi.
- Letter from George Sansoucy recommending the board deny the 2022 Eversource Abatement request.
- Cease & desist issued to Brad, Valerie & Hunter Griswold for their firewood processing facility until all permits, licenses and approvals are obtained.

- Land Use permits –
    - David & Donna Joki, 131 Elm Street – Construct stick-built 28'x40' single-family home on full concrete foundation
    - Jayne Tarkleson Berube, 457 North Road – Install solar arrays.
    - Waterstone NH Retail Properties LLC, 199 Main Street – Increase interior blueprint of existing 'drive-up-and-go' staging area to roughly 25'x35' with separate steel entry/exit door & curb ramp; Interior reno floor replacement, reconfiguration/remodeling of 20'x20' customer service/manager area
    - LRH-2 LLC, 55 Main Street – Construct five client exam rooms w/SB, non-load-bearing walls, one ADA BA, open rotunda area, front reception console, update existing lighting & heating, sprinkler system installed.
    - Kim & Grant Currier, 41 Gore Road – Construct stick-built 16'x24' deck on piers
    - Easter Seals of NH Inc, 525 Prospect Street – Interior renovation only: demo drop ceilings t/o & replace; demo sheetrock in 3 rooms & replace w/new walls, install 2 new sinks, 2 new toilets, 2 new showers; replace floors in 7 rooms.
    - Cody Charron & Beverly Gesel, 79 Garland Road – Permit renewal. Construct 3BR/2BA single family ranch home on full concrete foundation.
    - CMJ Revocable Trust of 2011, 202 Summer Street – Install one (option for two) 47'x11' 30,000 GWC LPG tank(s) onto 10'-wide reinforced concrete pier(s) with 11'wide footings, 2nd tank spaced 5' apart, piped to a bobtail fill station & transport unloading station, all enclosed with 60'x40' fence; construct 30'x60' concrete pad for portable LP tanks storage & staging at least 10ft from boundary.
    - Steven Millett, 40 Holton Park – Construct stick-built 12'x20' utility shed with a 6'x20' lean-to off back side.
    - James Murphy, 23 Prospect Street – Construct drive-in, basement-level, 24'x42'x13' reinforced ICF wall garage; option to construct SB garage onto cap
- Sign Permit –
    - Maggie Baker-Koval dba T Shea Potter & Home, 147 Main Street

Ben reminded the board that the 4th of July parade will be held on the 4th at 10 a.m. and line up begins at 8:30.

Public input –

There were several members of the public present to express their concerns and beliefs regarding the recent discussions over the Drag Queen Story Hour that was to be held at the library and has since been cancelled.

It was suggested to have a big celebration in conjunction with the 4th of July parade to bring the community back together.

There were also several members of the public that had concerns that residents are stating being gay is evil or the darkness which are some of terms used to describe the event.

There was very passionate discussion regarding the topic of the Story Hour which was abruptly stopped by Chairman Merner.

Motion made by Leon and seconded by Shane to adjourn. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Board of Selectmen Date: _____

Charity M. Baker

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Troy Merner

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Leon Rideout

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Shane Beattie