

TOWN OF HILL SELECTMEN'S MEETING

August 17, 2021

Selectmen Present: Tom Seymour, Shaun Bresnahan & Lisa Seymour (Administrative Assistant)

Selectmen Absent: Christopher Gronski

Public: Donald Reese, David Thomson, Thomas Angeley, Joann Irving, Stephen Thomson, Mark Labonte, Nathan Mills and Lee Herterich

Thomas Seymour brought the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Fire Dept:

Chief Moulton stated that engine 2 has had the air tank installed. However, the air horn needs a new diaphragm and he is getting parts to repair this. Dingee Machine will be in the area and will provide a quote for engine 4 so that we can sell it. We have a new employee, Stephen Arruda. He will be enrolled in a fire 1 class as soon as they are available in this area. We currently have 3 certified fire fighters and 3 EMT's. The costs for fire 1 training is currently \$135 versus the normal \$960. Chief Moulton will be sending other members to this as well. The training for fire 2 has also been decreased from \$530 to \$150. Thomas Seymour asked about the gear for new members. The Chief stated he will make what gear we have work for now. Chief Moulton mentioned that they will need to purchase new helmets because they only have a 10-year life span per NFPA Standards. Chief Moulton purchased LED lights for the fire truck bays which will make it brighter and add a level of safety when working on the equipment. In reviewing the cold air return at the fire station, it was found to be putting carbon monoxide from the truck bays into the building making unsafe. The Chief has a fan that he can install for now. Looking down the road, the building will need a new roof - perhaps metal. Thomas Seymour is working on receiving federal grant funds to help offset costs for air quality improvements. Chief Moulton was concerned about where the septic system is located because it probably needs to be pumped. There was a concern from the town residents about the amount of time being spent at the Fire Station and how they see tax dollars being spent. The Chief explained that Volunteers have spent numerous hours working at the fire station to fix issues, clean and paint. Mark Labonte has had his students for Beckett School washing trucks, painting fire hydrants and shoveling them out in the winter. Nathan Mills stated that he has had his children also volunteering and learning about the fire department. The only time the fire department employees are paid is when a call comes in and then they are paid a minimum of one to two hours.

Chief Moulton stated that the records and procedures are fourteen years behind and the State Fire Marshall could have suspended the department. Chief Moulton reviewed the Transfer Station for safety and compliance. Upon review there was a fire extinguisher that was not working, so he replaced it. Another issue is the fire extinguisher is not outside the pump room which is a problem if there was a fire in there. Chief Moulton also suggested putting an electrical shut off outside the pump room to bring this up to code. Anson Libby will provide a quote. Captain Nathan Mills stated that there is a lot of incorrect information on social media about the fire department spending money unnecessarily. The question came up about how the budget is being spent. The Chief stated that they are only purchasing items that are required to keep the community safe. They needed to update the medical supplies and repair what we have for trucks. The town of Hill is not looking to purchase an ambulance. We currently have a contract with Bristol Fire Department for this service. The State Fire Marshall is working with the Chief

Moulton on the Temsis state and federal reporting software which comes to us at no cost. Currently, they have had 82 calls this year, which is up from prior years.

Chief Moulton said the department volunteered around 24 hours during Old Home Day without pay. Mark Labonte provided kayaks at the pond for people to use at no charge.

Highway Dept: Dean Stevenson not present

Police Dept: Not present.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector: Shelly Henry no report

PUBLIC SESSION:

David Thomson was concerned about the liability to the town when the Fire Chief inspects a furnace at a new construction and who is paying for this. The Chief is paid for these inspections from the building permit fees. David Thomson feels we are lucky the town has not been sued. Insurance companies will look at both sides when there is a fire. The inspection is a state requirement under RSA 153:3 and NFPA 31. The form comes from the State of New Hampshire Department of Safety Division of Fire Safety Office of the State Fire Marshall (Permit to install and operate oil burning equipment. Please see attached supplement to these minutes.) David Thomson would like the building permit revised to reflect this requirement. David Thomson asked why we need permits for campfires. He would like to see less regulations. The question was asked when did the Fire Department become a paid department verses a volunteer department. Chief Tom Jacobs was in charge in 1990 when this changed from a volunteer department to the Hill Fire Department. These records are available in the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office.

Joann Irving stated nobody asked questions since 2018 about the Fire department and asked why they would put tires on a truck that is not functional. The Selectmen said the Fire Department didn't put tires on that truck per the instruction. Donald Reese asked if is there any written procedures on what they can be paid for. There are departmental rules written in 2009 that guide this.

Jonathan Wilson, from 17 Liden Road, came to the meeting with a complaint about a camper, porta potty and generator. A man had permission to come and help Tyler Gates cut and clean his property. However, he has been there four months. Because he has no electricity, he is using a generator for power and using a porta potty. The noise from the generator and the smell from the porta potty has made it so Mr. Wilson can not enjoy the outdoors. The camper has installed a mailbox indicating that this not a temporary situation. This is clearly a violation of the Zoning Ordinances, stated Shaun Bresnahan. The selectmen's office will write a letter to Tyler Gates requesting the camper, porta potty and generator be removed immediately. This will be sent by certified mail.

Donald Reese asked about the washout across from 40 NH Route 3A. Because this a state road, it would a question for the NH Department of Safety and/or the NH Department of Transportation to have this repaired and that office is in Enfield, NH. Donald was also wondering when the hydrants would be flushed? Chief Moulton stated it would probably be in September, but he would need to coordinate this with the Water Commissioner's because the back pressure could present an issue like on Mountain View Drive.

Mark Labonte responded to a call of no water in the trailer park. SKR is aware of this issue and is working on it.

Joann Irving asked why can't we use the generators behind the fire station or sell them. These generators belong to the government and they are on loan to us. If they are needed somewhere else, they will come and get them. Lisa Seymour will reach out the police department's Corporal Williamson and Douglas Miner on a timeline for removal. Joann was also concerned about the Cares Act money that the Jennie D Blake school received and asked if it could be used to offset costs. This will be addressed at the school meeting.

Lee Herterich is concerned about the trucks leaving the pit on Boot Jack. Dearborn Road has a blind spot and he would like to have a sign stating trucks entering to slow down the traffic. Lisa Seymour will reach out to Dean Stevenson to order a sign.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Building Permits:

James Bean – the costs for the camper pad will be \$25.00.

Stephen & Lori Hayes 206 Currier Road – Demo 6 small buildings – Approved

Intent To Cut

None

Other:

Town Warrant for Payroll and Accounts Payable – Approved and Signed

Selectmen Meeting Minutes August 03, 2021 approved as amended.

Thomas Seymour wanted to discuss the open position in the Police Department. Lisa Seymour stated that we have received three applications for the open part-time police chief. Shaun Bresnahan and Thomas Seymour reviewed the applications and would like to set up interviews when Christopher Gronski comes back from vacation.

The Selectmen received an email from Parks & Rec regarding the lack of mowing this year. "P&R would like to make you aware that the mowing at both the ball field and pond area are not being done often enough and we would like to request that both be mowed as soon as possible. The pond area has not been mowed since before OHD and it was high on that day. As we have stated before we (along with many volunteers) have put a lot of work into the pond area and we would like people to be able to enjoy it without having to walk through high grass and risk getting ticks."

Lee Herterich is the seasonal employee that does the mowing for the town. Lee was at the meeting and stated that he couldn't mow because the garage doors at the highway building were broken and can't be opened until they are fixed. Lisa Seymour will reach out to the Highway Dept to see when these doors will be fixed.

Health Issues:

Michael Gormley 14 Ferrin Street stated that there is a very strong odor coming from behind his house and it smells like dirty chickens. The Board of Selectmen will have the Health Officer look into this with her Deputy.

At 8:51 pm, with no further business to conduct, Shaun Bresnahan made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Thomas Seymour seconded the motion. All in favor

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa A. Seymour

Tom Seymour, Chairman

Shaun Bresnahan

