

TOWN OF HILL
SELECTMEN'S MEETING
October 19, 2021

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

Selectmen Absent: None

Public: Thomas Angeley, Lee Herterich, Debi Langlais, Joann Irving, Donald Reese, Mark Labonte, Natali Mills, Ellen Guild, Paul Guild, Francis Razzaboni, and Robert Schulte

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

FIRE DEPT: Chief Jamie Moulton stated that we have had 110 calls to date compared to 115 for all of last year. Mark Labonte and his group of students from Mount Prospect Academy finished painting the doors and this week they will be washing windows and prepping them for plastic for the winter as this will help reduce the cost of heating the building. Mark Labonte stated that this work is completely volunteered. Christopher Gronski offered to help with the window washing. The electrician will finish the LED lighting and this will allow better lighting in the fire truck bays. Chief Moulton asked if engine 4 can go to White farm? The board of Selectmen said yes, Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to have engine 4 (green fire truck) to go for auction. Thomas Seymour seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Jamie Moulton asked if the old cruiser at the Highway garage can go to auction with the fire truck? The Selectmen said that the cruiser has a lot wrong with it and would probably be best to just to send it to Gilpatric Metal Recycling LLC in Bristol NH.

Chief Moulton is working on the budget for 2022 and will be coming in on October 26, 2021 to speak to the Selectmen for guidance. He is looking to work on a warrant article to replace the furnace and an air quality system.

Francis Razzaboni said that if you replaced the wood stove chimney with a pellet stove you would need to reduce the chimney.

Chief Moulton inspected the Haunted House and found it meets the codes.

Chief Moulton will be inspecting any building that has over 100-person capacity per NFPA.

Chief Moulton said next year they would like to host a Haunted House at the Fire Station. This year they will have station open during Halloween.

Chief Moulton said people are talking on Facebook; they are questioning why we have a Health Officer and why two? Thomas Seymour stated that is a requirement per RSA 128 - Town Health Officers. If we don't have them it will fall onto the Board of Selectmen. Shaun Bresnahan told Chief Moulton to let the public know if they have any issues come to the selectmen meeting to discuss any issues.

Thomas Seymour will work with Natali Mills and Jamie Moulton on the issue on 20 Shop Road.

HIGHWAY DEPT:

Nothing to report at this time.

POLICE DEPT:

Nothing to report at this time

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Nothing to report at this time.

HEALTH OFFICER:

Nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Robert Shultz was concerned with the sidewalks being removed and who authorized this. Thomas Seymour stated that we had a public hearing on September 21, 2021 to discuss the removal of 450 square feet of sidewalks on the North End of Mountain View Drive. Robert Shultz stated 4 years ago we had a robust discussion about the warrant article. Shaun Bresnahan read the Warrant Article to the group as written **warrant article 9** "To see if the town will vote to establish a Sidewalk Expendable Trust Fund per RSA 31:19 – a for the removal, repair, and/or replace the sidewalks in the village and raise and appropriate \$25,000 to be put in the fund, with this amount to come from general taxation; further to name the Board of Selectmen as agents to expend from said fund. Recommendations Required. Majority vote required. Petitioned Warrant Article." In the discussion at that time Thomas Seymour stated that the sidewalks are a liability issue for the town and they need to be addressed. There was a great deal of discussion surrounding this article and many asked what the plan would be or is there even a plan. Bill Wilson explained that he had created this warrant article because nothing was being done. Gerry Desrochers explained at the time it was to start a capital reserve and that the plan would be determined along the way by the selectmen. Shaun Bresnahan stated at the 2018 town meeting the warrant article stated "...to repair, replace or remove..." and at this meeting there was more discussion to remove the sidewalks then to replace them. Robert Shultz stated that the town is historic and that the Army Corp of Engineers built them so he didn't think you can just remove them. Robert Shultz asked what is the plan for the rest of the sidewalks in town? Shaun Bresnahan said that we would like to keep the sidewalks on Crescent Street. Christopher Gronski said if they were in front of my house, I would clear them in the winter. Donald Reese stated that the sidewalks are useless and need to go.

On another note, Robert Shultz stated that Parks and Rec did a great job around the Veterans monuments and the pond. The flag should be lit at night. Robert Shultz re-painted the flag pole this summer and mounted a solar light at the top of the pole. Robert Shultz, he has noticed that the solar light doesn't last all night. He is suggesting that we have a permanent light that would shine on the flag at night. He was looking on the right side of the monument for the light and would like to drill into the backside of the monument and then dig a trench to bury the electrical wires to the gazebo. Parks and Rec claimed the Board of Selectmen said no this idea. Shaun Bresnahan doesn't like the idea of attaching the light to the Veterans monument and suggested the light be mounted to a stand-alone post. However, this would need to be discussed with Parks and Rec. Shaun Bresnahan also said that town should help with the costs because we would need the electrical work done by a licensed electrician. Joann Irving would like to see no light on the flag because she likes to see night sky and the stars and thinks the light would take away from this experience. She also felt the solar powered light works just fine.

Joann Irving started placing flags on utility poles a year ago and then asked Robert Shultz to help her with them. Joann Irving would like to see the flags around town up all year around. Robert Shultz has been maintaining the flags in the town and has added new ones and replaced broken. Robert Shultz is hoping to have them on Route 3A next year.

Lee Herterich came to speak about the police department. Thomas Seymour said Corp Williamson is taking care of the administrative paperwork. The officer that we have is not allowed to take the cruiser to his house so it stays at Corp Williamson house. Lee Herterich said that we need a full time chief or an officer full time. Lee Herterich asked if are we considering this at all. Thomas Seymour said we would be looking at \$150K to \$200K for salary and benefits. If we went with the full-time police chief, we would have to bring the highway department into the state retirement program as well. Mark Labonte is in favor of having a police department in town. Shaun Bresnahan said we are

planning to start a committee to see what direction the town would like to take and the associated costs. We currently have two former police chiefs in town that could look at pay scales to see where we fit. It was suggested that officer hours could be cut and offer more money to see if anyone is interested in the Chief's position. Christopher Gronski said he spoke with Bristol and they quoted \$184K for on call coverage which would include hiring an officer and purchasing a new cruiser. Lisa Seymour will reach out to the City of Franklin to see what they can offer.

Paul and Ellen Guild would like to have a Road Closed sign placed on the corner of Shop Road and New Chester Road. They are experiencing a lot of traffic turning around in their driveway.

Paul Guild asked how we are coming on the sewerage issue at 20 Shop Road? Thomas Seymour will reach to Corporal Williamson to see if he has a copy of the final documents from the courts. Christopher Gronski asked if we pump it can we be reimbursed for the fees. Lisa Seymour will reach out to the landowner to see if it's been pumped lately.

Cemetery Trustees presented their budget for 2022 which will remain flat funded and will continued to use J&L Landscaping. J&L contract includes 7 mowing's which includes spring and fall clean up as well. He takes care of the Center Hill Church, Ferrin, Murray Dickerson and Bunker Hill. Thomas Seymour asked if the town had any empty plots at any of these locations. There might be a couple at Bunker Hill for full burials and the possibility of having a few cremations.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Building Permits:

None

Intent To Cut

None

Other Business:

Elderly Credit was discussed for a possible warrant article. Thomas Seymour did the research to see how we compare with other towns.

Administrative Assistant Vacation Request – March 30, 2022 to April 06, 2022 – Approved

Selectmen Meeting Minutes – October 05 2021 – Approved

Driveway Permit – Lorna & Michael Platts Map R4 Lot 17 – Need more information

Driveway Permit – Lorna & Michael Platts Map R4 Lot 16 – Need more information

Lakes Region Planning Commission – 2021-2022 Planning and Land Use Regulation Book \$11.00. The Board of Selectmen have decided to purchase four books. One for the ZBA, one for the Planning Board and two for the office.

NH Association of Assessing Officials – Ballot Vote

Primex Insurance for 2022 – Property & Liability increased \$1,631.00

Primex Insurance for 2022 – Workers' Comp increased \$982.00

Primex Insurance for 2022 – Unemployment increased \$112.00

VNA FY2022 – request for funding remained the same for 2022 - \$2,500.00 and last year they provided 429 visits to the Hill residents

A.D. & G. Fuel company has joined Dead River Company – we will look at our option for a fixed buy for FY22. Lisa Seymour will do a fuel usage analysis and then look for quotes from surrounding oil companies.

Road Agent email request from Donald Reese to see why Dean Stevenson wasn't at the meeting for the Gravel Pit. Also wanted to know what he is doing on the roads. Thomas Seymour replied that no one could have known the hearing would concentrate on the roads, nor did anyone request Dean's presence.

Vachon Clukay & Company PC letter of engagement – Needs to be signed.

Need to have two days for the non-public sessions regarding tax deeding – The Board of Selectmen can be in the office if needed on October 26th and October 27th.

Christopher Gronski made a motion to enter into Nonpublic Session at 9:55 pm seconded by Thomas Seymour. Motion passed unanimously. (RSA 91-A:3, II(c))

Christopher Gronski made a motion to leave nonpublic Session and return to public session at 10:27 pm seconded by Shaun Bresnahan. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made not to seal the minutes passed unanimously.

With no further business to conduct, Christopher Gronski made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Shaun Bresnahan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously motion at 10:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Seymour

Tom Seymour, Chair



Shaun Bresnahan



Christopher Gronski

