

TOWN OF HILL SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 4, 2022

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

Selectmen Absent:

Public: David Thomson, Thomas Angeley, Frank Razzaboni, Shelly Henry and Donald Sullivan

Thomas Seymour brought the meeting to order at 6:31 pm.

FIRE DEPT:

Nothing to report at this time

HIGHWAY DEPT:

Nothing to report at this time

POLICE DEPT:

Nothing to report at this time

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Shelly Henry reported that Anne Ford and Elizabeth Meyerhoefer from the Supervisors of the Checklist have resigned. Shelly has put out some feelers to see if anyone is interested to fill the positions until elections. Thomas Angeley has been sworn in to serve on the Supervisor of the Checklist. The Supervisors term is for 6-years. The Supervisors will be meeting on January 18th at 7:00 pm in the library.

The Declaration of Candidacy will be ready for January 5th and the candidacy filing period is from January 19th to January 28th at 5:30 pm.

The Office will be closed January 17th for the holiday and January 20th.

Shelly provided an update on the open deputy tax collector position she will be posting this in the Daily Sun for two weeks. She also stated that Facebook is not the place to advertise open employment opportunities.

Shelly also mentioned that the water department has not issued the December billings which results in loss of revenue for year end. There are three commissioners: David Hemon – Chairperson, Marc Coffin and Anthony Cartier. The meter reader failed and they purchased a new one and it has been setting in the Selectmen's Office since mid Nov. The question came up whether the water commissioners are elected or appointed. Shelly will look into this. Thomas Seymour is very concerned about the meters not being read because this is going to result in higher water bills when they start reading the meters. David Thomson asked about paying ahead on the water bills. Shelly stated that he could and it would be a credit on the account. Shaun Bresnahan asked how billings were handled in the past? Shelly said when Gerry Desrochers was here, he would prepare the bills, did the warrant, and the equipment was always taking care of. The question was asked about the meter reading. The water department is responsible for reading the meters and the new equipment is in the Selectmen's office. Thomas Seymour asked how many meters there are. Shelly said about 136.

Shelly closed by saying the collection of the 2021 taxes was good; the first billing has \$40,000 outstanding. This is a 96% collection rate; the second billing has \$144,000 outstanding which is a 90% collection rate.

HEALTH OFFICER:

Nothing to report at this time.

PUBLIC SESSION:

David Thomson said that he didn't have a lot to gripe about this week. David was glad the materials for the sidewalk removal were paid from the Sidewalk Expendable Trust account; then asked about the highway department wages? Shaun Bresnahan said we pay the boys anyway we did think this was an out of ordinary expense. When Dave was talking to Lisa Seymour about the cost of the loam to do the north end of Mountain View Drive, Dean Stevenson came in. Dave Thomson asked Dean why did he use that much loam? Dean Stevenson replied that we had some 12-inch holes to fill. The question was asked why he didn't use other dirt to fill the holes before applying the loam? Dave Thomson also asked why didn't we just loam over the asphalt? Christopher Gronski stated that would not be a good idea because the asphalt still has petroleum that can seep into the ground as it decomposes. The next time that we do the sidewalks we will use sand to fill in holes before using loam. If we decided to develop a highway committee, Christopher Gonski stated that Dave Thomson would a great person to be on the committee. The highway department are shoveling the snow from the steps and sidewalk at the Town Office building.

Donald Sullivan has initiated the process to change the Primary Police Dispatch to State Police Headquarters for 9-1-1 calls. The Board of Selectmen will need to put this request on Town Letterhead and sign it for the change to be effect on January 10, 2022.

Franklin Dispatch will still be answering the 603-934-6437. Donald Sullivan said his plan to develop options for the Hill PD rebuild will be a 3-phase project.

- 1) Going through the backlog and bring things under control.
- 2) Getting together a plan that will work for the Town and presenting it to the Board of Selectmen and Public for ideas. This would be a presentation and will allow for input from the public.
- 3) Once the plan has been approved it can be implemented.

Donald Sullivan is concerned that we don't have enough money budgeted for the Police Department because we are budgeting for his time and not looking to when we are planning on staffing the department. Shaun Bresnahan replied that since there is a wide range of outcomes it will be difficult to budget an appropriate amount. If the town decides to move forward with a plan this summer or fall a special town meeting could be held to vote on an updated budget. Don thought this was a reasonable approach.

The Board of Selectmen still have not accepted the ARPA funds received because Christopher Gronski wants to submit a letter stating that the Selectboard does not support mandating COVID-19 vaccines for contractors.

BOARD BUSINESS:**Building Permits:**

Nikolaos Manolis 109 King Road: The zoning board minutes states under the conditions of "Grand Fathered" approval, the applicant was advised that a Variance was unwarranted. The applicant was instructed to update the Article 4 requirement with the Merrimack County Registry of Deeds and then reschedule with the Selectmen's office to obtain a building permit on the same lot. Shaun Bresnahan informed the board he had asked for clarification from the ZBA regarding their decision and if they did consider the fact that the applicant was moving the location of the replacement dwelling. They feel that the approval is for the lot and as long as the replacement dwelling is within the lot and meet applicable setbacks it is grand fathered.

Intent To Cut

Thomas Whitman Notice of Intent to Cut Wood or Timber – Signed

Other Business:

Shaun Bresnahan addressed David Thompson's request to dissolve the Sidewalk Expendable Trust Fund account. Shaun Bresnahan is not comfortable in dissolving this because it was a petitioned warrant article where at least 25 townspeople signed a petition to create it. The Selectmen should have a warrant article to remove the opposite side of Mountain View Drive. This will create a good debate of the towns people. The public hearing held for the work last fall was poorly attended.

It was suggested to write a thank you letter to Corp Andrew Williamson for his years of services and helping during 2021. Thomas Seymour will develop a draft.

On January 11, 2022 we will be discussing the fire department wages with the Fire Chief.

There is concern about the Highway Department and how it is being run. The Selectboard thought things were okay but the last 3 years there has been a decline in quality and the amount of work. Christopher Gronski said it would be nice to know what they are doing instead of just a code on the time-sheet. Weekly logs would be much more helpful; Lisa Seymour will look for reports filed by the former Road Agent that show the highway departments daily activities.

The Highway Reconstruction projects are usually done in August since everyone takes vacation in July; in September they are getting the roads graded for the winter. In the spring, after mud season, they are grading the roads.

The catch basin system in the village needs repairs because they are crumbling and will create a liability on the town if someone falls into them.

Shaun Bresnahan will take the lead on helping the highway department.

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to enter into Nonpublic Session at 8:07 pm seconded by Christopher Gronski. Motion passed unanimously. (RSA 91-A:3, II (c))

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to leave nonpublic Session and return to public session at 8:11 pm seconded by Christopher Gronski. Motion passed unanimously. Motion made to seal the minutes passed unanimously.

Shaun Bresnahan discussed the proposed changes in the driveway permit process. The planning Board can appoint the selectmen as AGENTS for issuing driveway permits. Since we issue Building Permits this is a logical change. The Planning Board is in favor of this change.

Christopher Gronski asked if we had any word on the gravel pit. There has been a request for a rehearing to review the zoning board decision.

With no further business to conduct, Shaun Bresnahan made the motion to adjourn the meeting Christopher Gronski seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously motion at 9:04 pm.


Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Seymour

Tom Seymour, Chair



Shaun Bresnahan



Christopher Gronski

