

TOWN OF HILL

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

January 18, 2022

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

Selectmen Absent:

Public: Thomas Angeley, Shelly Henry, David Hemon, Donald Sullivan, Benjamin Jones, Tiffany Jones and Joann Irving

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

FIRE DEPT:

Chief Moulton reported that last year ended with 140 calls and the previous year they had 114 calls.

Engine 4 has been taken to White Farm which has opened up space at the Fire House. Chief stated that they are still cleaning out old parts for trucks we don't even own anymore. There are several old Self-Contained Breathing Apparatus (SCBA) units that are not functional and they would like to strip them and send them to White Farm as well.

They have found two fireproof cabinets but only one locks. Nathan Mills ordered more N95 masks and Envo masks. Chief stated they are going through these quickly.

Jamie Moulton explained the fire on Rte. 3A which closed that portion for a good portion of the day. It also demonstrated why the Hill FD needs a Combi Tool for vehicle extractions. The Association would do fund raising to purchase this tool. The forest fire sign is going to be removed in the next week and repaired for the spring.

Doug Miner, the Fire Warden for this area, has retired and will be missed.

Chief Moulton has received the new handheld lights. These have a spotlight and floodlight feature which will make firefighters safer at fire scenes and could be used at town events such as skating on the pond.

Chief Moulton has been approached about flooding the pond for skating events. They would also like to have a bonfire; the Chief will be there to monitor the event so the bonfire will not get out of control. The skating event will be sponsored by the Parks and Rec Department.

Chief Moulton is working on a map of the fire hydrants with water pressures for the system; and there are two hydrants out of service.

The Board of Selectmen discussed the fire department wages and asked if \$9,000 was going to be enough because of the increase of calls and the added paperwork required by state law. For the Chief's administrative wages, they would like a detailed timesheet. Questions were raised about the state required boiler inspections. Shaun Bresnahan suggested charging a fee per inspection and paying the Fire Chief a flat rate with the balance going to an offsetting revenue account. Fire permits will need research to see how these are paid for. Chief Moulton will contact the Fire Warden for this information. The Fire Chief has been working about 40 hours a month on administrative paperwork.

Thomas Seymour asked about the status on the 501c3 for the Fire Association so they can start fundraising for items that they need for the fire department. The officers are as follows: Mark Labonte President, Stephen Arruda Vice President, Shelley Moulton Secretary, William Machado

Treasurer and Marissa Sylvestre Assistant Treasurer. The final decision on fundraising events will come for the Chief Moulton.

Chief Moulton has pricing for the security lighting and smoke detectors from Mango Security.

Chief Moulton provided an update on the apartment building at the end of Commerce Street it doesn't look like it will be habitable for a while with the damage in apartment 5. He will keep us posted.

Lisa Seymour reminded the Chief that Department of Safety still has grant money available and he needs to move forward with the portable radios at OME.

HIGHWAY DEPT:

Nothing to report at this time

POLICE DEPT:

Donald Sullivan provided an update on the progress he has made in the office. Don has been taking inventory of what the department has and we currently have 6 computer towers that need to be wiped and destroyed, the Tasers that we have are currently out of service and not sure if they can be repaired because of their age, 3 body cameras, 2017 Explorer cruiser with 78,000 miles which is in storage currently, and several other items.

The State Police will be driving through periodically, they have no set schedule. Again, Don stated that this will be a three-step process and now he will be adding a fourth component which will entail case files, warrants and permits. Don reported that at this point in time we have no outstanding items.

As result of the cleaning and sorting he has two tables full of trash and debris for the transfer station. Lisa Seymour will reach out to the Highway Department to remove it.

Don will be reaching out to Advance Lock & key to open the safe. Don Sullivan asked who does the Town of Hill use for Animal Control? Currently there is no contract with a shelter.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Nothing to report at this time.

HEALTH OFFICER:

Nothing to report at this time.

WATER DEPARTMENT:

David Hemeon, the Water Commission – Chairperson, would like to move the computer and files to the selectmen's office for more accessibility and hire a meter reader/secretary to create a better process flow. Marc Coffin would facilitate the move because he has the IT knowledge. Shelly Henry would continue with the billing and payments. Shelly has concerns regarding the printing of statements or records for the residents if the water computer is in the Selectmen's office because she cannot leave her office to post and print statements. David Hemeon said that they would make it so she would be able to remote into the computer and print to a local printer.

Shaun Bresnahan asked if the Town Clerk/Tax Collector was required to be involved in the water department billing and collections. Shelly responded that it's a utility payment and the Town Clerk/Tax Collectors Office is required to post and collect payments. Christopher Gronski stated that the access to the Selectmen's office would be limited because this is a secured area and is accessible only when Lisa Seymour is in the office. It was suggested that they look downstairs for a suitable location. There is the storage room that the town and school use we could notify the school that they need to clean items out. Thomas Seymour suggested, the area across from the Police Department. If they were to move across from the Police Department, they would have better access

to the network and possibly the phone system. Shaun Bresnahan will contact Dr. Brian Connelly at the school about the storage area in the basement.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Joann Irving inquired about the warrant article for Elderly Credit Exemption. Thomas Seymour stated that we have created a warrant article to address the concerns with the income limits, assets and the residency requirement. There has been a lot of research done to see if we are in the range with other towns similar to our size, annual appropriation, and tax rate per thousand. The census in 2019 showed that Hill currently has 112 residents that are 65 or older. There are 16 households that are female and living alone and 12 households that are male and living alone.

BOARD BUSINESS:

Building Permits:

Nikolaos Manolis 109 King Road – needs an energy audit and an updated septic plan

Benjamin & Tiffany Jones – 18 Clough Road Map R7 Lot 25 New Construction 28' x 40' 3 bedroom & 2 ½ bathroom ranch with new septic and well. – Approved

Intent To Cut

None

Other Business:

Ferrin Fund withdrawal from 2021 was never requested from the Trustees of the Trust Funds. It was discussed that if we didn't need it, we should not request the funds. Because this was voted on by the residents, we are obligated to request the funds. Shaun Bresnahan made the motion to request the Trustee of Trust Funds transfer of \$33,360.70 from the Ferrin Fund as approved at 2021 Town Meeting. Christopher Gronski seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously. Lisa Seymour will create the request to move the \$33,360.70 from the Ferrin Fund.

The Board of Selectmen discussed the legal expenses that the Town could incur if the Town were taken to court to challenge a decision. We don't budget for a major legal case. Shaun Bresnahan will draft a warrant article to create an expendable trust fund for this purpose. A question was asked if we don't use it for legal expenses what would it be used for? It would remain in the fund until needed. This will be drafted to state that no funds to be raised by taxation and the Selectmen are agents to expend from said fund.

The Board of Selectmen were presented with a request to appoint Barbara P. Libby as the Deputy Treasurer. Thomas Seymour made the motion to appoint Barbara Libby as the Deputy Treasurer for the Town of Hill in Judy Brady's absence. Christopher Gronski seconded the motion. All in favor. The Board signed the appointment form and Shelly Henry will perform the Oath of Office with Barbara Libby.

David Testerman sent an update on the state redistricting and Hill will no longer be in district one as they have been moved to district two.

There was discussion on the status of the roads and sanding of the parking lots by the Highway Department. The Board of Selectmen understand that they have been shorthanded due to illness in the department. There was a discussion on what is required of an employee to return to work after being out three or more days; they need to have a doctor's note to return. This is stated in the employee handbook. If one needs to leave for other reasons during their shift they need to clock out and back in upon returning. They are currently working 7:00 to 3:30 and the Board of Selectmen would like to have a daily report of what is going on in the department not just a code as currently reported.

The Board of Selectmen will be holding a non-public meeting on February 1st from 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. This meeting will be held in the Selectmen's Office and then at 7:00 pm the board will recess to the Hill Public Library for the regular meeting.

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 9:26 pm.

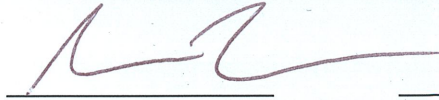
Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Seymour

Tom Seymour, Chair



Shaun Bresnahan



Christopher Gronski

