

TOWN OF HILL

SELECTMEN'S MEETING

July 2, 2024

Selectmen Present: Frank Razzaboni Chairman, Shaun Bresnahan, Stephen Thomson & Lisa Seymour (Administrative Assistant)

Selectmen Absent:

Public: Shelly Henry, Joseph Guerriero, Gregg Paradise, Mark Labonte, Niki Mahoney, David Thomson, Paula McDonough, Joann Irving, Jamie Moulton, Natali Mills, Nathan Mills, Joseph Sullivan, Stephen Arruda, Keith Mcleod, Stewart Mcleod, Ellen Guild & Paul Guild.

Frank Razzaboni brought the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

HIGHWAY DEPT:

Gregg Reported that the fire alarm has been repaired and working. We have received the 55-gallon drum of motor oil. Shaun Bresnahan asked about how long will it last? Gregg stated 4 months. We are currently installing new culverts on Bunker Hill in preparation for the paving. However, we are running into issues with the soil being very poor and the depth of the culverts. In areas there is less than 1' of gravel and most of what we are dealing with is large rocks and our equipment can't handle it. Stephen Thomson asked how many have been completed? Gregg said we have completed two of the 13 that need replacing. Jeff from R&D called and has a couple of openings this month. Gregg asked if we could have Danny from SKR to come in to help with the 30" culverts because he has the excavator and equipment to handle this. Stephen asked if the culverts have been purchased? Shaun yes, they have been and they are currently using them. Stephen asked how did we pay for them? The funding came from the \$14,000 Road reconstructions funds from the State. Currently we have \$5,350.40 left so this money can be used to offset the cost for SKR to help with the culverts on Bunker Hill Road. Stephen asked wasn't this part of the warrant article that was approved? Shaun stated that article covers reclaim and paving for \$184,000. Stephen thought it covered the culverts as well. Shaun said we worked on the warrant articles as a group.

Article 3: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$184,000 to reclaim and pave approximately 5,800 feet of Bunker Hill Road; It is anticipated that \$35,000 will come from the Highway Block Grant, and the remainder from taxation. (Recommended by the Budget Committee and Selectmen). With little discussion it PASSED.

Joann Irving inquired would did the estimates? This was put out to bid before creating the warrant article. Nathan Mills asked if we could take monies from the Capital Reserves Funds? It's possible however the selectmen are not agents to expend and this would need to be a warrant article next year. Shaun Bresnahan said that we are over extending the department. The question was raised about hiring another person for seasonal work? Gregg said in the past the roads were never done correctly. Nathan Mills asked looking forward can see what the capital reserve funds are being used for. Gregg stated currently we only have a compactor that allows us to do six inches at a time and most of the culverts are over 12' deep. If you don't this right in five years you will have the same issues that you have now. Gregg also said we can't move the rocks with our equipment. Stephen Thomson asked if Danny can do this before the paving dates?

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to spend up to \$5,000 to install the deep culverts using SKR to perform the work. Stephen Thomson seconded the motion. Roll call: Shaun Bresnahan yes, Frank Razzaboni yes and Stephen Thomson yes.

Gregg brought to the attention what we are paying to dispose of tires and what we charge and it doesn't even come close. Gregg will review the fees at the Transfer Station and the Board will review before the increases are presented at a public hearing. Gregg also brought up that we don't charge for propane tanks but we have to pay to get rid of them. Shaun Bresnahan suggested that we have a workshop to discuss the price changes.

Gregg was asked about the progress of the stairs project to the ballfield? Gregg still has a few more grades to shoot and then he will finish the report and send it to the selectmen's office tomorrow.

Frank Razzaboni had the Erich Petty look at the Highway Garage while he is here for future budgeting. Erich quoted \$4,100 to stain the building and when looking at the building they found that some of the texture two siding need to be replaced these are 4' x 8' sheets. The pole barn would be an additional \$1,200. David Thomson is concerned if we are going to just do it.

The issue of the car parts being dumped out on Murray Hill Road was discussed. This started from the Danbury side to about where it meets Currier Road. Shaun Bresnahan said Chief Guerriero will be on the lookout for this activity.

TOWN CLERK/TAX COLLECTOR:

Shelly reported that it is deeding time the letters will be issued on July 25th and September she will be deeding the properties. She provided the list to the Board of Selectmen so they can be working on these properties.

The election processes are going to be changing for all elections. One of the changes will be the handicap booth will need to be used at all elections and the state will let us use theirs in th 2025 but after that we will need to purchase our own. The ballots will no longer be done at the town office they will be done electronically. Shelly did mention that there are grant options for these tablets.

The first half tax bills are 89% collected.

Shelly will be on vacation next week. The town office will be open the normal hours and Karen will be covering.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Mark Labonte reported that he put in a PO for the Image/Rend software program. This software is for improving operational efficiency and strategic planning through optimized incident reporting, personnel management, equipment tracking and regulatory compliance for the fire side and on the EMS side the software is used for streamlining patient care data capture, enhancing patient care accuracy, boosting operational efficiency and facilitating information exchange for rapid response and analysis. This information is cloud base and allows for a quicker reporting structure for the required NFIRS reports. The costs for the software is \$1,000 and the Hill Fire Association has donated \$500 to offset the cost of the purchase.

Shaun Bresnahan made a motion to accept the \$500 donation from the Hill Fire Association for the purchase of the Image/Rend software program. Frank Razzaboni seconded the motion. Roll call: Shaun Bresnahan yes, Frank Razzaboni yes and Stephen Thomson yes.

The balance will come from the administration wage line. Frank made a motion to accept the \$1,000 PO and see how this works for one year.

Hill currently has had 70 calls.

The propane tank for the emergency has failed the inspection and will need to be repaired. Dead River will send an estimate on the repairs. There is a coupling that will need to be changed to a flex

coupling. The electrical black iron pipe needs to be bonded. Currently there is 55% propane in the tank.

POLICE DEPT:

No Report at this time.

HEALTH OFFICER:

No Report at this time.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Niki Mahoney asked about purchasing 100 40 lbs. bags of rubber mulch for the playground area? The board agreed to move forward to purchase the rubber mulch.

Frank Razzaboni made a motion to accept the purchase order for 100 40 lbs. of Playsafer Rubber Mulch Black and authorize the purchase. Shaun Bresnahan seconded the motion. Roll Call: Frank R. yes; Shaun B. yes and Stephen T. yes.

Joann Irving mentioned that concert at the pond and was concerned about the area being mowed in time. Joann hired an individual to mow by the gazabo. Shaun reached out to Niki about the mowing and stated that it is on a two-week rotation and that the mowing will be done before the concert.

Paula McDonough reported that someone has driven through the round about where they planted the flower garden. She said that they will be putting a flagpole there on July 8th and then a granite sitting area. She has also placed blocks around the round about to deter people from driving through. If you don't like I have plan B. Paula would like the town to look it did years ago. Chief Guerriero will keep a watch on this section of town to see if it continues. Joann Irving inquired as to who will be maintaining Paula replied that she will be maintaining the area.

Jamie Moulton has a concern about the fire hydrant because now it is exposed and could be potential hit. Paula has but post around it.

Gregg Paradise has a concern as well regarding the snow removal with the posts that has been installed because that is where all the snow goes and the posts will not survive the winter.

Joseph Sullivan resigned from the Fire Department because he has some concerns the way the department is being run.

Stephen Arruda resigned because he feels that the current leadership doesn't have the skill set.

Joseph Sullivan and Stephen Arruda are level 2 fire fighters, EMT certified and have swift water certified.

Paula the New Fire Chief has skill sets and has been there longer than other people. She also added that we certify this people and then they leave.

Keith McLeod received a letter regarding the house next to the pump house on Murray Hill Road. Mr. McLeod addressed the letter he received and asked what do I need to do? Shaun Bresnahan stated that you will need a driveway permit and this would come from the State of NH. After that is completed then you will need to file a building permit.

SELECTMEN BUSINESS:

Building Permit:

Brian and Lynda Williams 72 Tioga Road Map R13 Lot 04 Garage 3 Stall with 2 small rooms with a bathroom – Renewal approved at no charge.

Driveway Permits: None

Intent to Cut: None

Yield Taxes:

Stephen Robie Murray Hill Road Map R6 Lot 12. Approved

Abatements:

Matthew & Amanda Blouin 526 Murray Hill Road Map R3 Lot 03-01 signed

Other:

The PO threshold will remain at \$350.00 with an addition to state if it is an emergency contact the Chairman of the Board of Selectmen. Shaun Bresnahan will make the changes and send to the office for final review and approval.

Ferrin fund release. Article 7: To see if the Town will vote to withdraw \$26,274.28 from the Edwin F. Ferrin Memorial Trust as per the trust document to be deposited in the General Fund to offset General Government Expenses. Passed

The request has been written and approved to move the funds by the Trustees of Trust Funds.

Article 4: To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate \$36,000 for the purpose of crushing approximately 6,000 cubic yards of gravel, and authorize the withdrawal of \$31,500 from the Gravel Crushing Capital Reserve Fund created for that purpose, which the Selectmen are agents to expend from. The balance of \$4,500 to come from taxation. (Recommended by the Budget Committee and Selectmen)

Gravel Crushing request of \$29,875 for reimbursement from the Gravel Crushing Capital Reserve. Was approved and signed by the selectmen.

Repairs and Painting of the Town Hall Article 8: To see if the Town will vote to change the purpose of the Building Improvement Capital Reserve Fund established in 1995 for Accessibility and Security Measures to now include the Maintenance and Repair of town buildings and to authorize the Selectmen as agents. (Recommended by the Board of Selectmen) 2/3rd vote required). There was discussion, Selectmen, Shaun Bresnahan speaks to the meaning of the Article 8. Resident Barb Libby, asked the balance of the Capital Reserve which Shaun Bresnahan answered approximately \$57,000. The article passed with 93% in favor.

Erich Petty Painting LLC has been hired to do the exterior painting and necessary repairs to the Town Hall. The request has been written and approved to move the funds by the Trustees of Trust Funds of \$13,450.00 from the Building Improvement Capital Trust Reserve to pay the deposit for the painting and repairs.

Frank Razzaboni asked Erich Petty to quote the painting and repairs for 62 NH Highway garage for next years budget.

Wages increases were discussed and to set a date for a Non-Public Workshop. The Board agreed to July 10th at 5:00 pm.

Run checks for the Fire Department payroll – Approved

Utility contracts for the propane and heating oil Dead River has provided a contract price as of 07/01/2024 for heating oil and propane the prices continue rise every week and would like to lock in

our price soon. Foley Oil and Propane would like an opportunity to quote pricing however they will need a usage report. Lisa Seymour will prepare the consumption report.

Close the Hill Fundraising account. Article 9: To see if the Town will vote to discontinue The Hill Fundraising Trust established in 1998. Said funds and accumulated interest to be placed in the town's general fund. (Recommended by the Budget Committee and Selectmen) (Majority vote required) Discussion: Shaun Bresnahan explained that this was requested by the Trust Fund Trustees. The balance in this account is approximately \$1,014.00. Passed

The request has been written and approved to close The Hill Fundraising Trust and deposit the funds in the General Fund.

We have an increase issue with trash on Murray – car parts, plastics, etc. The highway department has been clearing this and bring it to the transfer station. Gregg Paradise contacted Joseph Guerriero to keep a look out for this on other roads in Hill as well.

Rod Wood will be here on July 22nd and he is currently working on the full reval

Update on the RFQ's for logging of Town Property. Shaun has been working on this as of current we have none.

William O'Conner has an appointment with the Planning Board on July 18th to discuss the next steps in acquiring the road frontage needed to build on his lot.

Lisa Seymour asked if she can order stamped envelopes because the postage is increasing on July 14th another \$.05 per letter.

Frank Razzaboni made a motion to approve up to \$500 to purchase 500 stamped envelopes before the price increase. Stephen Thomson seconded the motion. Roll call: Shaun Bresnahan yes, Frank Razzaboni yes and Stephen Thomson yes.

With no further business to conduct, Stephen Thomson made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Shaun Bresnahan seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously motion at 9:13 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lisa Seymour

Frank Razzaboni, Chair

Stephen Thomson

Shaun Bresnahan
