

SELECTMEN'S MEETING - TUESDAY, JANUARY 21, 2020

Present: Chairman Karl Ekstedt, Selectmen Kathy Chase, Sean Roche and John MacLeod and Town Manager Jon Carter.

Excused: Selectman Tim Roche.

6:00 PM – SELECTMEN'S MEETING

MUNICIPAL OFFICERS BUSINESS / PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. ***Public Hearing on the proposed amendments to Chapter 86 (Beaches) as it pertains to the use of shading devices and to prohibit camping on beaches.***

Last summer there were a number of complaints about large tents and umbrellas taking up room on the beaches and being left overnight to stake out spaces. Much equipment was damaged during storms and the debris was left on the beaches. In response to residents' complaints the Town Attorney researched other beaches along the Atlantic coast and found restrictions on such items during the summer season. Tents for shading babies are allowed. Mr. Carter read the proposed ordinance into the record.

Public comment was solicited. Several residents spoke about the dangers of items left on the beach. The dimensions of a "baby tent" in Section F. are too small for an adult to get inside the tent and care for the baby. The dimensions should be removed from that section. Seniors need protection from the sun at the beach, and the shelter dimensions should consider their needs. The Parking Committee is considering 8AM-8PM as the hours for the parking lots. The consensus of the Board was to change the hours in Section C. to "8 PM and 7 AM" for prohibiting shading devices on the beaches. Enforcement was discussed. There are many people on the beaches: piping plover monitors, bike patrols and lifeguards. Violations would be called to Wells PD and an officer would address the situation. The penalties will be included in Section 86-6.1 of the ordinance. The Parking Committee is working on signage.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to close the public hearing and amend Chapter 86 as submitted to the public, with the changes to Sections C and F. Passed unanimously.

2. ***Public hearing to release up to \$60,000 with half from the Public Safety Bond Project Fund (0840) and the other half from the Facility Maintenance and Repair Fund to proceed with crushing operations of a large pile of materials from project sites around Wells including an amount from the Public Safety Complex Site that has been placed in the Highway Garage Pit.***

The PWD recommends crushing and using this material for Swamp John Road and other projects in Town. We propose using funds from the two facility repair funds. Some funds are already budgeted and this would help us catch up. Ms. Murray will investigate obtaining grindings from the Turnpike and allowing people to drop off their unwanted material for the Town to crush.

Public comment was solicited. There was a suggestion to make this part of the regular budget yearly and not use an emergency fund.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to close the public hearing and release up to \$30,000 from the Facility Maintenance and Repair Fund and up to \$30,000 from the Emergency Facility Repair and Energy Efficiency Improvement Fund for a total of up to \$60,000. Passed unanimously.

3. ***Town of Wells, 208 Sanford Road, Wells, application for a Liquor License for the Taste of Wells Benefit Event on February 9, 2020 at York County Community College. (N)***

Public comment was solicited and there was none.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to close the public hearing and grant the license. Passed unanimously.

4. ***Cardinali's Restaurant Inc., dba: Fisherman's Catch, 134 Harbor Road, Wells, application for Extension of Liquor License on Premise. (N)***

Public comment was solicited and there was none.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to close the public hearing and grant the license. Passed unanimously.

5. ***Richard M. Varano, dba: Varano's, 60 Mile Road, Wells, application for a full-time Malt, Vinous and Spirituous Liquor License. (R)***

Public comment was solicited and there was none.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to close the public hearing and grant the license. Passed unanimously.

6. ***Good News***

The Public Works Department did a great job plowing after the recent storms. We have received many compliments for Public Works and Public Safety for their hard work.

7. ***Open to the Public***

~There was a question about public hearings, the amount of Board discussion at meetings, and do the Selectmen discuss things in advance.

Public hearings are scheduled two weeks in advance to allow time for public input. They are posted in the newspapers and Town web site. People who can't attend a meeting can call Town Hall or send e-mails. Board members receive their packets in advance but are not permitted to discuss those topics outside of the meetings. The meetings now begin at 6 PM and the entire meetings are televised. Previously workshops were not televised and the public did not have the benefit of Board discussions.

~Efficiency Maine has a campaign to install 100,000 heat pumps during the next 5 years. The Energy Committee would like the town to participate in this effort to reduce the carbon footprint. Cars are responsible for about 60% of the greenhouse gas emissions in the State. Estimates are that these emissions must be reduced 7 ½% annually worldwide to prevent catastrophic warming. Scientists are calling this a climate emergency. The energy on our grid in Maine is more than 50% from renewable sources, so by driving electric cars the fossil fuel emissions are reduced in two ways: cleaner cars and cleaner energy generation. The Governor's program provides rebates for heat pumps and people are pleased with their efficiency and cost savings.

CURRENT AGENDA ITEMS

1. Review and action on Accounts Payable and Payroll Warrants.

There is a Warrant dated January 21, 2020 with expenses of \$563,683.92, school payment of \$1,683,283.58, net payroll for the week ending 1/9/2020 in the amount of \$78,966.07, net payroll for the week ending 1/16/2020 in the amount of \$78,165.04, and FICA, Medicare, state and federal withholding taxes filed electronically in the amount of \$64,488.25 for total expenses of \$2,468,586.86.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to approve and sign the Warrant dated January 21, 2020 in the amount of \$2,468,586.86. Passed unanimously.

There is a General Assistance Warrant dated January 21, 2020 in the amount of \$4,455.70 including \$2,833.17 for General Assistance and \$1,622.53 from the Special Fuel Fund. The balance in the fund is \$40,741.36.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to approve and sign the General Assistance Warrant dated January 21, 2020 in the amount of \$4,455.70. Passed unanimously.

2. Update, discussion and action on Committees, Projects, Issues, Purchases and Personnel:

a) Discussion and action on setting a public hearing on enacting Chapter 20 (Police) as it pertains to establishing a Police Ordinance and Police Department and its powers under applicable state law and outline jurisdictional and prosecution authority.

The Police Department is requesting national certification and there is a requirement for an ordinance establishing the Police Department.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to schedule a public hearing on enacting Chapter 20 (Police) as it pertains to establishing a Police Ordinance and Police Department and its powers under

applicable state law and outline jurisdictional and prosecution authority for 6 PM February 4, 2020 in the Littlefield Meeting Room, 208 Sanford Road, Wells. Passed unanimously.

b) ***Discussion and action on approving a request from the American Diabetes Association for The Kennebunks Tour de Cure bicycle tour through Wells on June 14, 2020.***

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to allow the Kennebunks Tour de Cure Bike Tour through Wells on June 14, 2020 along the route and schedule proposed and reviewed by the Wells Police Department. Passed unanimously..

c) ***Discussion and action on approving a request from the Northern New England Chapter of the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation for the CF Cycle for Life bicycle tour through Wells on July 11, 2020.***

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to allow the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation Bike Tour through Wells on July 11, 2020 along the route and schedule proposed and reviewed by the Wells Police Department. Passed unanimously.

d) ***Discussion and action on abating property taxes.***

~\$167.14 for parcel 0048/011-000 Josephine F. Matthews Revocable Trust. The property has been purchased by the Town.

~\$182.42 for parcel 0150/033-014 at 2295 Post Road #14 owned by John and Kirsten Watson. The unit has been removed.

~\$207.08 for parcel 0073/002-073T at 146 Bypass Road 73T owned by Kyle Hampson. The unit has been removed.

~\$254.37 for parcel 0043/005-006 at 150 Chapel Road 6 owned by Dan and Terri Sanborn. The unit has been removed.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to grant the abatements as read. Passed unanimously.

e) ***Discussion and action on amending the Town's mileage reimbursement rate from \$.58 per mile to \$.575 to reflect the change in the Federal IRS rate.***

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to amend the Town's mileage reimbursement rate from \$.58 per mile to \$.575 effective January 22, 2020 to reflect the change in the Federal IRS rate. Passed unanimously.

f) ***Discussion and action on Updates, Personnel and Committee Assignments, Resignations and Issues.***

1. ***Town Manager—None***

2. ***Selectmen—None***

g) ***Discussion and action to accept donations and bequests.***

1. Receipt of \$25.00 from Robin Fagerlund to the Town of Wells for the Fuel Assistance Program Fund.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to accept the generous donation and write a letter of thanks to the donor. Passed unanimously.

2. Receipt of \$300.00 from St. Francis of Assisi to the Town of Wells for the Fuel Assistance Program Fund.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to accept the generous donation and write a letter of thanks to the donor. Passed unanimously.

3. Hall Family Foundation donation clarification. At the January 7 meeting this was reported as a \$45,000 donation for the Library. This is for landscaping work to be done next spring at the Wells Public Safety Complex which the Hall Family is donating.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to have the Selectmen's minutes of January 7, 2020 amended to reflect the correct information regarding the donation of the Hall Family Foundation for landscaping work and accept the generous donation and write a letter of thanks to the donor. Passed unanimously.

4. From the Hall Family Foundation the balance of the original \$500,000 match to construct the Library addition and renovation be kept by the Town for use by the Library for projects in the amount of \$62,298.84.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to accept the generous donation and write a letter of thanks to the donor. Passed unanimously.

5. Receipt of \$22.00 from various Library users to the Wells Public Library.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to accept the generous donation. Passed unanimously.

6. Receipt of \$25.00 from Patrick Theriault to the Wells Public Library in appreciation for assistance from Andrea Kazilionis.

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to accept the generous donation and write a letter of thanks to the donor. Passed unanimously.

h) ***Discussion and action on approving minutes of January 7, 2020 Selectmen's meeting***

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to approve the January 7, 2020 Selectmen’s meeting minutes. Passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Open to the Public

~The proposed Deputy Fire Chief position was discussed. Chief Vetre had worked extremely long hours before his illness. A Deputy Chief would help with administrative matters, calls, and overnight shifts. This seems to be a better position than adding a fulltime firefighter for daytime and weekend shifts.

Union negotiations and the Budget Committee’s work are underway. A decision will be made by mid-March about putting the question on the June ballot.

~There was a comment about appointments to the Comprehensive Plan Update Committee. There were 27 applicants interviewed and 11 appointed. There was an objection to the lack of geographic balance and diversity of backgrounds, as 7 individuals are in the real estate sales/development/construction fields.

~The process for the latest Comprehensive Plan seems to be flawed. When people were gathering signatures for the recent petition, it appeared that residents are concerned about the Town’s growth.

2. Town Manager’s Report

~Walden Renewables is holding an informational meeting Wednesday, January 29 from 4:30-6:30 at the Library. This will be a public forum on the solar array project.

~A date for the first CPUC meeting will be determined, preferably before the end of January, to orient the members. A recording secretary and camera operator will be hired and regular meeting dates will be selected.

~The Wells Sanitary District is holding a public hearing Tuesday, January 28 at 7 PM at YCCC on rate adjustments.

3. Adjournment

Motion by Mrs. Chase, seconded by Mr. Roche, to adjourn. Passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Accepted by,



Cinndi Davidson

Cinndi Davidson,
Meeting Recorder

[Signature]

[Signature]

