

TOWN OF EATON, NEW HAMPSHIRE 03832

EVANS MEMORIAL BUILDING

BOARD OF SELECTMEN

April 4, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen took place on Tuesday, April 4, 2023 at the Evans Memorial Building. Present were Dick Fortin, Ed Reilly and Greg Grinnell. The meeting was called to order at 3:00 pm.

The Board reviewed checks and signed the Accounts Payable manifest for \$17,760.27 for 19 items.

Marnie Cobbs met with the Board to review the sample contract with Star Tree Wildfire Protection for the Foss Mountain burn this year. Marnie Cobbs explained that in the past the US Forest Service conducted the burn. Marnie Cobbs noted that US Fish & Wildlife contracts with Star Tree to perform the burn and that the Conservation Commission will be contributing \$2000 received from the US Fish & Game to the cost of this burn. Dick Fortin explained that he contacted Center Conway Fire Chief Glenn Merrill to advise that Star Tree would be reaching out regarding the controlled burn. ***Ed Reilly made a motion, seconded by Dick Fortin, to approve the Conservation Commission moving forward with the contract and burn by Star Tree Wildfire Protection. Motion unanimously carried.***

The Board reviewed the Minutes of March 7, 2023. ***Dick Fortin made a motion, seconded by Ed Reilly, to adopt the Minutes as written. Motion unanimously carried.***

The Board reviewed the Minutes of March 14, 2023. ***Dick Fortin made a motion, seconded by Ed Reilly, to adopt the Minutes as written. Motion unanimously carried.***

The Board reviewed duties of the Selectmen for the next year. Dick Fortin was appointed to the Conservation Commission, Ed Reilly was appointed to the Capital Improvements Committee and Greg Grinnell was appointed to the Planning Board. The Board discussed their meeting schedule and agreed to begin their meetings at 3 pm. The Board will reach out to the Town of Conway to determine the Lower MWV Solid Waste District meeting schedule.

Dick Fortin gave an overview of the recent NHMA training on First Amendment Audits and requested that each Board Chair be asked if they attended the training.

Dick Fortin explained that during the recent house fire in Eaton, he attempted to reach out to individuals for assistance. It was noted that the contact sheets are being updated as part of the Emergency Operations Plan and will be distributed. Dick Fortin explained that after discussing the E-911 numbers with Fire Chief Glenn Merrill, it was suggested that a letter be sent to residents emphasizing the importance of posting their house number so that emergency responders can locate their property.

The Board discussed soliciting information from residents for the purpose of creating a critical property list to assist the Town in identifying those individuals who might need assistance during power outages. Information on the Eversource Municipal Hub used to track and report power outages will be reviewed at the next meeting to determine how to list the properties as critical.

Greg Grinnell explained that he has been contacted regarding the possibility of installing cell towers in the Town, as there is no cell or internet service when power is out. Greg Grinnell noted that two towers would potentially provide cell service in Town and that it should be pursued for emergency purposes.

Trustees Jane Gray, Elaine Klose and Victoria Murphy joined the Board to review a proposed amendment to the Cemetery Regulations. Elaine Klose asked the Select Board about when a cemetery plot is marked. Dick Fortin stated that plots are marked when the four corner markers are placed or a headstone is set, and a burial scheduled. It was noted that the proposed amendments to the Cemetery Regulation will be made and presented for adoption by the Selectmen at their next meeting. Dick Fortin questioned whether the trees along the north boundary of the cemetery should be cut now or should the tree removal wait until expansion is necessary. Jane Gray suggested removing the trees before additional headstones are placed in that area. It was noted that there is need for placement of a turn-around for equipment and other vehicles. The Cemetery Trustees and Select Board will discuss placement of a turn-around with the Road Agent.

The Selectmen and Trustees reviewed and amended the current Investment Policy. The Policy was approved as amended for the ensuing year.

Dick Fortin stated that he is working on the road listings where the Road Agent and his staff utilize turn-arounds during snow and ice events. Dick Fortin noted that most turn-arounds are located on private property and suggested that the Highway crew rake out two turn-arounds that have some ruts and damage as a courtesy to the landowner.

Greg Grinnell raised the issue of the school contract and questioned how to obtain voter input. Dick Fortin noted that the Eaton School Board makes the decision on the contract. Ed Reilly stated that the Select Board needs to understand it's role during the contract process. The Board requested that the current school contract be forwarded to Town Counsel for review and guidance on the Selectmen's role relative to the contract process.

Ed Reilly indicated that he will work on an update to the Town's Employment Policy, and that the Board should keep the applicable Hazard Mitigation items on their agenda.

Signature items included MS-232 Report of Appropriations Actually Voted, Permit for Use of Town Lands, NFIP Community Acknowledgement Form, Employment Agreement and correspondence to Nancy Spaulding of NHDOT, Jamie Rose, Steven Farrell and Kirk Roberts.

The Board reviewed and adopted the Governmental Entity Resolution for TD Bank and signed all applicable documents.

Alice Burns met with the Board regarding the missing sign to indicate that the Town Hall is the Evans Memorial Building.

The Board reviewed a letter from Ken McKenzie regarding veterans' tax credits.

NHDRA submitted information on the 2021 Full Statistical Revaluation and Sales Monitoring.

NH Attorney General's Office submitted information on the Carroll County Communications District Agreement and Bylaws.

The Board reviewed information from Primex regarding cybersecurity.

Tax Collector Heather McKendry submitted a copy the BTLA Notice for the Selectmen's files.

The Board reviewed information from Homeland Security regarding funding for the December 2022 severe winter storm. It was noted that documentation will be submitted for FEMA funding.

NH Municipal Association submitted Legislative Bulletins #12, #13 and #14.

The Board discussed possible members for the Capital Improvements Committee so that the Committee can be formed within the next few weeks.

Ed Reilly made a motion, seconded by Greg Grinnell, to appoint the following Zoning Board members for three-year terms: Steve Larson, Megan Hoffer and Alternate Joel Wasserman. Motion unanimously carried.

Ed Reilly made a motion, seconded by Greg Grinnell, to appoint the following Planning Board members for three-year terms: Dennis Sullivan, Kevin Conklin and Alternate Frank Holmes. Motion unanimously carried.

Ed Reilly made a motion, seconded by Greg Grinnell, to adjourn the meeting. Motion unanimously carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lianne Boelzner

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