

Office of Board of Selectmen

143 Main Street, P.O. Box 310, Belmont, New Hampshire 03220-0310 Telephone: (603) 267-8300 Fax: (603) 267-8327

Selectmen's Meeting Agenda Monday, June 6, 2022, 9:30 a.m. Belmont Mill Tioga Meeting Room

Present were Chairman Ruth Mooney, Selectman Jon Pike, Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., TA Alicia Jipson, Barrett Salta from BPS, Doug Proctor, Assessing Admin Colleen Akerman, DPW Director Craig Clairmont, DPW Assistant Director Brian Jackes, Building & Grounds Supervisor Patrick Golden, Building Inspector Russ Wheeler, Parks & Recreation Director Danielle St. Onge, Police Chief Mark Lewandoski, Police Lieutenant Evan Boulanger, Fire Chief Mike Newhall, and Jessica Ellis. Via Zoom was Assistant Fire Chief Deb Black, Finance Director Katherine Davis, former Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin, and "Belmont Library".

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

New Business

The Board discussed future renovations of the Belmont Mill building with Barrett Salta and Doug Proctor. Selectman Pike commented that Town Hall Staff needs to be involved in plans for the move to ensure that space needs are met. Security and traffic flow are also concerning. The current Town Hall building may be used in the future for Parks & Recreation and the Senior Center. The current Mill layout plan should be converted into a list of space needs for better evaluation. It is important to take the future needs of the Town into consideration when planning. There was discussion with Building & Grounds Supervisor Patrick Golden about the age and condition of the elevator. It is an old elevator and it has been difficult to come by some parts for repairs and maintenance as they are no longer in production. A small conference room on the main floor would be beneficial, particularly if the elevator is down for any reason and people can't make it upstairs. Furnace and ventilation needs were also reviewed. Staff input will be requested with regards to determining space needs for the Mill.

The regular meeting was opened at 10:07 am.

Minutes

Selectman Claude Patten, Jr. moved the minutes of the meeting held on May 9, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Jon Pike, and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Pike moved the minutes of the meeting held on May 16, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., and the motion passed unanimously.

Selectman Claude Patten, Jr. moved the minutes of the meeting held on May 23, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Jon Pike, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing - NH Office of Highway Safety Funds Grant \$30,667.50 (RSA 31:95-b):

Chairman Ruth Mooney opened the public hearing at 10:08 am in accordance with RSA 31:95-b to accept \$30,667.50 in funds from the NH Office of Highway Safety.

Chief Lewandoski explained that the Department has been very fortunate to get a lot of grants and free money in the last year. Police Lieutenant Evan Boulanger explained this grant from the State normally requires a 50/50 match from the Town. However, there are extra funds available this year and it is a 75/25 match to get a speed radar display trailer and several additional highway safety patrols. This unit will also "talk" with the radar board at the school zone. It can be accessed using a laptop on the road or at the Police Department.

The public was invited to ask questions. Ms. Sharon Ciampi asked how this will deter people from going fast. Lt. Boulanger said data will be collected that will allow targeted patrols of problem areas and times. Ms. Ciampi asked if there are records of how many people get pulled over and how many people get tickets. Lt. Boulanger said yes. Lt. Boulanger said there is also an electronic message board that the Town could use.

The Chairman closed the public hearing at 10:15am.

Selectman Pike, motioned to accept the Belmont Highway Safety Grant from the NH Office of Highway Safety in the amount of \$30,667.50 for the use of several highway safety patrols and the purchase of a Speed Radar Display Trailer, seconded by Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Conservation Commission Appointments- Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., motioned to appoint Richard Moreau to the Conservation Commission as an alternate member for a term to expire on 2023, seconded by Vice Chairman Jon Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Conservation Commission Appointments- Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., motioned to appoint William Riley as a Student Member to the Conservation Commission as an alternate member for a term to expire on 2023, seconded by Vice Chairman Jon Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Deputy Forest Fire Warden Appointment- Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., motioned to appoint Jennifer Sole as a Deputy Forest Fire Warden for the Town of Belmont, seconded by Vice Chairman Jon Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Home Day- Parks & Recreation Director Danielle St. Onge said she is looking for the Town portion of vendor fees to be waived and for approval of road closures for Old Home Day. There have been a number of new positions, employees, and promotions this year and the theme is "The Magic Starts with Us" Selectman Patten motioned to waive the town vendor fees for organizations, clubs, and small businesses for Old Home Day; seconded by Selectman Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman Mooney motioned to grant permission for the closure of Center Street and Main Street (between Depot Street and School Street) for the hours of 8:00 am-12:00 pm for the Belmont 10

Mile Road Race and other Old Home Day events, seconded by Selectman Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Letter from Anonymous-TA Jipson noted that an anonymous letter was received from someone who passes through Town regularly and recommends the flag located at the intersection of Main Street and Route 140 be removed. Chairman Ruth Mooney said the Town can't enforce removal as it is freedom of speech. The Selectmen agree with the letter but there is nothing that can be enforced.

.gov Domain Name Change- TA Jipson reported to the Board that Primex recommends changing to a .gov domain name in an effort to make everything as secure as possible. The Board signed an authorization to allow the Town Administrator and CCS to make the changes for the new domain.

Pennichuck Water Discussion- DPW Director Craig Clairmont reported that with recent employment changes in Town, they have reached out for a price for Pennichuck to oversee the Town's Water System. There are some details to work out but the Town will still handle the day-to-day things and doing the final meter readings and billing. Former Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin explained that a new contract was provided to combine the existing services and new services. There was discussion about the cost savings with the contract compared to two water/sewer employees. It will be a 2.5-year contract and they hope to start July 1st. DPW Director Craig Clairmont stated that DPW will need to hire another employee to help absorb the loss of the two Water/Sewer employees. Those employees helped with plowing and other DPW duties when necessary. It was the consensus of the Board to proceed with the revised Pennichuck contract. Final details will be worked out and a new contract brought forward for signatures.

Seavey Road Update- DPW Director Craig Clairmont has received cost estimates for Seavey Road and expects a portion of the project cost to be covered by the School District. There will be adjustments made to the parking lot at the high school for things to transition well. He is looking for permission to put the project out for bid. Chairman Ruth Mooney said it would be great to have this project done before school starts. Craig indicated that Seavey Road won't be completed this year because a freeze/thaw cycle is necessary before the shim and top coat. It was the consensus of the Board to allow putting the project out for bid. DPW has received good pricing from their paving contractor. Things need to be addressed on South Road from Shaker Road to Route 140 or it will need to be completely reconstructed instead of getting a shim and overlay. Asphalt costs are going up. They expect to work on half of Durrell Mountain Road. Highway Reconstruction Funds can be used to finish Plummer Hill, which needs shoulder work and more underdrain to address water issues from the winter. There is money in the budget and funds available from the State that must be used or lost. Former Town Administrator Jeanne Beaudin noted that work on Durrell Mountain Road may be completed as part of the "Special" funds that need to be used for a project that is not part of routine or annual road maintenance. DPW Director Craig Clairmont also mentioned there is a proposal to grind up old pine that has been building up in a Town pit for 15 years. One quote was \$5,000. There is another option for someone to do the work for free in exchange for fuel costs.

Next Meeting Date- Monday, June 20, 20022 at 10:00 am.

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman

Jon Pike, Vice-Chairman

Claude B. Patten, Jr., Selectman

Minutes recorded by Administrative Assistant Colleen Akerman