



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

Monday, May 16, 2022, 10:00 a.m.

Belmont Mill, Tioga Meeting Room

Present were Chairman Ruth Mooney, Selectman Jon Pike, Selectman Claude Patten, Jr., TA Jeanne Beaudin, Assistant TA Alicia Jipson, Fire Chief Mike Newhall, Police Chief Mark Lewandoski, DPW Director Craig Clairmont, B&G Supervisor Patrick Golden, Kevin Sturgeon, Building Inspector Russ Wheeler, Park N Rec Director Daniele St. Onge, School Superintendent Mike Tursi. Finance Director Katherine Davis, Assistant Fire Chief Deb Black and Sharon Ciampi were present via Zoom.

Those present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes

Selectman Claude Patten, Jr. moved the minutes of the meeting held on May 2, 2022 as written; seconded by Selectman Jon Pike, and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Skatepark Discussion- Superintendent Mike Tursi addressed the Board noting that the School Board have been approached by the Friends of Aaron Roberts Skatepark about using the land in front of the school. The school board has met 2x and discussed the topic. They talked with Primex about the liability as there are concerns. Mike asked the BOS if they are willing to lease or purchase the piece of property. Selectman Mooney responded that she believes the groups 1st choice is the land by the Fire Department, and that the school land was identified as their 2nd option. TA Beaudin noted that there is a meeting today at the FD as that parcel was the only one identified in the pre-application and that there is still much needed work to be done to move forward. We didn't identify the school as an option as we didn't have that option on the table before. If you were going to entertain that spot then you would need to have further discussions as to price. Selectman Pike added that we need a backup choice for this group. The 2nd site may be more cost effective in the long run. TA Beaudin added that the time frame for the grant funding has closed and we will have to move forward at this time with the current location, and what happens to that school land will need to be voted on by the voters. The school district will need to move forward with getting approval to the voters. You could use RSA: 41 but you don't have the funds to put forth so you would need to go to the voters. We have to make it clear to the group that the 2nd site could take 1 to 2 years out before they build. They will meet today with the grant people and see if they feel it will rank high enough to actually move forward for an actual grant. It will take a lot from the group to formulate this grant application. TA Beaudin has reached out to DOT about the sidewalk

and if they foresee any issues and there are still some unanswered questions. TA Beaudin asked if the school board would be willing to facilitate the processing moving forward quicker to consider selling it to the friend's group and then once it is done they would sell it over to the town to take over and maintain. If the town has to raise and appropriate funds it may have an easier time passing. Mr. Tursi responded that it is his understanding that the friends do not have the authority to buy.

Conservation Commission Appointments- Emilie DeFrancesco has requested to be appointed to the Conservation Commission as a student member with a term expiring her senior year in 2024. Selectman Mooney motioned to appoint Emilie DeFrancesco to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire on 2024; seconded by Selectman Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Susan Irving has requested to be appointed to the Conservation Commission as a full member, she is currently serving as an alternate member with a term expiring in 2025. Selectman Mooney motioned to appoint Susan Irving to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire on 2025; seconded by Selectman Patten and the motion passed unanimously.

Pauline Tessier has requested to be appointed to the Conservation Commission as a full member, she is currently serving as an alternate member with a term expiring in 2023. Selectman Mooney motioned to appoint Pauline Tessier to the Conservation Commission for a term to expire on 2023; seconded by Selectman Pike and the motion passed unanimously.

Firefighter New Hire- Fire Chief Newhall is recommending Jennifer Sole for the position of fulltime Firefighter. Jennifer comes to us from Wolfboro Fire Department. She is finishing up her degree in Fire Science at LRCC. She comes with great raving recommendations. She will be starting at a Grade 9 Step 1, with a start date of May 23rd, 2022. Selectman Patten motioned to authorize the hiring of Mrs. Sole; seconded by Selectman Mooney and the motion passed unanimously.

Old Business

Casella- TA Beaudin discussed our current contract with Casella stating that currently under the existing contract Casella has been picking up the recycling at no cost. That services under any agreement would have gone away regardless. There will be a real education and push for recycling as it is less expensive per ton. On average we started collecting 20,000 tons now currently at 47,000. That's 23,000 tons of non-Belmont trash. The host fees will continue and will go into the general fund as offsetting revenue. Disposal will go up \$27 per ton and that is across the state. Casella will work with the residents to decide the best can size that benefits them, as we have concerns from elderly residents. Ron Mitchell reached out asking if Casella register's their trucks here, and yes, they do. Moving forward they will be new trucks and more revenue coming in. Yes, we know it will be a change going from putting a bag out vs putting it in a container, but overall will be better as it will be more regulated. The commercial waste will continue as it had in the past. TA Beaudin did reach out to the school district letting them know that their trash is included in our contract, she did say we were not asking for them to pay, but just wanted to let them know this has been a service the town has paid for. This will be about a \$200,000 increase on our trash collection budget on an annual basis which we would have paid regardless since the contract is ending. Towns around us are paying for recycling removal. The other positive Casella will have complete inventory of the containers they will replace the containers, so it will not be the responsibility of the Town. The barrels are \$150. We have applied for a grant that will help us pay for the cost of the recycling containers. Director of Public Works Craig Clairmont asked how is the public going to get

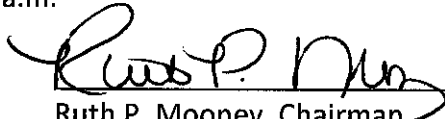
educated? TA Beaudin responded that we are going to set up information on the website, send out flyers, they seem really willing to work with the community. The Casella contract was signed and approved by the board.

Mill- Selectman Pike asked where do we stand with the renovation? Selectman Mooney responded that she is trying to get her person working on it, but he is very busy. Selectman Patten asked if he's busy why can't we just hire someone else? Sonny indicated that he spoke with Barrett from BPS and they are willing to look at the Mill for us to give us an idea, when we are ready. TA Beaudin indicated that she can reach out to Barret and see if he is free and if he can take a look at it and invite him to our next meeting.

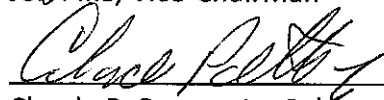
Police Dept. Grass- TA Beaudin asked Police Chief how the grass issue was going? Chief responded that they scrapped off the rocks and re-seeded. There is no outside water spicket to keep it watered. TA Beaudin suggested that the Board authorize that we get a plumber hired and install an outside secured spicket. Site work is to be done at the end of June.

Next meeting will be June 6, 2022 10:00 am

The meeting adjourned at 10:57 a.m.


Ruth P. Mooney, Chairman


Jon Pike, Vice-Chairman


Claude B. Patten, Jr., Selectman