SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday April 9, 2024 Town Hall – Main Room 6:30 PM

Select Board members present: George Willard, Bill Ezell, and Ken Caisse Other Attendees: Tim Fiske, Steve Cullinan, Jim & Pam Kingston, Peter Allen, Barbara Thorngren

Meeting called to order by Ezell at 6:30 PM.

Chairman Comments: None

Public Comment: None

Old Business:

- **1.** Code Enforcement Officer, Parking/Zoning Fee structure update *No Update*.
- **2.** Investment Policy update *No update*
- 3. Radar Signs No update
- **4.** Discuss creating a school study committee *Ezell noted that Dublin and Francestown have already voted to create a school feasibility study committee and they would like us to have one too. Ezell moved to create an ad-hoc school study committee to report back to the town and the selectboard, with members and terms to be determined. Caisse seconded, all were in favor, motion passed. Ezell noted he will put something on the webpage to get volunteers.*
- **5.** Remaining \$3,000 ARPA funds use vote: Cullinan requested \$3,000 for the purchase of multi directional microphones on the stage will which help the production quality of the sound. Caisse noted this may help with all the set up we have to do for meetings so it's a win-win. Cullinan noted the Rec committee has concerts and it will help them too. Ezell moved to allocate \$3,000 ARPA funds for the purchase of the multi directional microphones for the town hall. Caisse seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.
- **6.** Vote to not allocate the \$4386 ARPA funds for the security system -*Ezell moved to take back the \$4386 allocated from the ARPA funds for the alarm system, and put it back into the ARPA fund. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.*

New Business:

- <u>Community Power coalition update:</u> No Report
- <u>TLUC Plans:</u> Fiske stated the TLUC would like to use money from the expendable trust to hire an architect to do a plan for the town and a complete study of moving the highway dept and what that entails. Fiske noted this is not cheap, about 20K+ noting there is 36K sitting in the account that was allocated for this use. Ezell agreed and said he believes this was within the scope of what they can do with the money. Fiske noted this will give us a plan for the future and it will be a forever plan. Ezell stated they should come up with what

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they want to do and what it is going to cost and come back to the board to authorize. The board stated they are all ok with the committee moving forward on this.

- <u>School Board Status:</u> Jim Kingston thought it would be a good idea to report to the select board occasionally on what is going on since the school is a large part of the budget. Kingston noted the first withdrawal feasibility study meeting is Thursday. Any feasibility study regarding withdrawal in Temple would have to be approved at town meeting so holding a Special Town Meeting was discussed. Kingston noted part of the feasibility study would be to determine the towns tax liability to the school district. Kingston noted there are some large ticket items that are coming up in the very near future noting there will be a window of lower liability for the town if they were to withdraw before 2025. Kingston noted the strategic organization committee has been disbanded for now. Willard noted that since Dublin and Francestown have voted to have a feasibility study, the entire district is paying for that.
- <u>Assign a SB member to the Conval feasibility study group.</u>: *Ezell noted both Dublin and Francestown have voted to have a feasibility study which is basically a procedure and comes down to each town which will consist of a school board member and a selectman attending, who will end up voting. We have to have a school board member and a selectman in this group. Ezell offered to be Temple's Select board member and will notify them. Ezell added we will probably have a forum too.*
- <u>Create an ad-hoc committee for BAC data processing:</u> Ezell noted that the BAC committee had a member Mike Darnell that maintained detailed spreadsheets. Since Darnell is no longer on the BAC committee, they would like to entertain creating an ad-hoc committee. Other options would be to train someone on how to take over the spreadsheet. It was decided to have the BAC chair come to the next meeting to discuss further. Also, Willard moved to appoint Mike Darnell to the CIP committee. Ezell seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Reappoint Emily Sliviak and Deb Harling ZBA committee term 3 yrs.</u>: *Ezell moved to reappoint Emily Sliviak and Deb Harling to the ZBA committee for 3-yr terms. Caisse seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Reappoint Gretchen Whitcomb to the Rec commission term 3 yrs.:** Caisse moved to reappoint Gretchen Whitcomb to the Rec commission for a 3-year term. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Reappoint Ken Caisse & Tom St. Cyr Historic District commission term 3 yrs.</u>: *Ezell moved to appoint Tom St. Cyr to the Historic district commission term 3 years. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed. Caisse is the Ex-officio and does not need reappointment.*
- <u>Reappoint Carole Singelais Deputy welfare term 2 yrs.</u>: Ezell moved to reappoint Carole Singelais as deputy welfare agent term 2 years. Caisse seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Remove absent members from the HGSG Pickman, Boot & Lynch:</u> *Ezell moved to remove absent members Allan Pickman, Kathy Boot and Laura Lynch from the HGSG committee. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.*

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- <u>Approve Building permit app Deck- 141 General Miller:</u> Caisse noted that everything looks fine and therefore he moved to approve the building permit application for 141 General Miller highway. Ezell seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Approve Veterans credit application Kingston:</u> Ezell noted that Avitar has recommended approving the application as all requirements were met. Caisse moved to approve the veterans credit application for Jim Kingston, Ezell seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes March 26, 2024</u>: Caisse moved to approve the minutes from March 26, 2024 as amended. Ezell seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

Other Business:

- <u>Certification of Yield tax Willard –</u> Caisse moved to approve the certification and Yield tax warrant for Willard. Ezell seconded, Willard abstained, motion passed.
- <u>Town hall fee waiver Thorngren –</u> Thorngren asked for the opportunity to use the town hall once a month on the 3rd Sunday from 7-8pm for "Peace Sunday" which will focus on singing, prayers, poetry and sharing. Willard asked if this is a religious event. Thorngren responded it is focused on peace and she is only promoting kindness. Willard noted there should be a separation of church and state and added that he feels this is a great idea. Ezell noted it must be non-denominational. Thorngren is aware and will follow all rules. Caisse reminded the board that Thorngren does a lot for the town and he moved to waive the fees. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Civic Plus .gov account</u> Ezell noted he has created a .gov domain which is in addition to our .org. Civic plus will charge \$75 to have it work the same as the .org account. Ezell moved to proceed. Caisse seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.
- <u>Price to revamp the wiring at the common for the well</u>-Caisse updated he got the quote to revamp the panel on the common to tie into the new well. The amount is between \$2,500 and \$3,000. Ezell moved to approve spending up to \$3K for the electrical panel at the common for the town well with monies coming from an account to be determined later. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.

Committee Updates: None

Non-Public Session : None

Meeting Adjourned: Motion to adjourn by Ezell, second by Willard, Meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM

<u>Next Select Board Meeting</u>: The next select board meeting will be held on Tuesday April 23, 2024 at the Town Hall main room at 6:30pm. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais

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