

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday February 23, 2021

Via Zoom Call

6:30 PM

Select Board members on the call: George Willard, Bill Ezell, and Ken Caisse

Other Attendees: Connie Kieley, Christine Robidoux, Gail Cromwell, Vivian Wills & Bill McDonnell

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

Chairman Ken Caisse Remarks:

- ***Caisse reminded participants that the meeting was being held electronically pursuant to Executive Order 2020-04, Section 8, Emergency Order #12, Section 3.***

Public Comment:

** Cromwell stated she disagreed with the statement on Feb 9th that potentially only 10-15 people would attend the school ballot vote. She noted there are 140 Temple students which means that 200+ parents would vote since they want every penny spent on the students. She noted that an additional 100 town's people would attend and vote "no" on the school budget since it will raise taxes.*

**Cromwell also mentioned that the voting date card that was mailed out was the same design that Connie Kieley created a couple of years ago. Cromwell felt that volunteers should be taken care of better and that Connie should have been asked ahead of time if it was ok to use it, and she should have been thanked for her design. Ezell and Willard then thanked Connie for her past work on the date card.*

Old Business:

- **Marsh Litigation Update:** *Ezell mentioned that the mediation hearing is scheduled for March and in addition to our legal representative, at least one of the selectmen should also attend. Ezell volunteered to attend the daytime meeting and Willard noted he may join in as well.*
- **Safety Committee Update:** *Caisse noted they needed to schedule a Safety committee meeting at the next select board meeting.*
- **Update on Town Report Dedications:** *Willard noted he was working with Peggy on Joe Cournoyer's dedication and Caisse noted he will follow up with Caswell and Marsh. Ezell added that he had received a call from Dick Benotti about putting up a plaque in honor of Joe, possibly at the ballfield. Ezell asked that this be added to the next agenda.*
- **Update on COVID19 initiatives:** *Caisse noted that the news reports have been good and that more and more people are getting vaccinated.*

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New Business:

- **Discuss plans for new EMD:** Caisse noted that Bill McDonnell had sent the board a letter of interest and that his qualifications sounded very good. He also noted that McDonnell is on the fire department roster. Ezell commented that he spoke with McDonnell and his background and work with the fire department, makes him a good fit for the position. Willard made a motion to appoint Bill McDonnell as the new Emergency Management Director. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. McDonnell thanked the board and John Kieley for his service and help with the transition. He also noted his extensive background in radio and emergency communications and his involvement with the Amateur Radio Emergency Service in both Mass and NH. Caisse invited McDonnell to attend select board meetings and provide updates on COVID.
- **Old Fire Truck:** Caisse noted that Tim Fiske was asking the board about selling the old fire truck. Caisse noted Fiske has found a place in PA that will handle the sale. It is not known how much it is worth until it is evaluated stated Caisse. Willard asked if we could get bids first. Caisse noted a highway dept truck will also be for sale soon. Ezell said the highway truck is easy to list but a fire truck is a specialty item that is more difficult to sell. Caisse noted that in PA all they deal with are Fire trucks. Ultimately it was decided to table the discussion until the next select board meeting in order to do more research and have Fiske attend to ask more questions. Willard motioned to table the discussion on the sale of the old fire truck until the next meeting. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.
- **Isabella Martin:** Caisse noted there has been a lot of confusion on what Ms. Martin needs to do to have a change of use for her new venue. The ZBA and Planning board are meeting with counsel to find out what the correct process is to make sure everything is done correctly.
- **Consider re-voting on change to town meeting scheduling:** Ezell noted that per legal advice, he is making a motion to rescind the vote from the last meeting on Feb 5th to move the ballot voting date to March. Willard seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Willard then moved to have the town ballot voting take place on March 9, 2021, Caisse seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Connie Kieley commented that it was clear that this was just a rouse. She feels the decision was made ahead of time noting the voting date card mailer already went out. Ezell noted this is a procedural move that legal said to do. Cromwell added that this is hilarious and is basically an admission that what they did before was illegal. Ezell explained further that this is for the benefit of the town not the select board, to head off any possible challenges of the validity of the budget hearing and that is why it was done. Vivian Wills asked for clarification on what she just heard about the re-vote which Ezell provided.
- **Discuss & Approve Warrant and Budget:** The select board assistant noted the warrant articles have been entered into the DRA portal and recommendations have been made by the state. Regarding article # 16, new Radios for the Fire Department, it is required to state the total cost of the radios in the wording, therefore, at town meeting a motion to change will need to be made. Caisse noted he has all of the figures now and they will address at town meeting. Caisse noted that George Clark will

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not hear until August or September if we will get the grant. The select board assistant also noted that we had to remove article # 17 for the Recreation department noting the DRA said we must approve RSA 31:19 first to accept donations, which we will have to do next year. Willard made a motion to table article 17 until next year. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Vivian Wills asked who are we supposed to ask about warrant articles? Legal, DRA? She would like to know if there is a recommended point of contact to discuss the administrative parts. It was noted that the DRA is accessible and there are other resources such as the NH municipal association and Terry Knoll from the charitable trust. Ezell motioned to accept the warrant articles as amended. Willard seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.

- **Next SB Meeting date:** *Since the next regular select board meeting date is March 9th which is voting date, the board decided to meet on Monday March 8th instead.*
- **Review Abatement Application:** *– The select board discussed the hardship application for a tax abatement noting it was not clear what exactly the applicant wanted. Robidoux added there is a list of resources from the CARES act that support housing and other needs and that the Welfare officer has a lot of information. The select board assistant will find out what the applicant is asking for, what other resources she has reached out to, and suggest she contact the welfare officer as well.*
- **Approve Solar permit Application – Kelley – Thomas Maynard:** *– Willard motioned to approve the solar permit application for Kelley. Caisse seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Approve Occupancy Permit – Bloemker – West Rd:** *Caisse motioned to sign the certificate of occupancy, Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Approve Certification of Yield taxes and Warrant – Foley:** *– Willard moved to approve the yield tax & Warrant. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Approve Meeting Minutes Feb 9, 2021:** *– After discussion and corrections, Ezell motioned to accept the minutes as amended. Willard seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*
- **Approve Meeting Minutes Budget Hearing Feb 11, 2021:** *– After discussion, Caisse motioned to accept the minutes as written. Ezell seconded, Roll call vote was unanimous in favor.*

Other Business:

- Robidoux updated that the Broadband committee has a meeting with CCI to talk about the process going forward on March 5th.
- Willard mentioned that Eversource sent a request form asking to cut down a couple of rotted dead trees in town at no cost. Willard moved to sign the request form, Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Willard will be in the office to sign.
- **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:20 PM. Motion by Ezell, second by Willard, roll call vote Ezell yes, Willard yes, Caisse yes.

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Next Select Board Meeting: Monday March 8, 2021 at 6:30 PM. Remote numbers will be provided in the event we are still handling meetings remotely. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais