

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Tuesday, July 14, 2020**

**Via Zoom Call**

**6:30 PM**

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

**Other Attendees:** John Kieley, Connie Kieley, Lauren Judd, Christine Robidoux, & Carole Singelais.

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 Comments:**

Connie commented that she had an issue with the recently distributed Town of Temple Financial Policy & Procedure manual. She was unclear why she was on the distribution list that included all committee chairs, employees, and elected and appointed officials. She also was surprised that the document was approved by the SB and encouraged them to review it again and find out what a town policy should really look like. She also felt that it was aimed specifically at her and stated that she will never again purchase anything for the town under the current SB administration. She also asked to be removed from distribution lists. John also commented that the document was unworkable and wondered why no other committees were asked for their opinion. Ezell commented that 95% of the document was written by Gail 2 years ago and 5% from him. Ezell acknowledged that the previous policy's signature page was added last minute and should have been better reviewed and modified before distribution. He will follow up and make any necessary changes. Caisse also commented that the updated policy had nothing to do with Connie, it was simply to satisfy the State and Federal laws and our town Auditors.

**Old Business:**

- **Marsh Litigation Update:** *Bill received word that this case was going to trial in January. John reported that they are still bringing in junk. Bill indicated that mediation is mandatory and will take place prior to the trial.*
- **Discussion on outdated Elderly & Veteran's Exemption amounts:** *Ken said this will need to go to town meeting so they plan on having it ready then.*
- **Update on Emergency order #25 (Authority to grant blanket abatements of property tax interest).** *Caisse said we are standing on the original assumption that we won't address unless we have to.*

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**New Business:**

- **COVID19 update** – John Kieley updated the board with recent news including the statistics from states that have relaxed their rules and as a result, are seeing spikes in cases and therefore are retracting backwards. He continues to support a safer at home stance, and keeping our buildings and outdoor properties closed. He commented that surrounding towns that are opening outdoor activities are doing so with paid personnel to oversee things. He thinks that maybe opening the Tennis courts with a sign up scheduling process, might be doable however, the SB assistant would need to handle it. John also mentioned that the elections moderator received a document from the state with all the PPE needed for town elections. Also, he mentioned that with the increase in absentee ballots, there is going to be a lot of work to do in September and November and there may be a staffing issue as a result. Willard commented that other towns are opening their ball fields and our kids are having to travel to practice on those fields. He asked why can't we allow that in Temple and motioned to re-open the ballfield and town Common for public use, while adhering to all the current safety protocols. There was no second and Caisse commented that we are following Primex's guidelines and need the signs put up before they can even consider it. The SB assistant mentioned that the 12 aluminum signs were shipped today and are at the office ready to install once the locations are determined. Ezell asked John what his thoughts were on allowing individuals only to use the Common and ballfield. Kieley said walking is very good but without staff to monitor, it will be difficult to enforce guidelines. Bill motioned to update the town COVID statement on the webpage to include the wording that town properties can be used for individual activities, as long as guidelines are adhered to, and that no group activities are allowed without SB approval. Ken seconded. Roll call vote Ken yes, Bill yes, George abstained. George followed up saying that he is disappointed that the ballfield and Common cannot be opened fully. Caisse said once the signs are up, they will revisit. The SB assistant updated that the health screening checklist and temperature taking has begun at the Office, Library, Highway dept. and Fire dept. However some are refusing to comply. Caisse said the person's name and the words "refused" should be noted and filed with the other forms. John said he will reach out and try to resolve. Connie commented that the board should research the guidelines for SB members abstaining from roll call voting. She feels it is a copout and unless there is a conflict of interest, the town expects elected officials to vote Yay or Nay.
- **ADU discussion – Lauren Judd** - Lauren spoke about her efforts to convert her garage into an accessory dwelling unit for her mother. She believes that her situation is perfect to explore how we can assist aging residents in Temple. She said things are in place and she will be applying for a permit and special zoning allowances. Caisse said as long as she goes through zoning first, he is 100% behind her and agrees this is a good pilot and a great idea. Bill commented that zoning changes have to go to town meeting so the planning and zoning boards need to be involved. Christine commented she has spoken with Lauren and agrees Temple needs to offer diverse housing for the Elderly, Single parents, Children, etc. and is in favor of what Lauren is trying to do. George also commented he supports their efforts.

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- **Cemetery Trustee Request** – The board approved Maggie Heck’s request to be appointed Cemetery trustee for 1 year. Motion by Ken, Seconded by Bill, roll call vote Ken yes, Bill yes, George yes.
- **Thank you letter –Jeta Grove** – The board agreed to send the donation thank you letter with one modification. Motioned by Bill, George second, roll call vote Ken yes, George yes, Bill yes.
- **Approve Permit (30X34) Garage – Desmarais** –The board approved this permit application.
- **Approve Permit (Solar) – Raczek** –The board approved this permit application.
- **Approve Permit (Solar) - Kelley** – The board approved this permit application.
- **Approve Certification of Yield tax – Schickel/Wilson** The board approved the forms.
- **Approve Permit Application (Barn) – Poirier** The board approved this permit application.
- **Approve PA-28 Inventory of Taxable Property 2021** – *The board approved the completed document.*
- **Approve PA-16 Application for Reimbursement to Towns** - *The board approved the completed document.*

**Other Business:**

Bill asked about a DAM deficiency notice they received a copy of. Willard said there is no action needed from the SB, it is between the State and the resident.

SB assistant notified the board that the Town Clerk has left the Civil forfeiture list at the office for their signatures.

Connie mentioned the financial document deficiencies again. Bill said they will work on corrections for the next meeting.

Caisse asked the other SB members if one of them could attend the recycling center’s 2<sup>nd</sup> Qtr. meeting on Thursday. The time was changed from 8:00am to 10:00am and therefore he could not attend. Bill said he would go.

**Committee Reports:**

***SAC Meeting*** – George reported he attended this meeting on June 25<sup>th</sup> and racial equality and policies were discussed. He reported that Admin is working on that. They also discussed the emergency broadband funding and the 12.5-15 million to cover the 9 Conval towns. He reported that Kimberly Saunders does not think this will happen by the Dec 15 deadline. They also discussed the schools fall re-opening which is still in Limbo. Christine added that Temple will not be eligible for CARES act funding for broadband assistance and although they were disappointed, they will continue to put the pressure on in hopes of getting funding in the future.

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**Planning Board Meeting** – George reported he attended this meeting on July 7<sup>th</sup> along with only 3 other members. He reported that Bruce Kullgren received a request to have a joint meeting with the planning board and ZBA to discuss the new commercial building proposed by Ben Fiske. Bill commented the ZBA is waiting for an application from Attorney Tom Hanna. Ken said his understanding is that they asked for a joint meeting to get it all done at once but they need to get the application in before the meeting can be scheduled. Christine said the PB cannot vote until the ZBA vote so it cannot happen all at once.

**Town Land Research Committee Meeting** – George reported that he along with 7 others met on July 11<sup>th</sup> and walked the area behind the fire house where Tim Fiske gave a brief history of the land. They also walked the land behind the Town Hall to discuss what might be done with that land if the Highway Dept is moved.

- **Review Meeting minutes June 23 & June 30** – *Caisse motioned to accept the June 23<sup>rd</sup> and June 30<sup>th</sup> minutes as amended. Seconded by Bill, roll call vote George yes, Ken yes, Bill yes.*
- **Meeting Adjourned:** 7:35 PM. Motioned by Bill, George second roll call vote Ezell yes, Willard yes, Caisse yes.

**Next Select Board Meeting:** Tuesday, July 28, 2020 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