

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Tuesday, January 12, 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, Bruce Kullgren, Steve Andersen, Vivian Wills, John Kieley & 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 Comment:** *None*

**Old Business:**

- **Marsh Litigation Update:** *Caisse commented there is no update.*
- **Discussion on outdated Elderly & Veteran's Exemption amounts:** *Willard commented he had done a study of 25 surrounding towns and noted that 18 of them currently have a Veterans credit of \$500, 3 towns have a credit amount of \$300, one has \$200, two have \$750, and Temple's credit amount is \$100. He also said that we are currently in the middle range on the Elderly exemption of \$25,000 off assessed property values. The Select Board agreed they were ok with the Elderly exemption but were way behind on the Veteran's credit. The board felt they should write a warrant article and send it to legal counsel for review. Caisse made the motion to propose an increase on the Veteran's credit amount from \$100 to \$500 for the Standard and All Veterans categories. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Robidoux asked if they would consider adopting the Disabled exemption. The board discussed and agreed. Caisse motioned to propose adopting a Disabled exemption amount of \$25,000 off assessed property value, and to write up the warrant article. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. The board agreed to create a separate warrant article for each.*
- **Follow up on office Air Purifier:** *Ezell commented that he had purchased one unit for \$150 and asked when the town office would be needing it. The board assistant will discuss with the Town Clerk and Tax Collector, when they think they will be opening the doors to the public again and at that time, will the purifier be wanted. Ezell will use the recently purchased unit at home and when the time comes, he will order another one for the office.*
- **Follow up with Code Red Training & Notice:** *Caisse reported that training would be completed shortly and that we should go ahead and post the Code Red system sign up notice on*

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*the town website, and have Savron print up fliers for EDDM mailing to resident's homes. The board assistant will contact Savron, arrange the EDDM filing, and have the flier posted on the town website.*

- **Next Steps with Town Land Use Committee.** *Willard stated he appreciated the Town Land Use Committees effective and thoughtful study on the best uses for town land, however, due to COVID 19, he motioned to postpone creating the warrant articles as proposed by the committee, for another year. Kullgren commented he feels that the group was a very diverse group however he also feels the Select Board should not agree to writing warrant articles at this time, especially since there have been no town forums, no newspaper ads, and basically no community involvement at all to this point, and he noted the moving of the Highway Dept is a huge expense. Connie Kieley commented if the warrant articles are created, it would be up to the town to vote on what they want and she said that forums and community involvement would be a priority. She also felt that the committee chair Tim Fiske deserved a chance to address these concerns before the SB makes a decision. Robidoux agreed and mentioned some of the reasons why moving the highway dept would benefit the town, including beautifying the village area and providing much needed parking. She also noted the committee met 9 times, the public is invited, and those meeting minutes were available to anyone. Steve Andersen also spoke in opposition of the committee's recommendations stating the same concerns as Kullgren. Ultimately Willard's motion was not seconded and the Select Board decided to hold off making any decisions for two weeks in order to allow Fiske and the committee to respond.*
- **COVID19 Update:** – *John Kieley updated that the town of Temple has had 24 cases to date and reminded us that we still need to be vigilant and careful. He also mentioned that the vaccine is coming a lot slower than hoped and that our first responders are first in line to receive the vaccine. Kieley also reminded the Select Board that all permits, contracts, etc. still need to be discussed and approved at a public meeting and that they cannot let COVID interfere with that. Ezell motioned to formally approve the 2021 contract for School Care medical rates. Caisse seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Ezell mentioned that the Red Cross has approached the town requesting to use the Town Hall for a blood drive. Willard made a motion to allow the Red Cross to use the town hall for their blood drive as long as all protocols are adhered to. Ezell seconded. Roll call vote was unanimous in favor. Vivian Wills asked if the recreation commission can use the zoom account for online classes. Caisse mentioned we did offer this platform to the Tai Chi group previously and it should be fine as long as the schedule does not interfere with any town committee meetings.*

**New Business:**

- **Occupancy Permit Wildes:** – *Caisse motioned to approve the permit, Ezell seconded, roll call vote unanimous in favor.*
- **Occupancy Permit Jeta Grove:** – *Caisse motioned to approve the permit, Ezell seconded, roll call vote unanimous in favor.*

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- **Village Green & Historic District appointments:** – A notice from Gail Cromwell was received stating that a Select Board member must be one of the members of the Historic District committee and since she is no longer a SB member, she recommended resigning and having Bill Ezell replace her. Caisse said he would take the position if Bill did not want it which he did not. Therefore, Caisse is the new Select Board member on the Historic District committee. Gail also recommended Tom St. Cyr who expressed an interest in becoming a member, be appointed. Caisse motioned to appoint Tom St. Cyr to the Historic District committee with a term ending 2024. Ezell seconded, roll call vote unanimous in favor.
- **Approve Intent to Cut - Oxman** – Caisse motioned to approve Allan Oxman’s intent to cut request. Ezell seconded, roll call vote unanimous in favor.
- **Approve Intent to Cut - Martin** – Caisse motioned to approve Randy Martin’s intent to cut request. Ezell seconded, roll call vote unanimous in favor,
- **Discuss Safety Committee Requirements & members**– The board discussed the importance of having this committee which currently only has one member remaining on the committee. Caisse will ask Kent Perry to volunteer and represent the Highway department. Caisse will also schedule a meeting for February and be on the committee. Ezell said he would join the committee if he is needed.
- **Discuss Town Attorney & Memorial for Bill Drescher** – Ezell spoke with Bill’s son Chris and they thought a memorial tree would be nice along with a mention in the town report. Mr. Drescher was the town’s attorney since the 1980’s and was very well respected.
- **Discuss Special Considerations for the Town Report.** A few ideas were discussed and Caisse will be reaching out to some family members for input. Ezell agreed to write up the Select Board’s report for the Town Annual report.

**Committee Updates:** None

**Other Business:** The Select Board needs to approve the legal engagement letter at the office from the law firm representing the town on the Broadband case.

**Caisse motioned at 8:00 to go into non-public session to discuss employee compensation. Ezell seconded. Roll call vote unanimous in favor.**

The board came back to the public meeting at 8:09.

- **Review Meeting Minutes December 22, 2020**– Caisse motioned to approve the December 22nd minutes as amended. Ezell seconded, roll call vote was unanimous in favor.
- **Meeting Adjourned:** 8:20 PM. Motion by Willard, second by Ezell, roll call vote Ezell yes, Willard yes, Caisse yes.

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**Next Select Board Meeting:** Tuesday, January 26, 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