

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Tuesday January 25, 2022**

**Town Hall**

**6:30 PM**

**Select Board members present:** George Willard, Bill Ezell, and Ken Caisse

**Other Attendees:** Connie Kieley, Sandra Benotti, Bill McDonnell, Mark Paluilis and Jessica Hipp.

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

**Chairman Comment:**

- *None*

**Public Comment:**

- *Benotti expressed concern that Temple is not mandating mask usage in public buildings. Benotti feels the board should consider this for the safety of Temple residents. Ezell noted we are following CDC guidelines and asked the other two selectmen their thoughts. Caisse mentioned we should make sure the current mask recommendation signage is on all of the entrance doors. Willard did not want to impose a mask mandate. Ezell stated the board will not be issuing a mask mandate at this time. EMD McDonnell indicated it was the select board's decision and noted they are following CDC guidelines. McDonnell added there is no data to support that mask usage affects the spread of the virus.*

**Old Business:**

- **Marsh Litigation Update:** *No new update.*
- **Dark Sky Complaint Update:** *No new update.*
- **Code Enforcement Officer:** *Currently on hold.*
- **Parking follow up:** *No new update.*
- **Background checks:** *No new update. Caisse added that after town meeting, this will be revisited.*
- **Storage Space in the Town Hall:** *Ezell spoke with the band and they will be moving the cabinets and they are arranging new storage space somewhere else.*

**New Business:**

- **Community Advisory Committee Update:** *Hipp provided a broadband update and noted that 1/3 of the splicing is complete in most zones. Hipp also stated she needs to speak with Ezell about the town office needs. Hipp also read the updated language for the CAC warrant article. Ezell moved to accept and add the revised CAC warrant article to our official warrant article list. Caisse seconded, Willard voted no. Motion passed.*

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

- **Home Business request – Mark Paluilis:** *The board reviewed the zoning ordinance regarding home businesses and feels that this request can be honored as long as Paluilis complies with all rules and regulations. Paluilis must also comply with the state and DOT regulations.*
- **Approve dedication page write up for Priscilla Weston:** *Caisse moved to approve the dedication page for town report. Ezell seconded the motion, all in favor, motion passed.*
- **Review text for town report – Select Board page:** *Ezell moved to accept the select board committee report for town report, as amended. Willard seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Playground Maintenance** - *Caisse noted that at the next BAC meeting, they need to make sure money is allocated for fixing the playground estimated to be about 5K. We can use the rescue act funding for this expense.*
- **Discuss annual wage increase for town employees:** *After discussing the rise in inflation and the cost of living, the board agreed to recommend a 3% increase. Willard made a motion to recommend a 3% rate increase for town employees (Carole Singelais, Julie Dean, Joyce Kullgren, Elizabeth Maxcy-Humphrey, Kent Perry, Steve Harling, Olivia Holmes, and Betsy Perry). Ezell seconded the motion, Caisse abstained. Motion passed. Ezell also moved to recommend a \$300 annual increase to the town treasurer Peter Allen. All agreed Allen is doing a great job. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Approve Solar Permit tax credit-Wildes :** *Approval of the solar credit was recommended by Avitar, therefore the select board signed the application.*
- **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2022:** *Caisse motioned to accept the minutes from January 11th, 2022 as amended. Ezell seconded, all in favor, motion passed.*

**Other Business: - None**

**Committee Updates:**

- **Planning Board** – *Willard updated that the planning board met on Jan 18<sup>th</sup> and voted 4 to 3 to table the National Floodplain regulations until the FEMA maps are completed.*
- **Conval School** – *Caisse read a letter from Liz Swan regarding pertinent news and upcoming events. (See attachment at the end of these minutes). Liz has also been invited to the Temple budget hearing on February 10<sup>th</sup> and will try to attend. Willard mentioned there is also a SAC meeting on Thursday night.*
- **Meeting Adjourned:** *7:10 PM. Motion by Ezell, second by Caisse, all were in favor, motion passed.*

**Next Select Board Meeting:** Tuesday February 8, 2022 at 6:30 PM at the town Hall. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Dear Ken and Select Board members,

I am writing today so I can share some pertinent news and upcoming events with our Temple community members. First, I would like to apologize for not being able to make it to the Select Board meetings in person. My school board obligations always occur on Tuesdays and Thursdays and always seem to be in conflict with the town meetings.

Now onto School Board news . . .

**22/23 ConVal District Budget:**

As you know, it is budget season and much has been underway insofar as heavy discussion and decision making. I am pleased to share that we have come up with a fantastic proposed operating budget. In fact, the proposed operating budget is even less than what would be used as the default budget should the operating budget not pass. This is great news for the hardworking taxpayers of Temple.

**Preschool Expansion & Warrant Article:**

In other budgetary news, The plans for the much needed preschool expansion have been moved to a separate warrant article. I personally advocated for this because I feel it is important for us to inspire trust and empowerment amongst voters. It has always been up to us, as school board members, to help you understand what will bring value to our communities and the families within them.

For many years we have maintained a lengthy waitlist for our First Friends preschool program. The research regarding need and the logistics of implementing a "preschool for all" expansion have been in the works for years (prior to my taking up a seat on the board). This is a very much needed expansion. Many factors have impacted our children's education and readiness for Kindergarten. Not least of all, the strain of the Covid 19 pandemic over the last 2 years. We must take action to make sure families in our communities have access to a robust preschool with enough capacity to accommodate their needs.

We will be discussing the preschool plans in depth at our community forum tonight. The live stream and recording will be available for those wanting to learn more, but who are unable to attend.

**Collective Bargaining agreement:**

This year you will see the collective bargaining agreement with the ConVal Education Association. This is such an important part of supporting our educators and professionals.

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

We cannot understate the vital nature of this agreement. Without our educators and professionals we will not be able to thrive as a school district.

**Deliberative Session:**

Please mark your calendars for the district meeting. This meeting is imperative in the process of finalizing what will be on the ballot come voting day in March. Attend and participate if you are able! More details to come.

District Meeting – Part I (Deliberative Session) @ CVHS @ 6:00 p.m.

To be clear, I have not listed the warrant articles in full in this message. My intention for tonight is to give you an idea of some of the topics that have been most recently discussed at the board level and to help you understand where we are in this process.

The full list of warrant articles will be posted within the next week or so. You will want to review these articles prior to voting. Please reach out to me if you need some help understanding any aspect of these articles. I am available at [eswan@conval.edu](mailto:eswan@conval.edu).

Thank you for taking the time to share this and for your support as we move forward. Never hesitate to reach out with questions!

Kind regards to all,

Liz Swan

Town of Temple  
School Board Representative  
(cell) 914.806.7134

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE  
SELECT BOARD  
MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING