

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, May 26, 2020

Via Zoom Call

6:30 PM

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

Other Attendees: Lilliane LeBel, Dan Cournoyer, John Kieley, Connie Kieley, Vivian Wills, Christine Robidoux, Paul Clifton-Waite, Robert Wills & 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:

Lilliane LeBel had a comment about the request to have a drive-by bridal shower in July on the town common. She feels this could potentially be very loud for the nearby residents and felt if we allow this request, there will be a flood of similar requests so she recommends telling this family to have the drive-by shower at their own property.

Christine Robidoux mentioned she did not see an agenda item for the hiring of Olivia Holmes as the Planning Board clerk. Bill said the SB has no involvement with that. George said the PB voted to hire Olivia as their secretary at \$19 per hour. Ken asked if this rate was within their budget. George said yes. Ken mentioned she needs to go to the office and complete tax forms before the next PB meeting. Christine also mentioned the importance to have a RTK seminar for all committee members. She mentioned there is a webinar coming soon or we can contact the municipal association and ask to have one for the town only.

Old Business:

- **Review and Approve Employee Procedures and Policy Manual and Financial Procedures Manual:** *Caisse said they should have a working session soon to get this and the Elderly & Veteran's exemption items done.*
- **Marsh Litigation Update:** *No update at this time.*
- **Discussion on outdated Elderly & Veteran's Exemption amounts:** *Caisse recommended the working session be held on June 16th. John Kieley asked if this would be open to the public but with no public comment. Caisse said yes and mentioned most of the legwork is done, they just need to compare notes and get it done.*

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

- **Discussion on “Right to Know” seminar date:** *Caisse motioned to have the board assistant send out a message to department and committee chairs, asking them if they would attend a RTK webinar if we scheduled one, and for them to communicate this request to their board members, and for them to send replies back to the board assistant. Ken also asked the board assistant to contact the municipal association to see what they offer.*
- **Update on Purple Heart sign locations:** *George Willard said the signs have been attached to the posts and a couple of the signs have been installed. He has also staked out several other locations and has sent the DOT an email so they can send a state DPW person to check out the locations.*
- **Update on Emergency order #25 (Authority to grand blanket abatements of property tax interest).** *Caisse said we are standing on the original assumption that we won’t address unless we have to.*

New Business:

- **COVID19 update** – John Kieley updated the board with new statistics and suggested the town maintain the posture of being extremely cautious. He acknowledged that the state is relaxing some rules on indoor and outdoor sports, and that some of our town groups are anxious to start their programs back up, one of those programs being the Tai Chi classes. John recommended the board allow Tai Chi as they will be outdoors on the common and they have agreed to follow all recommended guidelines. John also mentioned the playground and Tennis courts. With no state guidance yet, he recommended the playground stay closed and said it may be difficult to monitor the parking area so both should remain closed. He also mentioned the Library trustees are taking a look at sponsoring events for town residents, more to come in the coming weeks. John said he supports the town offices remaining closed. He recommended we do everything we can to protect our town employees including installing plexi-glass shields, and disinfecting the buildings. Christine Robidoux asked about the ballfield opening. John Kieley mentioned the rules from the governor but said the SB needs to decide on what properties are going to be opened. Ken wondered what the town’s liability might be on the use of town property. John Kieley believes Primex would cover us as long as all the rules and guidelines are followed. Vivian Wills talked about the Tai Chi resuming and mentioned they would be doing it at a different time than they did before. She also asked the board to create next steps if we start opening town property and realizes this is quite a challenge. The board assistant was asked to follow up with Primex. Caisse asked Bill and George for their thoughts on the subject. Bill agrees with Ken, don’t charge off to open too soon. George said he thinks certain outdoor activities should be allowed but with rules. Caisse feels we may be flooded with calls if we start allowing certain activities, and said there are still so many unknowns. Caisse motioned to revisit this again in 30 days. Bill seconded, roll call vote Ken yes, Bill yes, George no.

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

- **Update on Memorial Day plans** – Willard said that a small group of Vets will be meeting at the Common on Sunday and will march to the town hall, church, and cemetery for a silent parade to pay homage to all Vets. No band, no fanfare, just a small tribute with no official approval. Ken and Bill both agreed this only occurs once a year and said they support this as long as it is a small group and they practice social distancing.
- **Resident request for drive by bridal shower on the Common in July** – Caisse said no decision can be made just yet, will revisit in another 30 days. Willard motioned to table until the next meeting, Ezell seconded, roll call vote Ken yes, Bill yes, George yes.
- **Appoint Cathy Joly 3-yr term Con Com Committee** – Caisse motioned to accept, Willard seconded, roll call vote Ken yes, George yes, Bill yes.
- **Review DRA's USPAP 2019 report** – Caisse said this audit is to make sure the town assessors are doing what they should be doing. Ezell did read the document at the office and said it looked fine.
- **Review and approve Electricity contracts from Standard Power** – Caisse explained this is something we have been doing for years, working with this group to get better electric rates. The contract is at the office and needs to be signed and sent back.
- **Review and sign PSNH request for information from Avitar** – Caisse explained that Avitar needs data from PSNH to do their assessment.
- **Discuss Tax Collector Warrant approval and the insert to be included with the tax bills**– Willard asked if anyone has drafted a letter. Caisse said no and asked if he would like to do it. Caisse asked John Kieley if he wanted to include a COVID19 message. John said he wished he knew sooner. He will do a letter from the EMD only and get it to the board assistant Thursday morning. Willard will draft a note from the SB regarding paying taxes and the associated hardships, which will also be included with the tax bills. Caisse said the warrant is ready at the office for approvals.
- **Review meeting minutes May 12, 2020** –Caisse motioned to accept the May 12th minutes as amended. Ezell second, Roll call vote, Caisse yes, Willard yes, Ezell yes.

Other Business

- Willard mentioned that no one has yet been appointed to be the SB advisory committee member to the Conval school district. He said he did it last year and asked if anyone else wanted to do it this year. If not, he said he will continue. Ezell said he can continue and Ken thanked him for volunteering.
- Christine Robidaux mentioned she had spoken with the broadband bond council last week and she confirmed we don't pay anything unless the bond goes through. No upfront cost. She also asked her about the timeline and if it can be pushed up due to Covid19 needs. Council reported

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

we can but it will require a special meeting and we will need to contact our legal team. Christine said no decision to move the timeline has been made just yet but if they decide to move forward, she asked if she can contact Dresher herself. Ken said that was fine.

- Ken mentioned there have been issues lately with people paying for town invoices themselves and explained why this practice needs to stop. We need W9 forms and need to set up vendors in our system properly in order to cut checks and issue correct year end 1099 forms. Ken said the working session later in the month might be a good time to look at this and include in our policy guide. Bill said Brenda our consultant agreed with all of this as well. Julie will send out a reminder memo this week.
- Caisse mentioned Bev Edwards asked him to add her on the June 9th agenda to discuss the renewable energy efforts further.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:45 PM. Motioned by George, Caisse second, roll call vote Ezell yes, Willard yes, Caisse yes.

Next Select Board Meeting: Tuesday, June 9, 2020 at 6:30 PM. Remote numbers will be provided again in the event we are still handling meetings remotely. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais