

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

*Tuesday November 22, 2022*

**Town Hall**

**6:30 PM**

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

**Other Attendees:** Connie Kieley, Ben & Emily Fisk, John Kieley, Gail Cromwell, Christine Robidoux, Cam Lockwood, Phil Lauriat, and William Letendre.

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

**Chairman Comment:** *Ezell noted we will start this meeting with Ben Fisk's request to be paid back the 14K in legal fees he paid as a result of his ZBA application. Ezell added that both he and Ken Caisse will need to recuse themselves from this decision and 2 other select board stand-ins will need to be temporarily appointed in order to handle this matter. Ezell moved to temporarily appoint Phil Lauriat and William Letendre to assume the temporary role of selectmen for the purposes of deciding the Ben Fisk refund question. Caisse seconded, all were in favor, motion passed. The town clerk proceeded to swear in Lauriat and Letendre.*

*At 6:35pm Willard moved to go into non-public session to continue the discussion. Lauriat seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*

*At 6:51pm Letendre moved to reconvene the public session. Lauriat seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.*

*Willard noted that the minutes were not sealed and disclosed that on the advice from council, he moved to repay Ben Fisk the entire amount of 14K in legal fees however, his motion did not carry and was amended to offer Ben \$7000.00 as satisfaction of his legal fees. That motion passed on a 2-1 vote. Letendre and Lauriat voting yes and Willard voting nay. Willard then asked Fisk if he would accept the 7K refund. Fisk stated probably not as the town has admitted it did something wrong and he could sue the town and win adding that no one in the history of Temple has ever been charged ZBA legal fees. Fisk asked for some time to discuss with his attorney. John Kieley commented that several years ago the ZBA redid their application and procedure's so that big corporations could not come in and steam roll the town. The debate continued and became contentious. Willard moved to close the discussion for tonight and bring back the original select board. Ezell resumed the regular meeting.*

**Public Comment:**

*\* Ezell noted he was fed up with the behavior of a couple of people in the town who when they don't get the answers they want, attack the character of the select board and their attorneys. Ezell noted he did not coach the temporary select board members and only provided them with the legal documents.*

*\* Robidoux updated that it was recently discovered that there is a portion of Lot 5A-24 (Nick Rowe subdivision) that appears to have dropped off the deed for that lot and the owner is currently unknown. More research is being done to get to the bottom of this.*

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

*\* Connie asked for permission to have the webmaster activate a new button on the web page for Town meeting recordings. Ezell moved to activate a new button on the town page for meeting recordings. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*

*\* Connie noted there are two options for recording meetings, one being YouTube which works fine, the other being the town hall stream, a feature of the new A/V equipment. Ezell noted there are pros and cons to both video storage methods. They will use YouTube while more research is done.*

*\* Fisk asked Willard for a breakdown of the 7K that was suggested he be paid back. Was it for specific hours? Fisk noted he really does not want to initiate a lawsuit, it is about the principal. Ezell noted he will provide the legal opinions to Fisk and make them available to anyone else who may want to take a look.*

**Old Business:**

- 1. Code Enforcement Officer Update – No Update**
- 2. Parking/Zoning/Fee structure follow up – No update**
- 3. Background checks & policy update – No update**
- 4. Flag pole painting update – No update**
- 5. Monument cleaning update – No update**
- 6. New Flag policy update – No update**
- 7. ARPA funds – Town Common Well, Ballfield, fencing, playground estimates etc. – No update**
- 8. Review Quotes for Town Common Well – Moved to December 13<sup>th</sup>.**
- 9. Update on quotes for Town Hall Repairs – No update**
- 10. Update on Alarm System vendors – No update**
- 11. Discuss policy on Merit Increases – No Update**

**New Business:**

- **Fence for Library** – Lockwood discussed The Library's request for a fence for the safety of the children and updated the board on the exact location, height, fence type, and estimated cost of \$6700 and asked the board for permission to proceed. Caisse asked if there was money in their budget, Lockwood said no not for 2022 adding this will be for year 2023. Ezell moved to allow the library to purchase a picket fence for the area described to be signed off by the select board before any final decisions are made. Caisse seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.

- **CAC Committee update: Robidoux-**

- \* **Broadband** – New poles are being added on the north side of town and at Maplewood.*

- \* **A/V Feedback**– People need to speak louder at meetings, the camera in the Annex needs to be positioned right to get everyone at the table, the Bluetooth device is on backorder but they are the first on the list, the instructions need to be tweaked a bit more.*

- \* **SWRPC** – There will be a public meeting on Dec 7<sup>th</sup> - Southwest connects NH Route 101 East Corridor.*

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

- **Sign 2 Trustees of the Trust fund transfers:** *Caisse noted the first transfer is for Cemetery housekeeping to get back some of the money for Cemetery expenses in the amount of \$7392, and the second transfer was to move \$61756.23 from the Annual Highway Block Grant to the Asphalt and Paving Trust fund. Both transfers were signed by the board.*
- **Review & Approve Building permit application – Kingston – Howard Hill Rd:** *Caisse moved to approve the application with the condition it be signed by the building inspector and the health officer and payment of the fee is received. Ezell seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed to sign the application.*
- **Review School Care rate renewal:** *Ezell noted this is for the employee health insurance and moved to accept the 2023-2024 renewal rates. Caisse seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Review warrant article language – Veterans credit eligibility criteria change:** *Caisse updated that the town must readopt the new language for the veterans property tax credit adding that there are no monetary changes and if we do not readopt, the credit amount will change from the current \$500 back down to the minimum amount allowed of \$50 per tax year. Ezell moved that we create a warrant article to readopt the Veterans property tax credit. Caisse seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes November 7, 2022:** *Caisse moved to approve the minutes from November 7th, as amended. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed*
- **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes November 9, 2022:** *Caisse moved to approve the minutes from November 9th as written. Ezell seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed*
- **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes November 15, 2022:** *Caisse moved to approve the minutes from November 15th as amended. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*

**Other Business: -**

- **Building Permit Application– Concordia – Webster Highway:** *Caisse noted he needs additional plans of the basement and the second floor in order to determine the square footage to calculate the permit fees. Ezell moved to accept the application conditional on the receipt of the additional drawings and applicable fees. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*

**Committee Updates: - None**

**Meeting Adjourned:**

*Motion to adjourn by Willard second by Caisse. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.*

**Next Select Board Meeting:** *The next select board meeting will be held on Tuesday December 13th at the town Hall main room at 6:30pm. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais*

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