

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

*Monday November 7, 2022*

**Town Hall**

**6:00 PM**

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

**Other Attendees:** Connie Kieley, Ben & Emily Fisk, and Kent Perry

Meeting called to order by Ezell at 6:00 PM.

**Chairman Comment:** *Ezell noted they have received legal advice from 3 legal firms regarding 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 take care of this at the next meeting. Phil Lauriat, William Letendre and Murray Collette have volunteered to assume this temporary role in order to make a fair impartial decision. Ezell noted they will be sent all of the legal advice and the ZBA decision letter. Fisk commented they should stop wasting time and money and just give him back his money. Connie Kieley noted they should also take into consideration John Kieley's letter on why this decision was made. Fisk noted John should have recused himself back then. Caisse noted this has gone to legal and it is what it is and they will see if the town clerk can attend the next meeting to swear in the stand-ins so they can make a decision. Emily wanted clarification if this meeting will be public and if so, will public comment be allowed. Ezell said there will be no public comment.*

**Public Comment:**

- \* Kieley showed some pictures of the areas at the town hall that need repairs. Connie is also working on quotes.*
- \* Kieley also noted they replaced some bushes that were ruined by vehicles backing into them.*
- \* Kieley mentioned she has created another town Gmail account in order to proceed with setting up YouTube to place meeting recordings.*

**Old Business:**

- 1. Marsh litigation update** – *No update*
- 2. Code Enforcement Officer Update** – *No Update*
- 3. Parking/Zoning/Fee structure follow up** – *No update*
- 4. Background checks & policy update** – *No update*
- 5. Flag pole painting update** – *No update* –
- 6. Monument cleaning update** – *No update*
- 7. Letter of Agreement – Rec Dept.** – *No update*
- 8. New Flag policy update** – *No update*
- 9. ARPA funds – Town Common Well, Ballfield, fencing, playground estimates etc.** – *Ezell said we have the Fire Dept compressor in the fire station. Caisse added this will be paid from the general fund and reimbursed by a grant they applied for and received. Ezell said they now need to figure out what to spend the remaining 60K on.*

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10. **Review Quotes for Town Common Well** – *One more quote is still pending. Tim Fiske will prepare a comparison spreadsheet and bring it to the next select board meeting.*
11. **Update on quotes for Town Hall Repairs** – *See public comment.*
12. **Discuss Invoice/cost for Fire Truck Repairs** – *Caisse noted all of the repairs that will be needed on the fire trucks which will run the department over budget and payment will need to come out of our trust fund.*
13. **Update on Alarm System vendors** – *Ezell noted he has asked Monadnock security 3 times for a quote and has not heard anything. Caisse noted they take a long time and he has some other vendors in mind so he will follow up.*

**New Business:**

- **CAC Committee update: Ezell reported-**
  - \* **Plan NH Charrette** – *Ezell discussed some of the feedback on the Charrette.*
  - \* **Broadband** – *New poles are being added on the north side of town.*
  - \* **A/V** – *The CAC has done some research on alternative streaming options.*
  - \* **Complete Streets** – *One of the recommendations made by the Charrette was that Temple should adopt a resolution to participate in the Complete Streets program which involves the Select Board voting to commit to following policies and procedures that promote safety for all users of our roads, parking areas, trails, and any other areas used by pedestrians, bicycles, horses or other uses.*
- **Appoint Lilliane Lebel to the CAC committee:** *Caisse motioned to appoint Lilliane Lebel to the CAC committee with a term ending 2025. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Review & Approve Avitar's preliminary DRA Assessment to Sales Ratio:** *The board reviewed and signed the form. Caisse noted the rate is 62.2 which is down from last year.*
- **Review & Approve Special Events application – Lions Club:** *Willard moved to approve the special events application from the Lions club for the annual road race on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Caisse seconded, all were in favor, motion passed.*
- **Check Request/Account number rules:** *Ezell communicated that they will be enforcing the rule that whenever an invoice is submitted to the bookkeeper for payment, it must have a charge to account number written on it. If there is no account number, it will not be paid. Ezell moved to enforce this policy. Willard seconded, Caisse abstained. Motion passed.*
- **2023 Wage Increases:** *Caisse noted that the library wanted to know what the town was doing for annual cost of living increases so they can also plan. The board discussed BAC numbers which put a 20K impact on the taxpayers if they were to approve an 8% increases. Ezell believed we could bump up the rate a little but not to 8%. The board discussed and agreed on a 4% rate increase for next year. Ezell moved to approve a 4% cost of living rate increase to all applicable employees. The board also discussed merit increases. Caisse*

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*noted that they need a structure first. Ezell stated he needs to review the policy and will provide an update at the next meeting.*

- **Review/Approve 2 LUCT & Warrants:** *The board reviewed the Woodcock farm and the San-Ken Homes LUCT and Warrants and signed them.*
- **Approve Select Board Meeting Minutes October 25, 2022:** *Ezell moved to approve the minutes from October 25th as amended. Willard seconded the motion, all were in favor, motion passed.*

**Other Business: -**

- **Highway Budget – Kent Perry:** *Perry notified the board that the garage door needs to be expanded in order to fit the new truck, and there are 2 vehicles that need repairs. The board discussed a couple of options to pay for this. Perry noted the work cannot be done this year therefore the board said this will have to be in next year's budget.*
- **Fire Dept Update:** *Caisse noted the Compressor and tanks are in the building and mentioned some upcoming vehicle repairs that will need to be done this year noting that they will be needing to use possibly all of their \$7500 emergency fund money.*

**Committee Updates: -**

- **Police** – *Ezell noted the scheduled meeting was cancelled by Greenville.*
- **SAC** – *Willard reported that only about half of the towns showed up for the last meeting. He also noted that Kim Saunders discussed not getting adequate funding from the state and mentioned the law suit with the other towns. Saunders also noted the cost of an adequate education is \$18,900 per student and the state only pays \$9K or less.*

**Meeting Adjourned:**

*Motion to adjourn by Caisse second by Willard. Meeting adjourned at 6:54 PM.*

**Next Select Board Meeting:** *The next select board meeting will be held on Tuesday November 22nd at the town Hall main room at 6:30pm. Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Carole Singelais*

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