

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD**  
**Tuesday, February 19, 2019 – 7PM**

**Present:** Thomas Maher, Chair, Bill Stewart, Selectman, Damon Frampton, Selectman, and Pam Cullen, Secretary and Administrative Assistant to the Select Board.

**Also present:** Jim Cerny, Dave McGuckin

**1. Approve Minutes of February 4, and January 21, 2019.**

Selectman Frampton made a Motion to Approve the Select Board Minutes of February 4, 2019 as amended. Selectman Stewart seconded and the Motion carried.

Selectman Frampton made a Motion to Approve the Select Board Minutes of January 21, 2019 as amended. Selectman Stewart seconded, and the Motion carried.

**2. Public Question and Answer:**

**a. Cemetery Trustee Report:**

Jim Cerny reported on the possibility of signage for the Marvin Cemetery behind the school and a similar sign for the Prescott Cemetery entrance, located to the right of the old Fire Station. The cemetery trustees will be discussing this at its meeting this week. Placing of these signs required Town approval, so Jim asked if the Select Board had any concerns or questions. Chair Maher stated he wants to make sure the signage is appropriate for the locations. Jim stated the primary purpose of the signage is to alert the public of the cemetery spaces. Dave McGuckin asked about parking issues in the area. He wouldn't want to attract more people to the area but understands the signage is meant for designation purposes. The Select Board agreed to support this project of the cemetery trustees.

**3. New Business:**

**a. Avitar Building Inspector Software.**

Selectman Stewart had earlier expressed some concerns and questions which he discussed with the Avitar representative, and based on these conversations he is supportive of going forward with the planned purchase and installation. The assessing data will be behind the building inspector software, so certain information can be drawn upon, but the assessing data may not be edited. The Select Board agreed to go forward. Ken McDonald, TAPC will coordinate with Avitar and report back at the next Select Board Meeting, March 4, 2019.

**b. Safe Path update:**

Chair Maher discussed Ken McDonald, TAPC's, report. Rye Beach landscaping has obtained the required bond and is currently working with NH DOT on obtaining the permit to start in April (when NH DOT authorizes work to start). Within two weeks he will be meeting with Rye Beach to coordinate the upcoming construction schedule. He will provide a more detailed report at the next Select Board Meeting. Chair Maher noted the bond is for a lesser amount which all agreed was a positive development.

**c. Flashing Light at school update:**

Chair Maher noted that he observed the light had been fixed. Ken's report confirmed this, as did Chief White, who is continuing to monitor the situation.

#### **d. Recognition of Clint Springer.**

Chair Maher took a moment to recognize and memorialize Clint Springer who would have been 94 yesterday. Clint gave much of his time and expertise to the Town and his voice will be missed, especially at Town Meeting in May. Chair Maher spoke of the well-attended services in honor of Clint.

#### **e. Water Sewer Update:**

Selectman Stewart reported on the meeting he attended last week at which the 60% plans were presented. A copy of these plans is in the Selectmen's office at Town Hall for the public to review. He noted that bid pricing is coming in high, and they are looking at opportunities to reduce costs in the project. Questions arose about the meter pit from Portsmouth, replacement of the line on the bridge and replacement or repair of hangars. Two construction questions were discussed, principally the possible elimination of meters which is a cost savings matter, and the bridge fixing which has a 20 year life expectancy. Other issues concerned possible cost savings regarding paving the roadway and what NH DOT will agree to.

At Chair Maher's request Bill updated the Board on TTHM/aeration plant. He noted that the aeration plant will start in June and we should see the benefits of this within a week of the start. This is to remediate the TTHM issue.

Selectman Frampton asked about the pit on Wentworth. Portsmouth feels it should be left open to flow both ways.

Chair Maher noted that State Senator Sherman is running late and will be rescheduled for the March 4, 2019 meeting.

Selectman Stewart gave an update regarding the donor town legislation, based on input from Portsmouth's attorney, Jane Ferrini. HB 709 came out of Education Committee with a recommendation to not have towns return the SWEPT funds. The bill now goes to the House Finance Committee where anything can happen. Then it would go to Ways and Means, where the price tag could be added as an amendment. He noted we have to be vigilant in following this. There are also other bills in progress. If it doesn't pass in the House, it is unlikely the Senate will take it up.

#### **4. Committee Reports.**

##### **Water & Sewer:**

Selectman Frampton stated that the Water & Sewer Commission met on February 13, and submitted their budget. They are asking the Select Board to approve their article for Island Items. ( Note: I recall that article is for the **Town Report**, not Island Items).

The Commission was not happy about not being emailed about the 60% meeting. This is the Underwood Email list. Chair Houle of Water Sewer stated that the portal for Underwood has not been updated since the 30% meeting. The Commission also wants to

take the hydrants budget item out of the budget and put it in the Fire Department budget. Chair Maher and Selectman Stewart stated to leave it where it is. The new door for River Road is being delivered.

Regarding new SRF funds, Damon reported that the \$300,000 warrant article did not come up at Water Sewer meeting. The \$8500 for the engineering study is fine. Selectman Stewart stated that if they want to go forward, they need to act. Perhaps the SRF funds could be repurposed to use on the bridge.

Pam Cullen noted that Jeff Hughes has submitted a letter indicating he is stepping down as chair of CIP. The Board will contact him and thank him for his service. Chair Maher noted the need to find a replacement.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Selectman Stewart made a Motion to Adjourn, which was seconded by Selectman Frampton.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

BJ Riordan, Secretary.