

Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order on Tuesday, November 23, 2021 at 6:00PM at the Police Department. Dale Kiley, Jason Petraitis, and John Tripp present.

Approval of Warrants: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to approve the following warrants: School # 1023 for \$26,076.23, General # 1024 for \$597,206.18 and Payroll # 11 for \$369,049.71. So voted.

Old Business:

NB Helps Request for Resources Final Approval. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to give final approval for NB Helps Annual Christmas Parade on Saturday, December 4, 2021. So voted.

Sign Clark & Green Contract: This was voted last meeting, but the original contract needed signatures. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to sign the contract. So voted.

New Business:

Recycling Dividends Program Contract: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to sign the contract. So voted.

Playground Committee Member Resignation. Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept Bernard Lapierre's resignation from the Playground Committee. So voted.

Sign Quitclaim Deed: Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to accept the deed and sign. So voted.

Mr. Tripp reiterated that people using the Rail Trail for their horses need to clean up afterward.

Public Comment:

Brandon Avery noted that dogs need to be leashed on the Rail Trail, Mr. Tripp said there is a leash law in Town.

Mr. Tripp said that him and Brandon Avery put 8 or 9 rustic benches on the rail trail. He thanked Brandon for his help and Patrick Gustafson for cutting the wood.

Bill King asked if someone from Clear Path Solar was coming to do a presentation on battery storage, Mr. Kiley said we were still waiting for him. Mr. Tripp said he thinks it would be beneficial to the Town. The Board is interested in battery storage at Huck's and other locations in Town. Mr. Kiley noted he toured the city of Sterling's power storage area and said it was pristine. Brandon Avery asked if there were battery storage units at the Orchard, Bill King said yes, 4 of them.

Bill King has about the Town House, if the Selectmen considered an RFP, non-profit to someone who can restore it. Mr. Kiley said he spoke with Jim Buzzell who said Donnie Berthiaume is trying to get \$50,000 for North Brookfield to help with Town House restorations. We may have to restore it in stages. Chet said we should have a clear idea of what it will cost and a timeline, shouldn't take another 20 years. Brandon said getting a developer to purchase the Town House could be hard. Mr. Kiley said he'd ask Jim Buzzell to come in, but Mary Walter signed a contract that obligates the town to restore everything historically accurately.

Chet asked about Free Cash, Mr. Kiley said we got \$334,000, and we should be ok with the 3% budget cuts. Mr. Kiley doesn't like balancing the budget on the backs of departments. Mr. Kiley also noted that fuel and salt prices have gone through the roof. Chet asked why we use salt instead of sand, Mr. Tripp said it's better on roads and less clean up in the Spring.

Announcements:

Mr. Kiley announced the Special Town Meeting will be Friday, December 3 at 6:30PM in the High School Cafeteria. This will be displayed on the Town Sign and Mr. Kiley will do a Code Red call to inform residents.

At 6:33PM, there being no further business, Mr. Petraitis moved, and Mr. Tripp seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre