

## Minutes of the Board of Selectmen Meeting

This meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order at 6:03PM on Tuesday, July 5, 2022. Jason Petraitis and John Tripp present.

Approval of Warrants: Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the following warrants: 3/15/22, 3/15/22 exec, 3/22/22, 3/29/22, 3/29/22 exec 1, 3/29/22 exec 2, 4/12/22, 4/12/22 exec, and 4/26/22. So voted.

Approval of Warrants: Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve the following warrants: FY 22 School # 1066 for \$104,990.28, General # 1068 for \$77,499.91, Payroll # 27 for \$298,213.06, Payroll # 27A for \$3,054.60, FY 23 General # 1000 for \$950,422.41 and Payroll # 1 for \$4,858.51. So voted.

### Financial:

Transfers: Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve a Finance Committee Reserve Fund request in the amount of \$35.52 to be transferred to Playground (630.5400) to cover gasoline costs for June. There was an unforeseen expense for a survey of the playground that caused the account to run short. So voted.

Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve a transfer in the amount of \$43.00 from Selectmen Technology to Selectmen Dues & Memberships. This amount was mistakenly transferred twice, this is to correct the error. So voted.

Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to approve a transfer in the amount of \$1,000.00 from Highway Dues & Memberships to Highway Other Miscellaneous to cover cell phone reimbursements as per union and superintendent contracts. So voted.

Old Business: Mr. Petraitis spoke about the water issue at the Arnold's residence on Summer Street. Mr. Petraitis said he thought we could pay for the repairs done by Bruce Arnold through ARPA funds but Town Counsel said we can't. Mr. Petraitis read a letter explaining the reasoning. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to sign and send the letter to Mr. Arnold. So voted.

### New Business:

Fire Reports: Mr. Tripp read the Fire Reports for April and May of 2022. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to accept the reports. So voted.

FY 23 Appointments: Mr. Petraitis and Mr. Tripp took turns reading and reviewing the FY 23 appointment list. They agreed to table the NBHelps group as we're unsure who is on the committee and if the committee has changed their name. Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to appoint the list as written, with the exception of NB Helps. So voted.

Vote by Mail Question from Town Clerk: Mr. Petraitis read a letter from the Town Clerk asking for clarification on vote by mail and how to opt out of it. Mr. Petraitis said we would take it under advisement for now and get back to the Town Clerk when we have more information.

### Public Comment:

Brandon Avery said that he runs into new residents and mentions things to do in Town, including using the Rail Trail. Many residents wonder where it is and where it leads. Brandon drew up a crude map and gave it to Mr. Tripp to review. He also provided some basic information on the back of the map. Mr. Tripp wants to make an official map of the Rail Trail and post more signage and the rules. Mr. Tripp thanked Brandon for the map.

Mr. Tripp noted there's been vandalization on the Rail Trail and at the Playground and it needs to stop.

Bruce Arnold said he appreciated the Selectmen's time but he's disappointed, he was told the situation would be taken care of and it hasn't been. Bruce suggested we remove the legal system from this situation and see where we would be and said he sees a lot of assumptions from Town Counsel. Bruce said he got three quotes and that Town Counsel is not familiar with the project. He will come back to the Board with a proposal as his intent is to pursue getting paid and he is adding interest to his bill monthly. He said he didn't do anything wrong and will continue this until he gets a resolution. He suggested meeting again with the Board and ARPA committee to review everything. He claimed he should have been advised of ARPA funds when this issue was first discovered. Mr. Petraitis said we didn't know about ARPA funds at that time, Ashley said we only learned of ARPA funds in late 2021, but that it covers projects back to March of 2021. Bruce said we can dig in and find solutions, he wants to provide more data and have more meetings to look at everything again. He was relying on the Town to get this done and says he only got bits and pieces of information. Mr. Petraitis said he's open to suggestions but our hands are tied right now. Bruce said Town Counsel's opinion is only an opinion and we need to form our own opinion. He also mentioned a study done by Lenard Engineering indicating a blockage on this property.

Mr. Tripp said the 4<sup>th</sup> of July celebration on the Common was great and everyone had a great time. They cooked 400 hot dogs, he thanked Mindy Tripp, Michelle Petraitis, Patrick Gustafson, Brandon Avery and Kristin Westbury for helping with the food. The DJ and band were fantastic. Jamie Flamand from Water Department hooked a sprinkler for the kids. Common Ground was there. The parade went well too, Patrick drove his excavator, there were old cars, fire trucks, Bond trucks, Donnie Berthiaume walked with Jason Petraitis. They didn't have a real baseball game but everyone got to play ball and had fun. Mr. Tripp thanked everyone who participated and donated their time/products.

At 6:40PM there being no further business, Mr. Tripp moved, and Mr. Petraitis seconded, a motion to adjourn. So voted.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashley Barre