

Minutes of the Strafford Selectboard
March 09, 2016

Members of the public body present: Brent Cadwell, John Freitag, Toni Pippy, Stephen Marx, Brian Johnson

Other active participants: Martha Walke, Dori Wolfe

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.

Reorganization- Steve moved, Toni seconded that John be elected chair- John, Steve, Brian in favor, Brent and Toni voted against. After the first nomination for Chair there was discussion and interest raised by Brent. Toni moved to nominate Brent as Chair, Brian seconded. Toni and Brent in favor, Brian, John and Steve against. Toni moved, Brian seconded that Brent be vice chair- all in favor. The Selectboard adopted the VLCT model rules of procedure for municipal boards.

Citizens concerns- none

Correspondence- the board read a card from Kate and Hannah Root thanking the board for its work. The board reviewed a letter to Dick Jostler, thanking him for his years of service. Karen Odell brought to the board's attention that an email link on the town website isn't working properly.

Approve minutes- Toni moved, Brent seconded to approve the minutes of 2-24 Brent, Toni, Steve, John in favor, Brian abstained. Toni moved, Brent seconded to approve the minutes of pre-town meeting. Brent, Toni, Brian, John in favor, Steve abstained.

Town highways- the town equipment is all up and running. Brent stated that the roads broke up today and asks that everyone be patient as the road crew gets them back in shape. Toni suggested that Jon MacKinnon keep in touch with someone from the fire dept. as to what roads would be too muddy for fire trucks. Dori spoke to the Elizabeth Mine Solar Project safety and infrastructure request to the Public Service Board. She indicated that there will be flaggers on each end of Tyson road on days when there are 10 or more trucks going to the site. The project is fine with the town's testimony and will be able to meet its needs. Dori also said that splitting the cost of the road survey wouldn't be an issue. The board reviewed a letter written to the EPA, the board signed the letter to be mailed.

General- community solar project credit changes - the town cannot use its credits towards the street lights account as it is set up now. GMP will allow us to use the credits once more and then the credits will be redistributed. The town will reduce its number of credits and the school will increase their credits. Dori said she will write new contracts reflecting the change. The recycle bins were returned from Cassella approximately 20% full still. Cassella was contacted but there has been no response yet. New bins and covers will be ordered reducing the rental cost and allowing the recycle

center to work as it should since the new bins will fit the layout. Steve and Greg Bagnato met with an outdoor lighting company to get pricing on better lighting around the gym, Barrett Hall and the lower parking area of the school. Toni will be attending the VLCT Selectboard Institute. The board is still looking at options for painting the town office. The board signed the updated copy of the personnel policy. Brian moved and Brent seconded that any new zoning ordinances and zoning by-laws shall be approved, not by a seated Selectboard, but instead, by Australian ballot, at a regular or special, town meeting. All in favor. Martha said that there needs to be changes made to keep in line with the town plan. Steve asked if they could provide the Selectboard with what the new changes are. Steve moved, Toni seconded to appoint all officers that are willing or haven't moved to their positions. All in favor. Steve moved, Brent seconded to appoint Michael Scanlan as the alternate to the GUVSWD. All in favor. The board discussed some of its priorities: sustainability of town benefits, equipment replacement schedule, Finance Committee for a capital budget investigation, governance study. David and Nancy Grant offered to advise the board on how to create a successful committee.

Brent moved, Brian seconded to adjourn. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Brent Cadwell