

Minutes of the Strafford Selectboard
January 25, 2017

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

Other active participants: Lisa Kendall, Jennifer Brown, Beth Preston, Jere Linehan, Shawn Harlow

Meeting called to order at 6:00 pm

Citizens concerns: Janet Hardy reported to the board about an ongoing issue with a nuisance dog on Mine Rd. The board reviewed the dog ordinance to see what options she has as the dog officer. It was determined that the dog could be impounded if the problem continues. Janet will speak with the owner and let the board know the outcome of the conversation. Janet also raised concerns regarding the large pile of trash and trash bags at a residence in the lower village. She said that she has seen cats eating out of the trash bags and she is concerned for their health as well as the appearance. As the health officer, Steve said he would follow up.

Correspondence: The board received official notice that we missed the deadline for village center designation due to a lack of a new Town Plan. Laura Corcoran emailed the board to report that her mailbox had been hit by the plow. The town has a mailbox replacement policy that will be followed. Dori notified the board that they were awarded the grant for composting and that BJ Miller and Shannon Varley offered to have the composting site on their property.

Minutes: Toni moved, Steve seconded to approve the minutes of January 11 & 18, 2017. Brian pointed out that his name was misspelled. The minutes were approved with the correct spelling. All in favor.

Highways: Brent reported that the equipment is good. Lisa reported that the financing for the new ton truck is 2.75% for 5 years through Mascoma Bank. The town received a contract from Jeff Bogie for purchasing winter sand. Brian moved, Steve seconded to accept the contract. All in favor.

General: Toni reviewed an updated version of the budget with the board. She said that there are still a few more entries that will change certain line items but overall everything looks good. A special Selectboard meeting will be held on Tuesday the 31st of January at 2pm to finalize the budget, approve the Selectboard report and adopt the warning for town meeting.

Other: Toni moved, Steve seconded to approve an article regarding the petition opposing the New Vista project. All in favor. Brent informed the board that he doesn't intend on running for another term on the Selectboard. He offered to stay on as a volunteer clerk of the works for the Linton Bridge project as he has been the Selectboard liaison to the state for the last 3 years. John moved, Toni seconded to have Brent serve as a volunteer clerk of the works for the remainder of the Bridge #29 project, scheduled for this summer after, his term on the

Selectboard is up. John, Toni, Brian, Steve approved, Brent abstained. The motion passed. Brian informed the board that he will be running again for the 2 year term. The board discussed having an article on the warning for town meeting that would change the order of town meeting to alternate year to year between the town portion and the school portion of the meeting. Beth, Jere and Shawn spoke about the needs of the emergency services in Strafford and the low numbers of volunteers on the Fire Dept. Jere said they have formed a committee to investigate the options of building a new station. He also spoke about purchasing a new engine. Shawn said that a basic engine would cost \$300,000 new and that they found a used one that would cost around \$140,000. Jere said they are restricted in options because of the small size of the station. A larger station would open up a bigger pool of trucks to choose from that could save up to \$50,000 on the purchase of an engine. John asked if they would like someone from the board to help with the committee, Jere thought it was too early in the process but that down the road that may be a good idea.

Toni moved, Brian seconded to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Brent Cadwell