Dunbarton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
April 11, 2019
Special Start time: 6:30 P.M.

A meeting of the Dunbarton Board of Selectmen (BoS) was held on Thursday, April 11th at 6:30 p.m. at the Dunbarton Town Offices.

Mike Kaminski called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Bob Martel to enter into nonpublic session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at the request of the Tax Collector.

By roll-call vote:


BoS entered nonpublic session at 6:31 p.m.
BoS reentered public session at 6:51 p.m.

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Bob Martel, to enter into nonpublic session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at the request of the Town Clerk

By roll-call vote:


BoS entered nonpublic session at 6:51 p.m.
BoS reentered public session and into a brief recess at 7:14 p.m.

Mike Kaminski called the public session of the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

Board members present:
Mike Kaminski, Chairman
Dave Nault, Selectman
Robert “Bob” Martel, Selectman

Town Officials and others present:
Line Comeau, Town Administrator
Jennifer King, Recording Secretary
Linda Landry, Town Clerk
Deborah Trottier, School Board Chair
Patrick “Woody” Bowne, Transfer Station Supervisor

Members of the public present:
Nate Naris

Leo Martel was present recording the meeting for the benefit of the citizens who could not attend.
OLD BUSINESS

Approve Minutes

Motion: by Bob Martel, seconded by Dave Nault to approve the regular meeting minutes of April 4th, 2019 as amended.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

AGENDA ITEMS

Accept Donation

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Bob Martel to accept a donation to the Dunbarton Energy Committee in the amount of $50 per RSA 31:95-b III (b)

Discussion: none.

Vote: 3-0

Mike Kaminski Commented that the energy fair this past Saturday small in size and attendance as compared to previous years, he further stated that it may be better if the Energy Fair were held every other year in terms of attendance.

School Board Update

Deb Trottier said they discussed June’s tax bill (which will be low) at their last school board meeting and they want to know if the BoS feels the School Board should send a reminder about this year’s special tax situation. Mike Kaminski said they can put it on Hot Topics. Line suggested that if the school does decide to send out a notice, they can qualify for a lower non-profit rate.

Deb Trottier asked the BoS if they will still have enough money in the budget as a result of June’s lower tax collection. Line Comeau said the tax payments usually start rolling in around the 3rd week of June. Mike Kaminski said they have a reserve to assist them with this type of situation.

Mike Kaminski mentioned that mowing season is coming upon us, and the town will be using the services of the same person as last year (Mike Underwood). He asked Deb Trottier that should the School Board need anything in regard to this or have any special instructions to please let the BoS know. Line Comeau said that they will have the mowing person take a walk-around with the janitor to note areas of special concern.

TOWN BUSINESS

Welfare Director

Linda Landry told the BoS that she would like to do some more research at the state level and keep the term for the Welfare Director as a one-year term for the
time being. Linda distributed RSA’s pertaining to the election of town officials. They have been electing this position in open meeting since 1941. She is still trying to figure out how they ended up changing from this being an elected position to an appointed position. The statutes outline a procedure that needs to be followed in order to discontinue the process of electing this position, and it does not appear that it was followed. Mike Kaminski said that it appears since 2004 they’ve been appointed. Linda Landry said that if it was never officially discontinued, they need to follow the process to change this position to an appointed role.

- BoS is in consensus to limit the term for the Welfare Director and deputy to one year, and then have a vote taken in public forum at the next town meeting to see if they can change it to an appointed position. They are pursuing new legal advice, so the BoS is hopeful that the new attorney can weigh in on this as well.

**Mailbox Items**

Mike Kaminski shared the following items of correspondence received over the past week:

- Church sent a thank you for the personal donations from five town officials to the Community Fund in memory of Les Hammond.

- Complaint from resident regarding logs being left on the side of the road. Line gave the person a contact at the DOT. He was able to contact someone there and they will be removed.

- Incident report regarding an injury at the Transfer Station.

- The Fire Chief responded to requirement of egress for the town office building.

- The Planning Board has been handling an issue regarding monuments in subdivisions. They have to be concrete or granite, and some old monuments need to be replaced. The town attorney looked at their monument regulation, said that they could defend it, but it may be a bit of a difficult area. Land surveyors are recommending the replacements as well. This will be addressed at the Planning Board level.

- There will be a meeting held on Tuesday regarding their impending settlement with Eversource regarding utility assessments. Selectmen should be present at this meeting.
Citizen from NY wrote a letter regarding traffic improvements. Michael Kaminski recommended that we pass these recommendations onto Sgt. Chris Remillard of the Dunbarton PD. BoS in consensus to forward the letter to Sgt. Remillard for review and comment.

Leave request for a town employee from May 6-10.


Pages Corner: received an update from Donna White regarding what was discussed at the latest TAC meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT
Nate Naris presented a proposal to improve the acoustics of the meeting room. Mike Kaminski asked him to present his recommendations to Line Comeau.

BOARD MEMBER ISSUES
Dave Nault will be looking into issues regarding the Town Hall.

Mike Kaminski asked Line about what is happening regarding the repair of the door at the library. Line Comeau said that Greg Miller’s quote is very reasonable (under $200) and he will be getting to work on that shortly.

Line Comeau said that they have been having some problems with their server. The issues they are having are covered under their extended warranty. They came in today to replace the drive and everything seems to have gone smoothly.

Mike Kaminski said that it has been suggested that the Town Office be able to close to the public once a week as the Planning Department does in order to be able to get some internal work done. Monday morning was suggested as an option. Dave Nault is open to the idea but doesn’t feel that Monday morning would be an ideal time. He suggested Monday afternoon or another time. Line Comeau has tried closing the door and posting a sign. It has helped to reduce interruptions. They would like just a bit of a quieter atmosphere.
Bob Martel asked about how much traffic they get on a Monday morning. Line Comeau said that is mostly department heads.
Mike Kaminski would like to leave closing as an option for a later time.
Dave Nault noted that when a town building door is closed, it makes people feel uncomfortable or unwelcome. He would prefer the door to stay open.
Line Comeau said that the sign has worked really well. People still came in to get things done, but it helped to keep the noise level in the building reduced and also assists with temperature control, as it does get rather cold in there during the winter.
Leo Martel said that the hallway does get really loud at certain points during the day.

Mike Kaminski suggested they leave it to the discretion of the Town Administrator for the time being. Dave Nault agrees that they can try it out and get some feedback. He just doesn’t want people to feel that they are being shut out.

Mike Kaminski gave an update regarding cleanup at the town pound. The abutter cut several branches off of the tree encroaching on the property and also plans to do some more cleanup in that area. They may want to consider hiring someone in the future to fix up the stone wall.

The BoS recessed at 8:08 to allow the room to clear before entering nonpublic session

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Bob Martel to enter nonpublic session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) at the request of the Transfer Station Supervisor.

By roll-call vote:

The BoS entered nonpublic session at 8:12 p.m.
The BoS reentered public session at 8:45 p.m.

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Bob Martel, to enter nonpublic session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II.

By roll-call vote:

The BoS entered nonpublic session at 8:45 p.m.
The BoS reentered public session at 9:08 p.m.

Line Comeau asked the BoS for guidance on how to proceed with approaching potential new attorneys. The BoS gave her some suggestions on how to explain their situation regarding their legal counsel and what it is they’re looking for.

Mike Kaminski recommends that Line go ahead and approach the 3 prospects she came up with to obtain rates.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Dave Nault to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: (3-0).
The BoS adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

_________________________________
Jennifer King, Recording Secretary

Mike Kaminski, Chair

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Dave Nault, Selectman

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Bob Martel, Selectman