Dunbarton Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2020

A meeting of the Dunbarton Board of Selectmen (BoS) was held on Thursday, January 9, 2020 at the Dunbarton Town Offices.

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

Town Officials and others present:
  Line Comeau, Town Administrator

Members of the Public present:
  Patrick “Woody” Bowne.

Leo Martel was present to record the meeting for the benefit of citizens that were unable to attend (Linda Nickerson uploads the videos to YouTube).

Recording Secretary Jennifer King was not present at the meeting but will transcribe minutes from the audio recording.

Mike Kaminski called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

Approve Minutes

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Bob Martel, to approve the regular meeting minutes of December 30, 2020 (3:30 p.m.) as written.
Discussion: none.
Vote: (3-0).

Motion: by Bob Martel, seconded by Dave Nault, to approve the regular meeting minutes of January 2, 2020 (7:00 p.m.) as amended.
Discussion: none.
Vote: (3-0).

PUBLIC COMMENT

Leo Martel asked about the agendas being posted online. Line Comeau replied that she missed getting the one for tonight posted but will make sure they are going forward.

AGENDA ITEMS
Review of 2019 Expenses

Line Comeau presented the BoS with an expense report for 2019. She noted that there may still be a couple of invoices that may trickle in over the next few weeks that will still need to be added. Line also reported that a surplus of $205,823 will lapse to the general fund. They had budgeted $2,546,939. Mike Kaminski remarked upon how close they had been with their budget.

Bob Martel attributed a lot of that surplus to maintenance items that they had planned but weren’t able to get quotes for. Mike Kaminski added that there are more maintenance items in the coming year that they are going to need to plan for as well.

Review of 2019 Revenues

Line Comeau reviewed 2019 revenues. They had budgeted revenues of $1,129,314 (lower than previous years). They took in $1,284,470, leaving a surplus of $155,000, that, combined with the expense surplus equals over $355,000 that will lapse back to the general fund. Dave Nault noted that this had been part of their goal in creating their budget last year, that they would end up in a good place on both sides.

Line Comeau outlined the schedule and deadlines moving forward as they proceed through their budget and Town Meeting preparations. She is working with the various town departments to pull the pieces of the Annual Report together.

2020 Milfoil Grant Agreement

Looking forward into 2020, they need to maintain Gorham Pond to ensure it remains milfoil-free. This will involve hiring divers to inspect the pond periodically and pull any plants they may find. The cost for this will be $2,250. They are pursuing a grant in the amount of $900 to help reduce this cost, leaving them with a balance of $1,350. Line Comeau said there is currently $20,000 in their capital reserve.

Mike Kaminski would like to pull the money for this from the capital reserve rather than use tax money.

➢ The BoS was in consensus with this suggestion.

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Dave Nault to approve the submission for a milfoil control grant from the NH Department of Environmental Services in the amount of $900.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0).

The BoS signed the 2020 milfoil grant agreement.
TOWN BUSINESS

Mailbox Items

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

- Memo regarding an issue an accident at the transfer station involving a gate and a resident’s vehicle. There were no injuries, but a claim for property damage is pending with the town’s insurance company, and all necessary police reports were filed. Transfer station supervisor Woody Bowne is working to get the gate repaired. Mike Kaminski advised him not to wait on the insurance company to proceed with any repairs. Line Comeau asked Woody to provide her with a copy of the repair bill for the insurance company.

- Information on a piece of legislation that was passed that would allow a board of 3 at the state level to overturn or overrule decisions made by local planning or zoning boards. There is a group that is looking to overturn this law, claiming that usurps authority from the local level. Mike Kaminski would like to find out the opinions of their Planning/Zoning boards on this issue, before deciding if they want to become involved. Line Comeau said will ask these boards to address the matter and respond accordingly.

- Information from resident Gary Voss regarding a website that lists the number of veterans residing in Merrimack County. He is hoping that they will be able to find some information there that will lead them to obtaining the number of residents that are in Dunbarton.

- Correspondence from a resident concerned about the width of Kelsea Road. They said that had to back into a neighbor’s driveway to allow a town plow truck to pass because there was not enough room for both vehicles to pass by each other. Dave Nault said that this is the nature of narrow roads, particularly in the wintertime.

BOARD MEMBER ISSUES

Dave Nault asked Line Comeau if she had had a chance to do some research on items discussed in prior meetings (salary rates for other towns). She said that due to training and extra hours in the office, she has not had a chance to look at that. She does have a revised RFP from Jeff Trexler that will be ready for next week.
Bob Martel submitted information he obtained from employment security regarding some general salary information for material collection and handling. He will be attending the Employment Advisory Council meeting on Monday and he will ask the Deputy Commissioner why they cannot be more specific.

Mike Kaminski said that he spoke with Linda Landry regarding Veterans and she is open to making Veteran questionnaires available at the Town Clerk’s office in order to help determine the number of these residents residing town. The BoS will work on drafting a form to make available February 1. Line Comeau still needs to check with the NHMA to ensure the legality.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Woody Bowne asked about the legality of posting signs in front of the transfer station, as it is a question he is asked. Mike Kaminski replied that they do not want political signs posted on town property. People are allowed to hold signs (as long they aren’t interfering with business), but they do not want them left unattended.

On January 29, NH DES will be offering a training class on handling batteries and hazardous household waste. There are 7 spots left in the afternoon class, and he would like his staff to be able to attend, as he has a lot of new employees. He is requesting permission to close in the afternoon and open in the evening.

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Bob Martel to allow the transfer station to close from 12pm to 5 p.m. to facilitate the training of transfer station employees. The transfer station will reopen that evening from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Discussion: none.

Vote: (3-0).

Nonpublic Session

Motion: by Mike Kaminski, seconded by Dave Nault to enter into nonpublic session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3 II (c) to discuss dedication of the Town Report.

By roll-call vote:


The BoS entered nonpublic session at 7:28 p.m.
The BoS reentered public session at 7:43 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: by Dave Nault, seconded by Bob Martel to adjourn the meeting.

Vote: (3-0).
The BoS adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Jennifer King, Recording Secretary

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Mike Kaminski, Chair

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Dave Nault, Selectman

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Bob Martel, Selectman