

**Board of Selectmen
January 12, 2022**

Present: Mark P. Duffy, Chair; Richard C. Edwards; Kenneth G. Fifield; Dino A. Scala, Town Administrator; and Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Mr. Duffy called the posted meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. **Mr. Edwards moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Fifield – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Duffy – ‘aye’. The motion passed 3-0, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 6:46 p.m. During the immediately preceding Non Public Session, the Board voted to authorize an increase to \$25.17/hour for Officer Garrett Anthony. **Mr. Edwards moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b). Mr. Fifield seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Fifield – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’; Mr. Duffy – ‘aye’. The motion passed 3-0, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 7 p.m. During the immediately preceding Non Public Session, the Board voted to hire Connor McLain as a fulltime patrol officer at the probationary rate of \$20.79/hour. At this time Mr. Duffy led all in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Duffy noted that long-time resident Peggy Richards passed recently. Ms. Richards had served the Town for a number of years on the School Board and as a member of Parks & Rec. Our thoughts go out to her family.

1. Appointments – None scheduled.

2. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #1 – No public is present for comment.

3. Unfinished Business – None scheduled.

4. New Business

a) 2022 IRS Mileage Reimbursement Rate – The Town currently reimburses at the rate of \$0.56/mile. The IRS has announced the standard reimbursement rate for business travel for 2022 is \$0.585/mile. **Mr. Edwards moved to approve the 2022 mileage reimbursement rate at \$0.585/mile. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

5. Proposed Capital Reserve Fund Expenditures

a) Highway Road Projects CRF \$5752.50 – This represents the cost for the survey of Bonnyman Road. We will request additional copies of the survey, which Mr. Mitchell will share with Brooks Construction. **Mr. Edwards moved to approve the expenditures as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.** Mr. Scala noted that a significant amount of research was involved.

6. Correspondence

a) Richard D. Sager – Mr. Sager announces that he will be retiring from active practice of law ☹️. He will continue to act as Town Counsel to Wakefield through March 31, 2022. Mr. Sager has been working with the Town of Wakefield for 39 years. He will be missed, but we’re pretty sure we’ll see him around! He has agreed to make himself available for the new Town Counsel.

b) Natalie Kelley – Ms. Kelley has submitted her resignation as a member of the Conservation Commission. **Mr. Edwards moved to accept the resignation of Natalie Kelley from the Conservation Commission. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

7. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #2 – Still no public...

8. Administrative Matters

a) Town Administrator's Update

--We had our annual inspections and renewal of licenses for our elevator and boilers. Both the boilers and sprinkler system were serviced. The ceiling blowers in the lower level are now operating properly. The recently purchased air circulators have not yet been installed due to an insufficient amount of wall outlets. It was decided the Mr. Scala would pursue the cost to have several additional outlets installed; meanwhile, the units will run utilizing extension cords.

--The 2022 budget season is still underway. The Budget Committee finalized review of the warrant articles last night. The articles will next be discussed at Deliberative Session, scheduled for Saturday, February 5, 2022, at 9 a.m. in the opera house. Mr. Scala directed the public to check the Town's website for the warrant, which will be posted when available, along with other documents relating to the proposed 2022 budget. He stressed that the website is a great resource of information, forms—you can even view all Town meetings by accessing Clearview Community TV via the Community tab on the homepage. Mr. Fifield stated that Mr. Scala and Ms. Bodah did a good job providing explanations to the Budget Committee last night.

b) Building Permit Releases – None forthcoming.

c) Treasurer's Reports November 2021 – Provided for the Board's information.

d) Tax Collector's Month/Year Comparison – Provided for the Board's information.

e) Payment Manifests – Mr. Edwards moved to approve PR #31, a void and reissue with no value. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to approve PR #32 in the amount of \$98,838.84. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Mr. Edwards moved to approve AP #37 in the amount of \$175,783.69. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

f) Minutes – Mr. Fifield moved to approve both the public and non-public minutes of December 22, 2021, as presented. Mr. Duffy seconded the motion, which passed 2-0-1 (Mr. Edwards abstaining).

Mr. Edwards moved to approve the minutes of the January 5, 2022, meeting/hearing, as presented. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

g) Selectmen's Work Session

--Mr. Fifield advised that the Budget Committee held a vigorous meeting, covering new ground in the form of bond issues. There were a number of people engage and good questions forthcoming from the public. All items will now pass on to the public for their vote. Mr. Edwards noted that the Board does not make the decision. It merely gives an opinion and passes the issue on to the voters. He will stand by the public's decision. Mr. Duffy agreed. The two bond articles must be decided by the public. The building committee did much work regarding the proposed projects. Each Board member will have their own opinion/vote—but the decision it ultimately up to the voters. Mr. Fifield stressed that this is an important year and participation is needed!


Mr. Edwards moved to adjourn at 7:26 p.m. Mr. Fifield seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Bodah, Secretary

Approval of Minutes:



Mark P. Duffy, Chair



Richard C. Edwards



Kenneth G. Fifield