

**Board of Selectmen
February 8, 2017**

Present: Richard C. Edwards, Chairperson; Kenneth S. Paul; Connie Twombley; and Toni Bodah, Secretary.

Mr. Edwards called the posted meeting to order at 6:20 p.m. **Ms. Twombley moved to enter Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (a), (b) and (e). Mr. Paul seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Ms. Twombley – ‘aye’; Mr. Paul – ‘aye’; Mr. Edwards – ‘aye’. The motion passed 3-0, and the Board immediately entered Non Public Session.**

The Board returned to public session at 7:15 p.m. Those present at this time included: Lino Avellani; Ed Comeau (videographer); Donna Martin (videographer); Tom Beeler, *The Granite State News*; Leigh Nichols, Director of Public Works; Angie Nichols; Chuck Robbins; and Sgt. Michael Fenton.

Mr. Edwards led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

1. Appointments

a) Leigh Nichols, Director of Public Works – Mr. Nichols had Seth Garland research the purchase of an excavator. As a result of those efforts, the Town has been trying out a 2014 John Deere, with 1700 hours of use. Nortrax is offering it to the Town for \$125,695, plus \$11,000 off for our trading in the 1987 John Deere. The revised cost, \$114,695, includes 5 years of JDLink; \$0 deductible Powertrain/Hydraulic warrant for 32 months, and a new 36” dig bucket. Mr. Nichols would also recommend purchase of a hydraulic thumb for \$6814, plus \$6500 for installation. Total cost: \$128,009.

If purchased brand new, the equipment would cost around \$250,000. The Board members believed this to be a good deal! **Mr. Paul moved to execute the purchase & sale for the 2014 John Deere excavator, as presented. Ms. Twombley seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.** According to Mr. Nichols, the relevant capital reserve fund currently has a balance of \$131,300 (not including the 2017 appropriation). Mr. Nichols will contact Nortrax.

Mr. Edwards referred to the condition of the Town roads today. He noted that paved roads are in great shape; however, he questions whether the dirt roads were addressed in a timely fashion. Mr. Nichols noted that this recent storm was different, with much rain and freezing rain. He will not scrape the roads if he does not have the appropriate material on the truck to apply on the dirt road. Mr. Nichols stated that the freezing rain stopped at about 6:45a.m. Mr. Paul referred to the number of posts on Facebook, providing updates for the public of storm conditions. It was also noted that a section of Ballards Ridge Road has been patched, but it will need to be dug out and repaired during the summer.

Mr. Nichols then recommended that the Board authorize purchase of a trailer from Russell Loring, which he believes would better serve the needs of the Highway Division. Mr. Loring’s trailer is larger than the Town’s current trailer and has air brakes instead of electric brakes. The Town would give Mr. Loring the Town’s current trailer, plus \$2000, in exchange for the trailer owned by Mr. Loring. Seth Garland has inspected Mr. Loring’s trailer and rated it favorably. **Mr. Paul moved to approve the acquisition of the trailer currently owned by Russell Loring for \$2000, plus the Town’s existing trailer, as recommended. Ms. Twombley seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

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2. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #1

--Mr. Avellani is looking forward to working with the Board of Selectmen! He also expressed thanks for Ken Paul's service to the Town for the past 9 years as a member of the Board of Selectmen.

3. Unfinished Business – None scheduled.

4. New Business

a) 2016-2 Sewer Warrant – Ms. Bodah noted that this warrant is higher than in recent years, in part because the rate has increased by \$2/thousand gallons. In addition, total number of gallons used increased by more than 700,000 gallons compared to the last readings. **Mr. Paul moved to approve the 2016-2 Sewer Warrant in the amount of \$30,728.14. Ms. Twombly seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

5. Proposed Capital Reserve Fund Expenditures

a) Highway Projects \$1359.93 - This represents the cost of asphalt purchased by R&D Paving for our 2016 projects. **Ms. Twombly moved to approve this expenditure as presented. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.**

b) Security Cameras \$1260.03 – This represents the cost of the network video recorders for the Highway Garage. **Mr. Paul moved to approve this expenditure as presented. Ms. Twombly seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.** Mr. Paul noted that the image quality could be a little better; however, the final cost was much less than originally anticipated.

6. Correspondence – None scheduled.

7. Unscheduled Matters/Public Comment #2

--Mr. Robbins referred to the upcoming vacancy in the position of town administrator. He noted that the City of Rochester uses the State of Maine's municipal resource association's website, in addition to the New Hampshire Municipal Association's site. Mr. Robbins questioned whether consideration should be given to hiring a town manager, rather than an administrator. Mr. Paul stated that may be something to consider in the future.

8. Administrative Matters

a) Administrator's Update – In Ms. Williams' absence, Ms. Bodah offered the following:

--Vachon Clukay has provided its Scope of Services for their auditing services. Mr. Edwards executed this document as presented.

--The GWRC, with the assistance of Victor Becker, has applied for a permit to erect a new sign at the Center. This is merely for the Board's information—no payment is expected from the Town.

--The public was reminded that the Town Clerk will be unable to process new or renewal registrations beginning Friday, February 17, 2017, and will be resuming transactions on Wednesday, February 22, 2017. This is a statewide interruption of services resulting from implementation of a new computer system (VISION).

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b) Building Permit Releases – None received.

c) Petition and Pole Licenses – Mr. Paul moved to approve the petition and pole license for Point Road, as presented. Ms. Twombly seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Ms. Twombly moved to approve the petition and pole license for Ballards Ridge Road, as presented. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

d) Payment Manifests – Ms. Twombly moved to approve PR #4 in the amount of \$69,833.13. Mr. Paul seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

Ms. Twombly moved to approve AP #5 in the amount of \$734,719.70. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.

e) Minutes – Mr. Paul moved to approve the minutes of January 11, 2017, as presented. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 2-0-1.

Ms. Twombly moved to approve the minutes of January 25, 2017, as presented. Mr. Edwards seconded the motion, which passed 2-0-1.

Ms. Twombly acknowledged Mr. Paul's 9 years' of service on the Board of Selectmen and added that she has enjoyed working with him. He has brought much knowledge to this Board; however, she understands that 9 years is a long time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Toni Bodah, Secretary

Approval of Minutes:

Richard C. Edwards, Chairperson

Kenneth S. Paul

Connie Twombly