

Approved 07/09/2020

I. CALL TO ORDER - The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gene Cordes, Neal Janvrin and Roger Barham; and Town Administrator Heidi Carlson. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting tonight is live broadcast by Bill Millios from FCTV.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. All Town services are available virtually, and many things can also be done by appointment. Please review the most up to date information on the home page of the Town website. Please continue remember social distancing. Please call or email us to get the services you need.

2. NH DRA officials are finishing field work inspections for the 2019 assessment monitoring. Postcards were mailed to property owners a few months ago. They expect the visits will be complete by June 30th.

Local assessors are also in the field doing some review of sales. They will knock on doors and leave a letter for owners. They will be wearing masks and lime green safety vests, and in marked cars. There are no interior inspections being performed due to Covid-19 precautions.

3. The southern 2/3 of NH is now under moderate drought conditions, so residents should use care with all non-essential water use.

4. Town Offices are closed next Friday for the Independence Day holiday. No appointments will be taken. In general, someone is in the Selectmen's Office during the usual manned hours. There are no delays in trash collections next week.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

The Safety Committee met on Monday June 22. Carlson reported at that meeting they discussed basic updates and current happenings. No injuries have been reported, and the only WC Claims have been related to potential (no confirmed) Covid-19 cases. Much of the discussion centered on safety precautions for the virus. The next meeting is scheduled for September 15th at the Library.

Janvrin gave an update of the June 23, 2020 Zoning Board of Adjustment meeting which was held in the basement meeting room. Present was Vice Chair Dennis Howland and Janvrin along with Leanne Miner. Members Todd O'Malley and Joshua Yokela attended remotely. The applicants also participated remotely. The one agenda item was an application submitted by Joshua and Heather Whitcomb at 46 Scribner Road who filed an application for a variance for a 33-foot above ground pool that was within the wetland setback. The Board voted 4-0 that a site walk was not necessary as they just did a previous walk for a garage at this property. Then the Board voted 4-0 to grant the pool variance.

The Highway Department finished loaming and seeding the sides of Chester Road on Tuesday; and did tree trimming, pruning and cleanup on Wednesday and Thursday this week and also on Beede Hill Road.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

After review, a motion was made by Janvrin to approve the minutes of the June 18, 2020 meeting as written. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimous 3-0.

V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS - times scheduled to change based on the flow of the meeting

At 6:40 pm Mark DeVeber, Emergency Management Director met with the Board with an update on all that is going on with Covid-19. Cordes stated he really appreciates all the work he has provided with

Approved 07/09/2020

updates and guidance and Board members shared the sentiment that Fremont has been very lucky to have his guidance.

DeVeber stated this is a reflection of all the Departments in town that have assisted him along with Carlson. He gave an update of statistics of the case numbers, deaths, recovery and age groups involved. At this point, 82% of deaths are from long term care facilities. Fremont has 15 cases with only 1-4 active. The curve has been on a downward slope to date which is what the Governor wants to see in the State to provide a negative trend. As of June 29, all hotels and campgrounds can open fully. Health and Wellness kits will be provided to all School Districts.

DeVeber and Carlson met on Wednesday and did a conference call with NH OEM on Thursday to better prepare future grant reimbursement forms for FEMA and NH GOFERR. Most of the money spent should be reimbursed through FEMA or the State.

Janvrin was concerned with all the cancelling of Fairs throughout the State and questioned what the Town should do about the October Grassdrag event. It is noted that the Governor has approved an event at NH Motor Speedway in August at 35% capacity and no camping. There are no grandstands at Grassdrags and no way to enforce or maintain social distancing without significant reduction in allowed entry. The Board said they need to decide what the Town is going to allow and contact the Snowmobile Association to discuss this shortly. DeVeber said some other sports venues are opening in August with 100% but no camping is allowed. A meeting should take place to include DeVeber, Police and Fire Chiefs along with the NH Snowmobile Association to discuss if this event is able to take place while staying in the guidelines of social distancing.

DeVeber remarked that while Town meetings and in-person services can be available we are still in the midst of a national emergency. The State is saying that as long as we can do our operations remotely, we are encouraged by the State to continue in this direction. He recommends monitoring what is able to open safely in our public buildings. Cordes said screening people and significant/frequent sanitizing would have to be considered to provide these services.

Cordes asked DeVeber if there were any updates about recreation field guidelines and library usage. He indicated that Concord is working on how to get back on track with these venues.

At 6:55 pm Carlson went to prepare the next appointment with sign in and screening for Covid-19. DeVeber left the meeting at this time.

While waiting, Selectmen discussed the topic of Bulky Day. They shared their concerns on how to have this event and keep the guidelines of COVID-19 social distancing. Probably no swap area and monitoring traffic control at the gate and guidance on the individual dumpsters provided will need to be managed and outlined to have this event safely. This will continue to be discussed and a decision made later.

At 6:56 pm People's United Methodist Church Pastor Frank King, Trustees Barry Ferrara and Frank Chase, and resident Leon Holmes Jr came before the Board to discuss use of the Town Property behind the Historic Museum as it relates to where the Church has been parking for many years.

Holmes provided details of the project with a sketch which shows the existing Historical Society Museum. He said they were planning to remove the loam and then gravel the area. The area adjacent to the Museum is approximately 19 feet wide by 45 feet deep (855 SQ FT) and another area behind the Museum totalling 53 feet wide by 80 feet deep (4,240 SQ FT). Holmes explained that Dig Safe permission will be obtained. He referred to the sketch and explained he felt this would improve an existing situation. Holmes stated he believes some former Board of Selectmen gave permission to the

Approved 07/09/2020

Church to use this Town land for parking. (It is reportedly overflow parking for church events and services and has been for many years).

Holmes said the material removed from Town property would be trucked to the Highway Shed and repurposed at some point. The trucking and all of the materials are donated, and Holmes is donating his time as a citizen with his bulldozer to do the necessary machine work.

Holmes stated that all the abutting property owners will be notified. Cordes wants a conversation with the Robinson Family and Matthew Thomas to get their consensus and support to get an MOU drafted to cover the arrangement. There was discussion about insurance certificates as well. Holmes said Thomas was notified and approved of the changes. Janvrin would like comment sheets for the record (or letters submitted) from Matthew Thomas on behalf of the Historical Society and the Robinson Family before any decisions are made.

Pastor King asked if the Town or the Church should send out the introductory letter and Cordes indicated that the Town should do that. He suggested checking back in about 3 weeks to see about progress. Pastor King reported that Wayne Robinson is the family's representative, and Holmes will speak with him and Thomas again as well.

All were thanked for their time and efforts, and left the meeting at 7:14 pm.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. FAA field updates from President Jamie Thompson: The FAA baseball pilot week with one team was very successful. Last week we opened it up to more players as the NH guidance changed on June 16th. This is our third week back at things currently and all is going very well. Families turn in a "practice ticket" on their way in the front gate each evening. There have been a couple of small soccer skills sessions held up on the Babe Ruth field by Derek Leslie in the past week also. Tonight, there will be a few girls doing a first softball skills session down back on the softball field.

Everyone has been very eager to be out and understanding of the new guidelines and accommodations.

At the baseball league level, games are scheduled to begin July 6th week with a plan for 8 games over 6 weeks so mostly one per week. Teams in the league this year will be from Kingston, Newton, Chester, Atkinson, Plaistow and Fremont. All of those towns have open access to their town fields also at this point. Please let me know if there are any questions. Signage has been put up on the soccer fields regarding usage and also there is no sanitizing available at the fields.

2. Work continues on the revaluation. MRI will be in to meet with the Board in a couple of weeks to present additional information and outline a schedule. Carlson has asked that they send information ahead of time for Board review to make the meeting more productive tentatively in two weeks on July 9th.

3. Electric RFP – As Barham noted last week, the brokers can only one at a time work with the Town on the electricity contract. The Town began with USource first, and no one (from either company) initially mentioned the exclusivity option. Because we began with USource, we will continue, and will put off the second broker (Standard Power) for the time being. There is a conference call scheduled next Wednesday at 1:00 pm with USource, the Town and School. Carlson said at the conference call next week they need our plans on major renovations, changes with solar or wind usage, for any impact on their contract.

Approved 07/09/2020

4. Janvrin wanted to obtain the update on Shirkin Road engineering for any decisions that may need to be considered before budget reviews and any meetings or Public Hearings that may be necessary. Carlson sent an email to Dan Tatem from the meeting requesting information on when the report would be ready.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda Items

- a. Payroll manifest for NH First Responder Stipends in the amount of \$30,169.17
- b. Payroll Manifest \$32,497.62 for current week dated June 26, 2020
- c. Accounts Payable Manifest \$679,154.89 for current week dated June 26, 2020
- d. FCTV Cable Revolving Fund manifest 2020-13 in the amount of \$1,029.82 to reimburse the Town's General Fund for June payroll
- e. FCTV Cable Revolving Fund manifest 2020-14 in the amount of \$34.92 to reimburse Greg Fraize for an HDMI cable
- f. 2020 Warrant for Unlicensed Dogs
- g. Generator Service Contract for 2 years with Generator Connection with the Chairman to sign on behalf of the Board

A motion was made by Barham to approve the above consent agenda items with the statement that the accounts payable manifest includes payments to the School District of \$468,000+ and \$107,000+ was for recent paving and shoulder road work. The motion was seconded by Janvrin. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

2. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence including an email from MRI regarding preliminary values and setting an appointment for July 8; and Jamie Thompson's email regarding FAA financial support for the Eagle Scout Ramp Project.

3. Chief Twiss has presented a NH Fish & Game Grant for \$3,600 for the July 1, 2020 FY for OHRV patrols. He is requesting the Board to authorize him to enter into an Agreement with the State of New Hampshire and sign all necessary documentation for the grant. A motion was made by Barham to approve this and authorize Chief Jon Twiss to apply and approve/process and sign all necessary Grant paperwork and administration for the July 1, 2020 OHRV Grant process. This was seconded by Janvrin. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

The Town also needs to provide a certificate of insurance to NH Fish & Game. Carlson has retrieved this from Primex to go with the submission.

4. A budget report for the week ending June 26th was circulated for Board members to review. Carlson is going to contact the Budget Committee Chair to try and schedule a meeting in July. This report will also go out to the Budget Committee. Cordes want to meet with Department Heads in the next couple of weeks, to briefly discuss budgets and future planning. Carlson will put together a summary for each Department on spending trends. Budgets for 2021 are due to the Board by August 1, 2020.

A motion was made by Janvrin that the Board not meet next week. This was seconded by Barham. The vote was unanimous 3-0. The next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2020.

VIII. WORKS IN PROGRESS

Work continues on FEMA and GOFERR grant submissions. The State bounced back submissions and we are having to update and resubmit. The original guidance provided has changed and been updated. Mark DeVeber is assisting in this massive effort to try and get the Town's funds reimbursed.

Approved 07/09/2020

At 7:45 pm Janvrin moved to enter non-public session pursuant to NH FSA 91-A:3 II (c) to discuss a personnel matter. Cordes seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Cordes-yes; Janvrin-yes; Barham-yes.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Nygren
Selectmen's Administrative Assistant

At 7:46 pm the Board began their non-public session.

At 8:00 pm a motion was made by Janvrin to return to public session. Barham seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Cordes-yes; Janvrin-yes; Barham-yes.

No decisions were made. Janvrin reported on a phone call he had from a resident with a complaint.

With no further business to come before the Board, a motion was made by Janvrin to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 pm. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

The next regular Board meeting will be held on Thursday July 9, 2020 at 6:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator