

Approved 08/06/2020

I. CALL TO ORDER The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Gene Cordes, Neal Janvrin, Roger Barham, and Town Administrator Heidi Carlson. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. Tonight's meeting is a live broadcast by Bill Millios of 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 to remember social distancing. Please call or email us to get the services you need.

2. The southern 2/3 of NH continues to be under moderate drought conditions. NH DES and the Town are urging residents to use care with all non-essential water use.

3. Please register to vote now if you plan to request an absentee ballot. We are anticipating record numbers of voters for the upcoming September 8 NH Primary and November 3 General Election. You must be registered to vote to request an absentee ballot. Contact the Town Clerk or the Supervisors for more information.

The next Supervisor Session is scheduled for 9:00 am on Tuesday August 11, 2020 at the Town Hall in the rear parking lot. Absentee Ballot Request forms can be found on the SUPERVISOR OF CHECKLIST page from the Town's website (www.fremont.nh.gov) for links to the NH Secretary of State page and all voter registration forms and updated information. Contact the Town Clerk for more information.

4. The new value letters are out and anyone with questions or concerns on their new value should call MRI as soon as possible to schedule a hearing. The deadline to call is August 6, 2020. You can call MRI at 603 279 0352 Monday through Friday from 9:00 am to 4:00 pm; or use the online scheduler at www.mrischedule.as.me anytime.

Carlson wanted to further let residents know that the new values are a representation of changes in market value, not as much to any changes to individual properties. The changes reflect what the market has done in the past two years, which has risen in Fremont. These statistics made the new values higher and will result in the tax rate reduction in the fall. All the reports and data are online for public availability. There are also printed books available at the Town Hall (outside at the front and back of the building when the offices are staffed). Anyone with questions is urged to call MRI and set up an appointment for review.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

On July 27, 2020 Conservation Commission met and worked on the Natural Resource Inventory (NRI). They are almost done with mapping, have finalized goals, and are finishing up the text for the NRI document.

On July 28, 2020 both the Open Space Committee and the Conservation Commission met with SELT to discuss plans for collaborating on trail use. This was held outdoors at the Fremont Public Library.

On July 29, 2020 the Budget Committee met where they reviewed School and Town financials to date and discussed upcoming meeting schedules (set for 9/9, 9/30, 10/14 and 10/28). There was discussion about holding the Public Budget Hearing and Deliberative Session at Ellis School and getting those dates set as soon as possible. Also discussed was the reimbursement process Covid19 expenses and looking at 2021 budgets along with state revenue information received from Municipal Association as put out by the

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Governor. Collection of taxes first issue was also reviewed with percentage collected is consistent with past years, currently at 98%.

And lastly, Barham reported on the July 29, 2020 Planning Board meeting, held at 7:00 pm in the upstairs Main Meeting Room and virtually. There was one topic under discussion: PPM Fremont Holdings LLC; Conditional Use Permit and Minor Site Plan Approval for a change of use at Unit 12 on the former Spaulding & Frost site for a warehouse. The application was approved with conditions.

The Highway Department completed work on Hooke Road this week. Paving finished Wednesday, and today they did shoulder work and touchup, everything went well. Janvrin went tonight to look at Hooke and said the road looks fantastic, "a great job."

EMD DeVeber is coordinating with the State of NH on distribution of our election workers PPE, to be done sometime in early August. Discussions at the EOC this week focused also on the upcoming Nascar preparations. There was isolated discussion around one town as they try and establish a mandatory mask-wearing ordinance. We will be watching the net few weeks to see how the summer interactions (beach, restaurants, etc.) will affect numbers and number of infected people. Carlson said a lot of absentee ballot requests are coming in and possibly to consider and arrange the handling of these ballots during the whole day by a separate ballot clerk just doing absentee so to not hold up the voting process.

The necessary repair work on the Safety Complex boilers was completed and documentation submitted to our insurer for the pending NH DOL Pressure Vessel Inspections. The worn valves have been replaced today and all the documentation was submitted to our insurer.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion to approve the minutes of the July 23, 2020 meeting as written was made by Barham and seconded by Janvrin. The vote was unanimous 3-0.

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

No appointments scheduled.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Copies of the updated guidelines from NH Department of Public Health regarding employee travel were circulated. Carlson asked the Board to consider Town Policy on the topic during the pandemic, and a sample as presented by another NH town was also circulated for review. It has been commonly known that CDC guidelines require 14 days of quarantine for any travel outside New England (and originally it was outside NH). As eligible and available, Covid19 related sick leave can be used for employees that have these benefits. The Board will revisit this next week.

2. The ballfield maintenance building lightning strike claim has been filed. Carlson stated that we believe the majority of bills are in, but we have been advised by our insurer to watch/check over the next several weeks to be sure no other electrical shorts are noted. The Town has paid the first \$1,000 and insurance will cover the rest. At this point, the overage is about \$310 we should recover from insurance.

3. The Board last week looked at tax collections and installation of the interest date for the BMSI tax collection program. Carlson reported that to date, 98% of the first issue tax warrant has been collected. There is only \$139,000 outstanding on the \$6.313M Warrant. Carlson also reviewed the uncollected list to see where we are at with deed status properties. This is something we look at this time of year to

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contact those owners and make them aware of the potential deed situation. The Board discussed any potential changes to the deeding process based on Governor's Emergency Orders.

Carlson suggested using August 15, 2020 as the due date as the Tax Collector is on vacation next week and would be due back at that time to set the computer system. Janvrin moved to instruct the Tax Collector to start the interest due date as August 15, 2020 for first issue 2020 property tax bills. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimous 3-0.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Consent Agenda Items

- a. FCTV Revolving Fund Manifest 2020-015 \$943.69 to reimburse the Town's General Fund for July 2020 payroll for FCTV staff
- b. FCTV Revolving Fund Manifest 2020-016 \$477.42 to reimburse Bill Millios for a one-year Vimeo subscription (this was voted by FCTV at their meeting two weeks ago)
- c. Abatement recommendation from MRI for 5 Hall Road (03-015) owned by Poplin Property Management Inc. Assessor's recommend denial of the requested abatement based on review of information submitted that did not include direct evidence of market value, thus the owner's have not shown "good cause" for an abatement.

After reviewing above Consent Agenda items, a motion to approve was made by Barham and seconded by Janvrin with unanimous approval 3-0.

2. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence that included: updated contact information for members of the Budget Committee; 2020-2021 budgeting schedule/calendar; email from a Beede Hill Road resident regarding Patterson hauling into Shirkin Road; a copy of the work authorization form for Town engineering services of \$300 for Shirkin Road work, which was approved last week; copy of a letter from a Black Rocks Village resident (sent to MRI) regarding assessing at Black Rock's Village.

VIII. WORKS IN PROGRESS

- 1. MRI's Revaluation hearings took place on Wednesday at the Library this week, with a full schedule during the day. Telephone hearings take place tomorrow. There are days also scheduled next week.
- 2. Fire Rescue Deputies are due into the Board's meeting next week for a budget recap and look toward the end of year and into 2021.
- 3. Copies of the Budget Committee contact list and potential calendar schedule for the coming cycle was reviewed. This has been sent out to Committee members and the School Administration for review and comment.
- 4. Next week the Selectmen's Office will be staffed Monday 9 am to noon; Tuesday 8 am to 4 pm; Wednesday 9 am to 4 pm; Thursday 9 am to 5 pm; and Friday 8 am to noon.
- 5. Carlson feels after last week's Budget Committee meeting that the Board needs to set goals on staffing, projects and obtaining information for pricing that might be needed. Cemetery Trustees have been planning lots of projects, as well as Highway and Police Departments. Cordes feels a mid-year progress on goals may take care of this, to sort what is equipment related or facility related. The Selectmen need to establish goals as well as to hear what departments need to accomplish these. Cordes wants guidance to

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be put out to the departments and this will be a Board agenda item next week. Cordes feels the Board and Carlson needs to discuss the buildings needs to prepare a list of needed items.

At 7:19 pm Janvrin moved to enter non-public session pursuant to NH RSA 91-A:3 II (c) and (e) to discuss both personnel and a legal 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 approximately 7:25 pm the Board began their non-public session.

At 7:50 pm a motion was made to return to public session by Janvrin. Barham seconded and the roll call vote was unanimously approved 3-0; Cordes-yes; Janvrin-yes; Barham-yes.

Selectmen asked Carlson to send the Employee Travel Policy to legal counsel for review.

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

With no further business to legally be brought before the Board, a motion was made by Janvrin to adjourn the meeting at 8:00 pm. Barham seconded and the vote was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator