

Approved 03/21/2024

I. CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm at the Fremont Town Hall Basement Meeting Room. Present were Select Board members Gene Cordes, Neal Janvrin and Roger Barham; Town Administrator Heidi Carlson; Gordon Muench and member-elect Jon Benson. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting is live broadcast by Bill Millios from FCTV and livestreamed on Vimeo.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. All Town and School District voting took place on Tuesday March 12, 2024. Results are posted on FCTV and the Town's website homepage.
2. Kindergarten registration at Ellis for the 2024-2025 school year is underway. There is a parent information night on March 28 from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Posters are posted and you can contact Mrs Nichols at Ellis School to register or for more information.
3. Open House for Neal's retirement will be held on Friday April 5, 2024 at Ellis School from 4:30 to 7 pm.
4. The annual Easter Egg Hunt will be held at noon on Sunday March 24, 2024 at Ellis School. Bring your basket!
5. FCTV broadcast channel 22 is down (8 and hi def 1073 are working). Bill Millios is working with Xfinity to get it resolved.

III. LIAISON REPORTS - none

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Janvrin moved to approve the minutes of 07 March 2024 as written. Barham seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

Barham moved to approve the minutes of 12 March 2024 as written. Janvrin seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

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

6:35 pm Public Input - none

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Multiple years of PSNH Appeals which are before the Superior Court will begin with mediation in May. Someone from the Town must be at the mediation, and the Board needs to decide who this is. The dates (May 20-22) are on everyone's calendar and a decision will be made as time draws near. Carlson is available if no one else is. More information will be gathered regarding obligations of the attendee.
2. The Board discussed the Maintenance Supervisor position and Finance/HR Director job descriptions and job ads on Tuesday. There is sentiment that both may be more aggressive than is reasonable for the money we are offering. Cordes said he is working on a redraft of both items for review again next week.
3. The first run draft of the 2024 wage schedule was circulated. The Police Chief and Library Director have reviewed and approved their staff. The Fire Chief needs to further review and address a couple of

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positions that are mid-stream with licensing/testing updates. There was tentative discussion about beginning the new rates with the pay period which begins on March 24 with an April 12 pay date. The Highway and Police rates are the only variations from the 3% cost of living increase. Members will review this further and a final determination will be made next week.

4. The State is still reviewing all of the materials for the Martin Road Bridge to consider the engineering proposals and get our approval to move forward to the next stage.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Cordes read aloud the Consent Agenda Items:

a. Payroll \$43,338.37 and Accounts Payable manifest \$100,789.66 for the current week dated 03/15/2024

b. Department Head timesheets for the pay period ending 03/09/2024

Barham moved to approve the Consent Agenda as read. Janvrin seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

2. Board members reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence including email from Randy Grasso about trucking, copy of correspondence sent to Mr Davis re: junk at 397 Main Street, Family Promise of Southern NH celebration notice for 04/17/2024; Eversource work update; Xfinity channel updates; Great Bay Services gala announcement for spring 2024.

Larry Miner came in to the meeting at 6:55 pm.

3. Carlson has the 2024 budget installed in the spreadsheet and the summary report of expenses and revenue to date was circulated. Members can review this in the coming days and any questions can be brought in next week. The information still needs to be uploaded to the DRA portal with the votes on each Warrant Article.

4. Copies of the Town Election results were circulated so members can review everything as voted and look at the work to be done in follow-up. The results are also posted for the public to review.

5. A letter has been received from the Fremont Fire Rescue Association relative to donating to the Fremont Fire Rescue Department four (4) Seek Thermal Fire PRO 300 situational awareness thermal imaging cameras. Carlson is waiting for the value of the cameras before making this an agenda item for Board acceptance. They need to be accepted as Town equipment for insurance and liability purposes.

6. The Board was asked to consider an email from the Health Officer regarding Narcan boxes to be posted near our AED's in public buildings. Her team at UNH has found a resource to stock community boxes, and they are investigating the need/use for such bystander distribution locations. She was advised today of all the locations the Town maintains AED's and she has reached out to the School and Library as well. The Board was supportive of this effort. Further information will be gathered.

7. Janvrin reported a conversation with the Road Agent this morning relative to the culvert problem on South Road at the State Recreation Trail. Someone approached the Board on voting day about it. The Road Agent is going to do some further investigative work in the culvert on Monday.

VIII. WORKS IN PROGRESS

Next week Board reorganization / Committee designations / renewal appointments will all be reviewed.

Approved 03/21/2024

Renewal appointments to consider:

Conservation Commission for three years: Leanne Miner and William Knee

Parks & Recreation Commission for three years: Maria Knee

Emergency Management Director for one year: Mark Deveber

The Town Clerk is working on the balance of renewals for next week.

The Library Director position becomes full-time after April 1. Carlson is working with Eric Abney on the additional benefits he is eligible for as well as calculating his sick and vacation time for $\frac{3}{4}$ of the year on a FT basis versus PT.

Carlson is drafting letters to the Trustees of Trust Funds to close out the voted Capital Reserve and Expendable Trust Fund accounts.

At 7:05 pm Matthew Thomas met with the Board to discuss an application he would like to prepare for an LCHIP grant for repair work at the Town's Olde Meetinghouse. He will need written approval and buy in from the Board for any grant submitted. He is working with an attorney friend of his, who offered to help with the application. He does not know the amount at this point but had to get moving quickly due to grant deadlines.

He mentioned the following projects that he would like to include in the grant: Windows that have not been puttered (glazed) since approximately 1990 to include some glass which needs to be replaced, fixing the loose foundation stone on the east end of the Meetinghouse and set it back in place; seal said stone so no animals can get in; repair holes in the concrete portion of the back of the Meetinghouse that had screening that has been pulled away; touch up the interior paint; repair and repaint cracked areas of the ceiling; painting the exterior; replace missing benches inside, restore/replace the two benches that are missing on the east end, upstairs gallery, so it will match the west end single benches, and fix the entablature on the top of the entry door.

Cordes recalled some of the 1991-93 work that was done and the passion there is in the community for that building. The Board was supportive of the work and asked Thomas to begin working on pricing of all the different items and trades that would be required for such work to be done. Thomas will report back.

On a separate topic, Thomas said he would start collecting names for interest in the 250th Committee and come back to the Board to make appointments. He was thanked for all of his work on these projects.

IX. NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A if needed

The next regular Board meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday March 21, 2024.

With no further business which may legally come before the Board, Janvrin made his final motion to adjourn the Board's meeting at 7:20 pm. Barham seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

Several staff and department heads were present to acknowledge Janvrin's last meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson, Town Administrator