

# SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

## TOWN OF TROY

Thursday October 1, 2020

**Selectmen Present:** Richard Thackston, Curtis Hopkins, and  
Tim Wilson

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*Chairman Thackston opened meeting at 6:04 pm.*

**Members of the public present:** Richard HKS Thackston, Courtney Davis

Chairman Thackston announced that the non-public session listed first on the agenda would be taken up at the end of the meeting where designated.

### **Public Comments:**

Richard HKS Thackston spoke in favor of keeping the stop sign at the corner of High Street and Prospect Street.

Richard HKS Thackston addressed the Board of Selectmen in his capacity as Chair of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to discuss the proposed budget presented to the Board this evening. The proposal shows an increase due to the increase in the number of cases that need to be heard. The idea of a Land Use Clerk to be shared by the ZBA and the Planning Board is being considered as well, though the Planning Board would have the larger share of the work and cost for this position. The position currently exists in both budget but has not been fully funded. The Board reviewed Mr. Thackston's requests and made the following recommendations:

Increase advertising 1-4192-200 to \$200.00  
Increase office supplies 1-4192-640 to \$250.00  
Increase postage 1-4192-675 to \$400.00  
Increase pub/books/periodicals 1-4192-685 to \$900.00

The changes result in a proposed budget for 2021 of \$5,025.00 for the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

**The Troy Historical Society** sent a request to the Board of Selectmen to fund some repair to the "Shoe Shop." The request for funding is for labor only as the materials have been donated. A cost for the labor needs to be determined.

### **Budget Discussion:**

The Selectmen's Office continues to dig into the current budget to determine the correct amounts spent on each line item. Several of the line items that are in question were discussed.

The Selectmen's 2021 proposed budget will be worked on next week by the Selectmen's Office staff.

**Special Business:** There was no special business to discuss.

**Old Business:**

The Town Hall renovations are nearing completion. The job took much longer than anticipated and has run over the cost presented for the warrant article approved at town meeting in March 2020. When it is determined the budget is corrected, much of the overrun can be charged to specific line items with money remaining in them.

**New Business:**

- A. Building Permits, Mobile Home Removal – The Board requested holding the permits until it is known that all outstanding property tax bills have been paid by the property owners.
- B. Building Permit, Storage Units – The building permit application was to add three storage units to the existing facility at 222 North Main Street. Mr. Courtney Davis explained the location, placement of the units and the size (smaller than the current units). This proposal was previously approved by the Planning Board. **MOTION** to approve the application, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND**, Selectman Wilson. **VOTES 3-0-0.**
- C. Yield Tax Levy (Timber) – Intent to Cut Timber at Map 5, Lots 9 & 10, Fitzwilliam Road, submitted for approval. **MOTION** to approve the application pending payment of Building Permit Fee, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** Selectman Wilson. **VOTES 3-0-0.**

**Consent Agenda:**

Payroll Manifests –

9/28/2020	\$12,619.42
10/5/2020	\$12,068.63

Accounts Payable Manifests –

9/23/2020	\$116,052.41
9/30/2020	\$ 31,000.75
9/30/2020	\$160,537.34

**MOTION** to approve Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** Selectman Wilson. **VOTES 3-0-0.**

Board of Selectmen Meeting Minutes – 9/17/2020

**MOTION** to approve Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** Selectman Wilson. **VOTES 3-0-0.**

Board of Selectmen Non-Public Meeting Minutes – 9/17/2020

**MOTION** to approve Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** Selectman Wilson. **VOTES 3-0-0.**

**Administrative Report:**

Town Administrator Guild reported on the webinar attended by herself, Sarah Lashua and Richard HKS Thackston on Thursday September 24, 2020. The webinar was provided by NH Municipal Association on the subject of budgeting and finance. Both Ms. Guild and Mr. Thackston reported

that they found the webinar very informative and there were several “take - aways” for each of them.

Ms. Guild also reported on a Cheshire County meeting she attended on Monday September 28. She provided the Board with a handout with NHMA survey results of the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic on municipal revenue.

Ms. Guild also provided the Board with a slide deck from a webinar she had attended at the DRA on the Tax Rate Setting Portal.

Ms. Guild reported to the Board that all the DRA forms (MS-1, MS-434, MS-535) necessary to be placed on the Tax Rate Setting que had been submitted to the Department of Revenue Administration. The MS-1 form has been approved and the MS-434 and the MS-535 are pending. The Monadnock Regional School District has not submitted the necessary forms as of today.

The Board discussed the need for a Land Use Clerk. Jon Collins submitted a very detailed letter describing the need for the position to be filled and funded and expressed his support for the position. Ms. Guild provided the Board with information from surrounding towns which included the position each of the towns designated with the Land Use Boards tasks and the compensation offered to the employees who fill the positions. In Troy, the position does exist, but has not been adequately funded. Selectman Hopkins expressed his belief the position is necessary. Chairman Thackston spoke in favor of the position, stating that if the position had been filled in the past, several of the issues that have been encountered by the town, may have been avoided.

Ms. Guild reported the receipt of one bid for the Heating Fuel RFP has been received. Swanzey Oil submitted a bid for fuel oil at \$1.77 per gallon, kerosene \$1.92 per gallon and furnaces service at \$80 per hour labor plus parts. Chairman Thackston will call the other providers for their prices.

#### **Board Chair Report:**

Chairman Thackston spoke of the Monadnock Regional School District’s denial of the Town of Troy’s request to use the Troy Elementary School Gymnasium as a polling place during the upcoming General Election on November 3, 2020. He feels strongly that the denial is wrong. The MRSD has placed the Town of Troy’s request on their next meeting agenda on October 6, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

Chairman Thackston spoke emphatically about the Troy Mills proposed redevelopment. It is his opinion the town should consider assisting the developer currently interested in the property to procure funding or to offer some funding assistance to rehabilitate the property. The other option is to demolish the property, as suggested by Mr. Courtney Davis.

Selectman Wilson had no report this evening.

Selectman Hopkins announced the upcoming Community Breakfast on Saturday October 3, 2020 at the Community Center. There will be indoor seating, the cost of breakfast is \$8.00. For take- out, the cost is \$5.00 per person. October 9, 2020 the Recreation Department will kick off the Fall Festival on the Town Common. There will be live music and food for sale. The Fall Festival will continue on October 10. October 25, the Community Center will host a Community Dinner. More

details to follow. Halloween in the Town of Troy is "on" for 2020. The Recreation Department will be conducting a Haunted House at the Town Hall again this year on October 30 & 31, 2020. The Recreation Committee is scheduled to meet on October 14 and 28, 2020.

Chairman Thackston solicited opinions of the other members regarding a Candidates Forum night. Selectmen Hopkins and Wilson both expressed interest in a forum. **MOTION** to hold a Candidates Forum night on October 22, 2020 at the Community Center Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** Selectman Wilson. **VOTES 3-0-0**. Selectman Hopkins will check on the availability of the Community Center.

The Board took a short recess at 7:49 pm. The meeting resumed at 8:00 pm.

**MOTION** to enter non-public session, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Chairman Thackston. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Thackston, YES, Hopkins, YES**. The Board entered non-public session at 8:00 pm.

**MOTION** to exit non-public session, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Chairman Thackston. **ROLL CALL VOTE: Thackston, YES, Hopkins, YES**. The Board exited non-public session at 8:47 pm.


**MOTION** to adjourn at 8:48 pm by Selectmen Hopkins, **SECOND** by Chairman Thackston **VOTES 2-0-0**.

**TROY SELECT BOARD:**

  
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Mary Guild, Town Administrator

  
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Richard Thackston, Chairman

  
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Curtis Hopkins

  
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Timothy Wilson