

SELECTMEN MEETING MINUTES

TOWN OF TROY

Wednesday November 18, 2020

Selectmen Present: Richard Thackston, Curtis Hopkins, Tim Wilson

Chairman Thackston opened meeting at 6:02 pm.

2. TAX RATE SETTING:

The Board discussed the preliminary tax rate suggested by the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA). The DRA suggested not using any surplus to offset the tax rate for this time period. The use of surplus would leave the Town in a vulnerable position should the need arise to access surplus funds. **MOTION** to set the tax rate at \$28.26 per thousand, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND**, Selectman Wilson. **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

3. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS:

A. Cemetery Trustees

Diane Lepisto addressed the Board of Selectmen presenting the budget proposal for the trustees for the year 2021. A slight increase of \$2,470 over the voted budget for 2020 was presented. The gates will need to be replaced at the cemetery on the Route 12 side. Perpetual care's regulations are quite clear that fencing cannot be charged to that account.

Selectman Wilson asked about a purchase of new equipment. Trustee Lepisto stated that the 2001 Dodge pickup is requiring more and more maintenance. There may be a need in the not too distant future to replace the truck. Lawnmowers may need to be replaced as well.

Selectman Wilson questioned the need to purchase new flags as the proposal shows a decrease in that line. Trustee Lepisto is hoping to reuse some flags that were purchased in prior years. The Town's Veteran's organization has not been contributing to the cost, the cemetery trustees have purchased and erected the flags. This year Marcia Conant assisted with putting the flags out and taking them in.

Trustee Lepisto explained the charges for part-time salaries as there may be a need to hire an additional worker, if Mr. Mason is unable to work as much as he has in the past. The line could be dropped as necessary.

Chairman Thackston addressed Trustee Lepisto's question regarding property and liability insurance as the costs have significantly increased over the last two years. The costs have been apportioned based on percentages of the budgets.

MOTION to accept the Cemetery Trustees budget proposal as presented, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND**, Selectman Wilson. **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

Road Agent Atkins had not arrived at this point, the Board took up later agenda items until his arrival.

4. SPECIAL BUSINESS:

At this point, the Board discussed a request by Brian and Mindy Mathey to address the Selectboard regarding subdividing a 31.6 acres parcel on West Hill Road, Map 026, Lot 0018. After a review and discussion, the Board determined there is not enough road frontage to allow for a subdivision of that piece of property. The Matheys were not present. As Selectman Hopkins was scheduled to attend a Public Hearing of the Planning Board shortly, it was requested that he bring the issue to the Planning Board.

5. OLD BUSINESS:

There was no old business to discuss.

6. NEW BUSINESS:

A. The Town Administrator has been contacted by CAI Technologies in regard to GIS Mapping for the Town of Troy. This issue had been brought before the Board in 2018. The Town Administrator is following up. The cost options presented by CAI Technologies is more than the Town can afford, therefore, will not pursue as this time.

B. An Intent to Cut application was reviewed for Map 037, Lots 0002, 0003, and 0004.

MOTION to approve the application Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

7. CONSENT AGENDA:

MOTION to approve the payroll manifests of November 8, 2020 in the amount of \$ 13,815.08, and November 15, 2020 in the amount of \$15,069.49, inclusive of the Fire Department payroll, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

MOTION to approve accounts payable manifests of November 12, 2020 in the amount of \$40,567.84 and November 17, 2020 in the amount of \$162,418.99, inclusive of the school payment for November, which is on hold, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

MOTION to reconsider approval of the accounts payable manifests, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

MOTION to approve accounts payable manifests of November 12, 2020 in the amount of \$40,567.84, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

MOTION to table the accounts payable manifest of November 17, 2020, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

MOTION to approve the minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting on November 5, 2020, by Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

MOTION to approve the non-public minutes of the Board of Selectmen meeting on November 5, 2020, by Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES: 3-0-0.**

3. BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

Road Agent Ed Atkins arrived at 6:30 p.m. He presented 2021 budget proposals for the Highway Department and the Transfer Station. The Highway Department will not be seeking wage increases as they were received in 2020. There is a slight increase in the part-time salary line for the newest member of the crew as the new employee is working out very well. The department is getting quite a bit accomplished now that they have a part-time employee to help out. He will move the increase for the part-time employee to the Warrant Article the Board will present to cover wage increases.

The current budget shows an overage in the Building Maintenance and Repair line due to the installation of security cameras at the highway barn. These have worked out quite well to decrease the amount of illegal dumping that had been taking up a good deal of employees' time.

The budget line item for culverts in the year 2020 shows an overage due to an issue that took place on Quarry Road. That has been corrected.

Electricity is showing a decrease as the barn has been equipped with LED lights. The cost of the lights will be recouped in the electricity savings in the next few years.

The backhoe has had some electrical issues resulting in an overage in one of the equipment repair lines.

For next year, road salt is showing a \$7.00 per ton decrease in cost. The request for 2021 is decreased.

The sweeping line of the budget is also showing an overage as the State of NH did not sweep their roadways which affected the town's roads. Because of the excess on Troy's town roads, the Highway Department had the state roads swept as well as the town roads.

Prior to Road Agent Atkins employment, the charges for diesel fuel had not been tracked. After some years of tracking, the department now has a history of costs reflecting less being spent than has been budgeted for. The request for 2021 is being reduced.

Some repairs will be needed on the trucks and the line for the 2016 Ford repairs is being increased.

The total increase to the Highway Department budget requests is \$18,165.

MOTION to accept the Highway Department budget as presented, Selectman Hopkins, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson, **VOTES 3-0-0.**

Selectman Hopkins left the Board of Selectmen meeting at 6:55 p.m.

The Transfer Station/Recycling budget was reviewed. The total shows a reduction from 2020 budget amounts to the 2021 budget request of \$7,013. A good portion of that amount is due to lower wages on the Superintendent line.

MOTION to accept the Transfer Station/Recycling budget as presented, Selectman Wilson, **SECOND** by Chairman Thackston, **VOTES 2-0-0.**

Road Agent Atkins presented proposals for Warrant Articles:

- \$100,000 to reclaim a portion of Quarry Road. No funds are to come from taxation.
- \$25,000 for paver shim on Bigelow Hill Road.
- \$25,000 for the Highway Capital Reserve Fund
- \$25,000 for the Highway Equipment Fund

8. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

The Town Administrator sought the Board's approval to enter into an agreement with 4Leaf, Inc. for Building Inspection services.

MOTION to allow the Town Administrator to enter into agreement with 4Leaf, Inc., Selectman Wilson, **SECOND** by Chairman Thackston, **VOTES: 2-0-0.**

The Town Administrator reported the members of a committee to develop a position for the Land Use Clerk: Mary Guild, Jon Collins, Henry Underwood, Richard Thackston. Meetings will be held in early December.

9. BOARD OF SELECTMEN REPORTS

Chairman Thackston does not believe the annual town meeting will be allowed to take place at the Troy Elementary school gym in March. He suggests the upstairs auditorium at Town Hall be cleaned up and set up for town meeting. He thought a chairlift for the stairs should be looked at and if it was not feasible to be purchased and installed before March, a projection of the meeting could be shown in the first- floor meeting room for those who were unable to climb the stairs.

He stated the Haunted House must be removed from the second floor of Town Hall.

Selectman Wilson spoke of the newest regulations regarding travel outside of New England. It was determined that going forward, any employees traveling should quarantine for 14 days or at least until a negative test result was received. The Town will reimburse employees for testing.

MOTION to enter non-public session, Chairman Thackston, **SECOND** by Selectman Wilson.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Thackston, YES, Wilson, YES. The Board entered non-public session at 7:06 pm to discuss a personnel matter.

MOTION to exit non-public session, Selectman Wilson, **SECOND** by Chairman Thackston.
ROLL CALL VOTE: Thackston, YES, Wilson, YES. The Board exited non-public session at 7:32 pm.

MOTION to adjourn at 7:32 pm by Selectmen Wilson, **SECOND** by Chairman Thackston.
VOTES 2-0-0.

TROY SELECT BOARD:

Mary Guild, Town Administrator

Richard Thackston, Chairman

Curtis Hopkins

Timothy Wilson