



TOWN OF DEERING

Board of Selectmen

762 Deering Center Road
Deering, NH 03244

Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2020

Selectmen present: Allen Belouin, Rebecca Mitchell, Bill Whisman

The meeting was called to order at 1900 via video teleconferencing because of the COVID-19 public health crisis and Governor Sununu's emergency order #12 pursuant to Executive order 2020-04 which authorizes the Board of Selectmen to meet electronically.

Mr. Whisman made the motion to approve the consent agenda. Mr. Belouin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Consent Agenda:

- | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|
| a. Minutes for May 21 st | | |
| b. Employee Payroll | June 3rd | \$13,477.49 |
| c. AP ACH XFER | June 4th | \$30.00 |
| d. AP Manifest | June 4th | \$34,019.26 |
| e. Yield Tax | | \$189.16 (215-006-000) |

NEW BUSINESS:

Acceptance of Gov's Office for Emergency Relief & Recovery (\$45,678) under RSA 21-P:43

The Board reviewed the GOFERR grant application. The TA explained that a total grant amount of \$45,678 is available for unanticipated COVID emergency expenses. Accepting the unanticipated funding under 21-P:43 was appropriate and lawful as the funding is in response to a public emergency. Mr. Whisman made the motion to accept the available grant funding up to the amount of \$45,678 as allowed under RSA 21-P:43 and to grant the Town Administrator, Russell McAllister, signing authority. Mr. Belouin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved.

Discussion of Requirements for Opening Town Office

The Board discussed some of the challenges inherent in the re-opening of the Town Offices to the public. The TA described some of the procedures other, larger towns were using as they re-opened; social distancing, wearing face masks, limiting the number of people in the office and so on. One of the challenges for Deering is the lack of redundancy because of the limited number of staff. While admin staff can work from home if someone is required to quarantine, the Town Clerk cannot work from home so her position is a vulnerable one. Motor vehicle registrations are the Town's largest revenue source and if Ms. Baker is exposed to the virus she will need to quarantine at home. This will also impact tax collections as well. The Board agreed to continue operating under current practice and to revisit the issue during subsequent Board meetings.

COVID-19 Updates

The TA briefed the Board relative to the limited beach parking explaining that complaints have been few and the police have not seen the number of parking violations as they did last year. The Board discussed the beach closure and limited parking with a mind towards allowing more parking for vehicles carrying kayaks and canoes, but to continue the beach closure so as to limit the risk of transmitting the virus to the lake hosts.

Other

Fire Chief Proposal – Position of Deputy Fire Chief

Chief Gorman spoke to his proposal to staff a Deputy Fire Chief. He explained that the position will be scheduled to work when he himself is not available so that there is better coverage. The candidate he is looking to promote is Jeff LeBlanc who has a 35-year background in the Lebanon fire department as both a fire fighter and paramedic. He is a flight medic with DHART and he has been with the per diem program since its inception. The additional cost for the rest of the year is about \$5,400. The Board was receptive to the proposal and asked to have Mr. Leblanc attend a future meeting. In the meantime, the Board directed Chief Gorman to have Mr. LeBlanc meet with the TA and discuss the proposal.

The Board inquired about the status of the new truck and directed Chief Gorman to keep the TA apprised of the status so that the timely financing of the remaining cost would go smoothly. The Board also inquired about the status of the new SCBA gear. Chief Gorman explained that they had received quotes and he will provide more information.

The Board asked to have Police Chief Philibert attend the next regularly scheduled meeting.

There being no further business to come before the Board Mr. Whisman made the motion to adjourn. Mr. Belouin seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous and so moved. The meeting adjourned at 1925.

Respectfully Submitted,

\s\ Russell McAllister
Town Administrator