

CAMPTON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, March 4, 2024

Board Attendees: Sharon Davis, Craig Engel, Mort Donahue, Dan Boynton, and Nik Coates.

Town Employees: Lisa Vincent, Jade Hartsgrove

Public Attendees: Lauren Sirignano, Karl Kelly, Linda Dauer, Bill Dauer, Paula Woodward, Marilyn Woodward, Jon Gablinske, Nalini Potts (on Zoom)

Call to Order: Chair Davis opened the meeting at 4:35 p.m.

Administrative Tasks

1. Review Manifests, Sign Permits and Warrants

The Selectmen signed accounts payable and payroll manifests.

2. Consent Agenda

Selectman Engel made a motion to approve the consent agenda which included the public and non-public meeting minutes for February 20, 2024, and a Timber Intent to Cut by Mark Dunklee. The motion was seconded by Selectman Boynton and was unanimously approved.

3. General Updates and Correspondence

Formal Complaint: Wade Reed Logging has submitted a formal complaint and would like the Board to discuss this and come to a determination. The Board would like to speak to the Road Agent regarding the matter. The Board will put it on the agenda for the next meeting and invite the Road Agent.

Land Donation: Jade informed the Board that the Conservation Fund owns several lots of land in Town and one of them being a .11-acre lot off NH RTE 175. The Board asked Jade to forward the information to the town's Conservation Commission to see if they would be interested in the lot.

Auditor Notice: Chair Davis received notice from the auditors that they would be on site to perform the 2023 from May 13th-17th. The 2022 Audit Report has not been completed as the Trustees of the Trust Funds are still off a couple thousand dollars on the MS9 and MS 10 and they need to balance before it can be completed.

Right-to-Repurchase: The Board received a right-to-repurchase letter from prior landowners in the Town. The original has been sent to the Tax Collector to fulfill.

Petition to Lay Out New Town Road Process Procedures: The Board received a letter requesting either a tax break for being on a private road and the owners on the road assuming all the responsibility for maintaining, or they would like the Town to take over maintaining the Road. That letter triggered the need for written procedures for citizens who wanted to pursue the betterment process. Accordingly, Chair Davis drafted a proposed Petition To Layout New Town Road Process. After the Board reviewed the document, Selectmen Engel motioned to approve the process and procedures document for taking over a private road. Selectmen Boynton seconded the motion, and the Board voted all in favor.

Town Meeting Work Session

Paula Woodward, Town Moderator, went through the slides she created for Town Meeting on March 13th. She noted a change she will have to make to the presentation after deciding to not have Department Heads sit on the stage. There was a discussion about the addition of town employees to the presentation or not. It was decided that only current employees would be on the slide, however, it remained undecided if that slide would make the final presentation. Selectman Boynton pointed out that the list of town employees is in the Town Report and Ms. Woodward could reference that at Town Meeting. Paula went over her rules for Town Meeting and the sources that she referenced these rules from. She asked the Board if they had any concerns with the rules and Selectman Coates had a question regarding a rule about comments being germane to the Warrant Articles. Ms. Woodward pointed out the second to last rule on the slide pertains to that question. Selectman Boynton would like to set aside some time at Town Meeting to explain what community power is and answer questions that the public may have. Selectman Coates would like Ms. Woodward to explain that there is no state regulation regarding how long the polls must stay open for, it is at her discretion. Selectman Coates also would like a clarification for the public regarding which ballot number corresponds to which warrant article and a discussion about people's ability to request a secret ballot. Selectman Boynton would like an update to the slides before Town Meeting regarding the poll results from the day prior.

The Board then reviewed each warrant article and agreed who would move each article and who would second the article, and which articles the Board needed to speak to in order to provide more information.

Paula Woodward and the Board went over a couple of quick, last minute items such as the stage they will be on, clarifying the Select Board's recommendations for each Warrant Article, and

advertising child care offered by the Recreation Department at Town Meeting on the Town's Facebook page.

Privilege of the Floor

Bill Dauer had sent a letter to Chair Davis regarding the Town maintaining his dirt road and Chair Davis responded that she just sent out a response to that letter. In her letter, she stated that in pursuant of RSA 231.59, Towns are not authorized to spend public funds to maintain Class VI highways or private roads. She also included the process to turn his road into a town road, if Mr. Dauer decided to go that route. Mr. Dauer mentioned he requested a tax break for taking care of the road and Chair Davis responded that was not possible due to RSA 231.59, however, Mr. Dauer could apply for a betterment. Mr. Dauer requested to have a private sign added to the Pattee Mountain Road sign. The Board decided that the Town will purchase a private sign and put it up for Mr. Dauer.

Mr. Dauer asked if the Board would consider a secret ballot on all of the Articles and Selectman Coates responded that they are not allowed to do that. Also, votes for a secret ballot cannot be done as a whole, but rather individually and Ms. Woodward pointed out that there is very limited window for a secret ballot to be requested and that it also adds an enormous amount of time to the Town Meeting. The Board also mentioned that if Mr. Dauer decides to go that route, it would be very burdensome to the Town.

Mr. Dauer asked about who owns the Blair Covered Bridge and who owns 20ft on either side of the bridge. The Board responded that the Town owns the bridge and the State owns 20ft on either side. Mr. Dauer asked about adding a head ache bar to the bridge and the Board responded that they have been working on that with the State for the past 3 years. However, Selectman Coates mentioned that things like that barely get approved.

Board Concerns, Updates, and Directives

Selectman Coates wants to remind everyone to come out and vote on March 12th from 8 am to 7 pm at the Selectmen's Office and Town Meeting is on March 13th.

Selectman Boynton wanted to clarify questions he had regarding Intent to Cut. The Conservation Commission may have concerns about them, but it is a State process, so the Board can't do anything about potential concerns.

Selectman Boynton also wondered about the possibility of starting a sidewalks and lights committee sooner. Selectman Boynton motioned to start a sidewalk and lights committee

comprised of Selectmen, citizens and hopefully someone from the Water District. Chair Davis thinks Selectman Boynton should wait until after Town Meeting. There was no second to Selectman Boynton's motion, so the motion failed.

Selectman Donahue made a motion to go into a non-public session in accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (a) at 5:35 p.m. Selectman Engel seconded the motion. The roll call vote was as follows: Selectman Davis, aye; Selectman Engel, aye; Selectman Boynton, aye; Selectman Coates, aye; and Selectman Donahue, aye.

The Board came out of non-public at 6:05 p.m.

Upon a motion made by Selectman Engel and seconded by Selectman Donahue, the Board unanimously voted to seal the non-public minutes.

With there being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michelle McCaleb, Recorder