

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

Town Hall Annex

6:30 PM

Select Board members present: G. Willard, B. Ezell, and K. Caisse

Meeting called to order by Ezell at 6:30 PM

- **Public Comment**

- Gail Cromwell asked about the non-public session item on the agenda – hiring of a bookkeeper - and said this news should be further disclosed. Ezell explained that town bookkeeper Judy Paglia is leaving as of July 15. Cromwell said that the SB should have announced this news and then begun a search, rather than hiring a new bookkeeper without a search and without an announcement. She urged the SB to consider the solemn trust the town gives them with and the state laws that govern their actions. Cromwell said there appears to be no emergency to require a hiring and that the town accountant, Brenda Wiley, has offered to assist with payroll next week and that the vouchers the SB is signing cover the upcoming payroll and the next two weeks of bills. She urged the SB not to act in any fashion that could be construed as nepotism and that the non-public session be tabled. Ezell explained that the SB is reviewing a resume, hours and compensation and not planning to hire anyone immediately. Cromwell said a SB member may have to recuse themselves if any family member is involved.
- Connie Kieley asked about the parking situation around the Temple Congregational Church and Town Hall. Clifton-Waite said he would add this item to Old Business on the next SB meeting agenda. Caisse said he and TVFD Fire Chief George Clark had met with the church's minister and church member Rob Wills about leaving space in front of the church free of cars and discussed the option of allowing Sunday parking next to the town highway garage behind the Town Hall. The church will announce the plans to the congregation at Sunday service and George and Ken will monitor the situation.
- Connie Kieley said she would like to address the SB when they discuss the affordable housing committee, which Ezell said would be acceptable given that she would be one of the founding committee members.
- Connie Kieley told the SB that she had worked for an organization where a spouse was hired to work for her husband and that this led to enormous problems and that the town should consider that now and in the future.
- Ron Pulos asked about how public comment works when a subject comes up. Ezell explained that the NH Municipal Association recommends that public comments be taken at the beginning of SB meetings to make business meetings efficient. Ezell said

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

he would entertain points of information but not commentary about matters that arise that need further explanation to the public. Pulos said he recalled from the recent Planning Board public meeting on affordable housing that the study committee would be broader than just affordable housing. Ezell said it would be, and that the new study committee would research the problem. Kieley suggested the committee be named the Temple Community Planning Committee.

- **Non-Public Session**

- Ken Caisse motioned to enter non-public session at 6:45 p.m., under the provisions of NH RSA 91-A:3(II)b, to review a resume of a possible candidate for town bookkeeper, Willard second, all in favor. Caisse recused himself for a portion of the session.
- Non-Public session minutes are on file and not sealed.

- **Return to Public Session**

- SB reconvened the public session at 6:53 p.m., minutes recorded by Ezell. Ezell explained to the public that the SB would be posting a job notice for a new town bookkeeper. Cromwell asked the SB to consider going to a two-week payroll system. Ezell said the town has considered this idea for cost and paperwork efficiencies, and that the town would also be looking at direct deposit. Caisse said town employees should be consulted. Road Agent Kent Perry said the two-week payroll period can be tough to manage for family cash flow, but that he has been on this previously. Cromwell said with a two-week payroll system the first week would be paid 4 days after its close, but that the second week would be paid 4 days early and town employees might like this. Kent said he would survey his staff.

- **Old Business**

- Municipal Building space revisions
 - Clifton-Waite reported that he had emailed town office personnel, including the Town Clerk, Tax Collector and Treasurer, about working to box up materials on the second floor to permit them to donate the roll-top desk to the fire department. He said staff would be reviewing their needs and the office space for their storage needs.
- Marsh litigation
 - Ezell said the SB would be meeting with town counsel, Bill Drescher, to finalize the process ahead of filing a formal lawsuit in Hillsborough County Superior Court. Meanwhile, the SB will table the proposed motion by Drescher to proceed with a formal complaint for injunctive relief pending their meeting with Drescher. He said that meeting would happen either this or next week, then action would be taken.

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

- Building Permit
 - **SB signed a demolition permit for the Stuart Hendrie, 111 Hadley Highway, for removal of a wood structure, Map 7B, Lot 28.**
- Driveway Permit Updates
 - **Clifton-Waite presented the draft temporary and permanent driveway permit applications, based upon Lyndeborough templates and which Road Agent Kent Perry said he had tweaked for minor issues for use in Temple. Perry said he is satisfied with the drafts. Caisse motioned to adopt both documents for town use, Willard second, all in favor.**
- Cemetery Funding
 - **Road Agent Kent Perry told the SB he is asking again that money from burials and cremations be segregated for use in a separate cemetery fund, to avoid disappearing into the general fund and having to use other highway funds for cemetery needs. He said the fees are needed for grub and insect control, grass seed, mowing and tree work. He said he cannot wait until the next year to be given replacement funds and wants to avoid tapping money designated for other needs. Discussion of fund creation and trust fund use. Perry said that the highway department is absorbing the overtime costs for burials in the meantime. Perry agreed to discuss the matter with Sherry Fiske, a trustee of the trust funds. Perry also noted that he has a tree that needs to come down and that he will return once he puts the work out to bid. He would like to avoid a greater cost if the tree were to topple and damage property at the ballfield or cemetery, which he estimates could total \$1,500.**
- **New Business**
 - List of dog civil forfeitures
 - **SB reviewed the list from Town Clerk Joyce Kullgren and signed the letter approving the list as a warrant to send out to the listed 19 property owners for civil forfeitures of dogs whose annual dog license has not been timely renewed.**
 - Jeta Grove Foundation tax abatement
 - **SB reviewed the letter from Avitar Associates recommending a cashless tax abatement for the Jeta Grove Foundation due to an erroneous assignment of tax on some kutis on Map 7B Lot 28 at 28 Jessen Lane that should have been labeled tax exempt. Clifton-Waite said he would draft a thank you letter for the SB to sign in response to the Foundation's recent payment in lieu of taxes.**

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

- Building Permits
 - **SB reviewed and signed building permits for the Stuart Hendrie, 111 Hadley Highway, Map 7B Lot 28, for an electrical upgrade and new construction of 1,800 square feet of building. Caisse noted that Hendrie had overpaid on the permit fee due to a math mistake on building dimensions and that the town would reimburse him \$36. Approval on the new construction building permit was conditioned upon town building inspector, Will Wildes, answering Ken Caisse's questions about the sufficiency of the plans.**
 - **SB reviewed and signed a building permit for Jim Hagen, 243 Colburn Road, Map 8B Lot 45-2, for an electrical upgrade with a porch. SB noted that existing permit 2018/563 covers this work since it is within one year's calendar time. Caisse motioned to refund Hagen his \$12 permit fee, Ezell second, all in favor.**
- Charitable/Religious Tax Exemption Renewals
 - **Willard motioned to accept the recommendation from Avitar Associates, to continue a religious property tax exemption for the Temple Congregational Church, NH Route 45, Map 7A Lots 7 and 46, Caisse second, all in favor.**
- Affordable Housing Study Committee
 - **Ezell explained that the Planning Board had held a hearing last Tuesday, which arose from its mission this year to address affordable housing. Ezell said that affordable housing won't alone solve the issue of attracting more people to town; that work involves jobs, internet, and services including day care availability. He said the Planning Board deferred making any recommendations and resident Christine Robidoux volunteered to chair a committee to study all the issues for the Planning Board if the Select Board would authorize the committee. Discussion of a name for the committee, including the suggestion of the Temple Community Planning Committee. Caisse motioned to authorize the Temple Community Planning Committee and appoint Christine Robidoux as its chair, Willard second, all in favor. Cromwell suggested that it be called an ad-hoc committee. Committee candidate Connie Kieley said the committee would report first to the SB rather than the Planning Board.**
- Nationwide Corrected Fixed Account Amendment
 - **SB reviewed and signed the Fixed Account Amendment from Nationwide Life Insurance Company regarding a corrected document.**

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

- Committee Reports
 - Willard presented information from the recent SAC meeting where the group addressed topics of town cooperation, broadband access and establishment of a committee to examine extending broadband internet access throughout the ConVal School District communities. He also updated the SB on the recent ConVal lawsuit challenging the state's funding of an adequate education. He said the town should expect to receive a \$21,000 grant in 2020. The next meeting will be held on Aug. 22.
 - Ezell said there will be no police board meeting until August. Meanwhile, the ZBA is in the process of revising its appeals forms and should vote on that at its next meeting.
 - Caisse reported that the Wilton Recycling Center is looking for a new manager. The Wilton ambulance chief will be out on medical leave for another couple of months, and the current staff are doing a great job in his absence.
- Other Business
 - Clifton-Waite circulated a draft letter to the owner of 562 West Road about possible future development at the property and SB members asked him to review the file and return with the date of the original permit for discussion at the next meeting.
- Minutes
 - SB discussed the June 11 minutes. Caisse motioned to accept the minutes from the May 14 SB meeting as amended, Willard second, all in favor.
- Vouchers
 - SB circulated vouchers for signature.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:41 PM. Motioned by Cassie, Willard second, all in favor.

Meeting Reconvened: 7:42 PM. Motioned by Ezell, Willard second, all in favor.

- **New Business**
 - Building Permit
 - SB discussed and signed building permit application for James Goddard, 14 Maplewood Drive, to install a 680 square foot pool on Map 8B Lot 28-1.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:46 PM. Motioned by Willard, Caisse second, all in favor.

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

Next Select Board Meeting: Tuesday, July 9, 2019, at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall Annex.
Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Paul Clifton-Waite, Assistant to the Select Board.