

TOWN OF TEMPLE, NEW HAMPSHIRE

SELECT BOARD

MINUTES OF PUBLIC MEETING

**Tuesday, Dec. 10, 2019**

**Town Hall Annex**

**6:30 PM**

Select Board members present: George Willard, Bill Ezell, and Ken Caisse

Meeting called to order by Ezell at 6:30 PM.

- **Public Comment:**
  - **Gail Cromwell asked about the continued appearance on the agenda of creation of town policies and procedures. Ezell said the policies remain in edit phase and have not yet been adopted. Cromwell encouraged the Select Board to adopt the financial procedures as prepared by the Budget Advisory Committee. Cromwell also asked about the status of the town annual report, which is on the agenda.**
  
- **Old Business:**
  - Employee Manual Review
    - **Select Board is waiting to conduct a final review of the edited manual. Caisse said one item needs to be added and then the final version will be ready to adopt.**
  
  - Kullgren Road property auction
    - **Ezell said the auction has been postponed again until January, and that the town's counsel recommends the Select Board not send the bank a letter of notice that might disrupt the foreclosure sale.**
  
  - Municipal Building repairs
    - **Caisse said he expects to be able to provide an update on this item at the next meeting.**
  
  - Purple Heart Community
    - **Ezell said the town is a Purple Heart Community when it designates itself as such, and that four people have signed up to sponsor road signs the town will purchase to announce this change. A fifth sponsor is needed, and Caisse said he and Julie Dean will purchase a sign. Ezell said a declaration is still needed, but that will be done in the future.**
  
- **New Business:**
  - Tax Map question re: Mansfield Road properties – Glenn Nutting

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- **Glenn Nutting was not yet present at the meeting, and Ezell said he expected tonight's exchange to put the matter to rest.**
- Assessment of hoop structures at Temple Mountain Beef/Mark Salisbury on NH Route 45
  - **Caisse noted that the Planning Board had previously addressed this matter, and that the letters show the Planning Board has no issue with the hoop buildings being defined as other than a structure as defined by the town Zoning Ordinance. Ezell said the Select Board can grant an abatement if need be for the assessments as recently given by Avitar Associates. Ezell said a formal policy might be needed, and Caisse said it might be helpful to have someone from Avitar come in to discuss this at one of their January meetings. Clifton-Waite will contact Avitar. Ezell noted that the Select Board cannot just order Avitar to not assess the buildings. Honey Hastings asked if the New Hampshire Municipal Association would know about any new rules that pertain to this. Ezell noted that the buildings are exempt per the statement of Town Planning Board and Select Board. In lieu of a discussion with Avitar, the Select Board will want a detailed explanation of why the assessment was levied and how the Select Board can change that.**
- Letters to the Trustees of Trust Funds
  - **Select Board reviewed and signed the two letters to the Trustees of the Trust Funds requesting reimbursement for gravestone repairs and general cemetery maintenance that have been funded in 2019 out of the general fund.**
- Town Report
  - **Select Board reviewed a bid for the 2019 town report from Rose Lowry, who was present in the audience. Lowry said the timeline for the work will be a little compressed, and that she is bringing in a partner to assist during a vacation. Willard motioned to contract with Rose Lowry at the price of \$2,900 for the production of the 2019 Temple Town Report, Caisse second, all in favor.**
- Search for a new webmaster
  - **Ezell reported that Marilyn Acker Ezell would post about the opening on the Temple Facebook page. Discussion of webmaster billing and cost. Alanna Casey's rate of \$25 an hour price is billed in 15 minute increments and she provides a detailed bill twice a year. Caisse said her bill for half a year amounted to \$900.**
- Committee Reports

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- Ezell reported that the Temple-Greenville Police Department committee met last week and that Police Chief James McTague presented a 2020 budget with a spending increase of \$34,366 that includes a new pay scale for officers to assist with retention of officers. He said the Greenville Select Board has agreed to share the additional cost. Ezell said the police department's pay is about 10-15 percent lower than other communities and that officers leave after completing their three-year commitment after training. The new 16-step pay scale seeks to address this problem.
- Ezell said the Planning Board held a forum recently on affordable housing and will eventually report on the topic. Ivy Bibler said there is a lot of willingness in the community to look at different ways to accomplish the goal of establishing affordable housing without diminishing the quality of Temple.
- Caisse reported that the ambulance advisory committee had drafted a budget and that the Town of Temple will have to make a decision on what level of service they want. The town is facing a \$140,000 increase in costs, if the ambulance adds a second ambulance crew. He reported that Greenfield is not happy with the price increase of the proposal. The committee needs to look at more data on call volume, but the proposal would cost about \$22,800 when the town has a 16.3 percent cost. Caisse said the ambulance service has times when it's not able to get a second ambulance out and the Town has to decide whether to continue at this level of service. Ezell said the Budget Advisory Committee would look into the proposal.
- Caisse reported that the Wilton Recycling Center is installing a baler for \$35,000 – at about half the anticipated price. Other changes coming to the center after the Christmas holiday is temporary closure of the swap shop. He said their budget will be increasing.
- Tax Map Question re: Mansfield Road properties
  - The Select Board recognized Glenn Nutting as present at the meeting. Nutting said the Select Board should be the one to order Avitar to make the change of acreage to the tax card for 114 Mansfield Road. He demanded that the Select Board provide him with the NH state RSA that prevents Avitar from just updating the tax card for the Mansfield Road property without a survey to confirm the change in acreage (to match the property deed). Ezell directed Nutting to talk with Avitar. Nutting argued that the Select Board had referenced a state statute during the prior meeting and was violating the state Right to Know Law by refusing to tell him. Caisse suggested Nutting research state law, since the Select Board does not have that information. Ezell told

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Nutting to ask Avitar for its policies and procedures. Nutting demanded the Select Board provide him with Avitar's procedures. Ezell said the Select Board is under no obligation to research state laws for him. Nutting said the NH Dept. of Revenue Administration told him that the Select Board has the authority to change tax cards. Ezell stressed that the Select Board cannot legally change the tax card on its own. Nutting said he had previously provided enough proof to the town to change the tax card for the property, without doing a survey.

- Vouchers
  - Select Board circulated vouchers for signature.
- Minutes
  - Select Board reviewed the Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Caisse motioned to accept the minutes from the Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> meeting as amended, Willard second, all in favor.
- **Other Business**
  - Warrant Article proposal for Historical Society museum
    - Historical Society President Honey Hastings introduced the draft petition Warrant Article, which had been provided to the Select Board in advance for review. Discussion of language and whether to request review by town counsel ahead of signature collection. The petition only requires 25 signatures, but Hastings said she would like to begin immediately and collect as many as possible. Since it is a citizen petition, Select Board elected not to request counsel review.
  - Solar Permit Application
    - Select Board reviewed a Solar Permit Application from Anthony Datel, of 444 NH Route 45, for solar shingles mounted atop his barn. Ezell motioned to approve the application subject to approval by Building Inspector Will Wildes, Willard second, all in favor.
  - Replacement of Assistant to the Select Board
    - Select Board briefly discussed Assistant to the Select Board Paul Clifton-Waite's resignation, which he tendered on Monday.

**8:01 pm., BE motion to adjourn and KC second, all in favor.**

**Next Select Board Meeting:** Tuesday, Dec. 17, 2019, at 6:30 PM in the Town Hall Annex.  
Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Paul Clifton-Waite, Assistant to the Select Board.