

**Town of Chesterfield
Board of Selectmen
MINUTES
February 25, 2015**

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Jon McKeon called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m. Others in attendance were Jim Larkin, Elaine Levlocke and Rick Carrier, Town Administrator.

FOR SIGNATURE

- Manifest 9
- Selectmen Minutes – February 18, 2015
- Intent to Cut - Gladke
- Elderly Exemption Application
- Veterans Tax Credit Application
- Tax Collector Abatements – Ryll, Schroeder, Town of Chesterfield
- Notice of Lien – Peterson
- Valentine's Day Cards Thank You

APPOINTMENTS

• **6:15 p.m. Ken Walton – Library Trustee**

On behalf of the Library Trustees, Walton requested that the selectboard change their decision to recommend Articles 22 and 23 on the Town Warrant regarding the Library Building Maintenance. Walton stated that the Trustees don't have a reliable source of funds to respond immediate repairs and can only withdraw from the Capital Reserve Fund, which would require a vote by a warrant article at Town Meeting. Levlocke stated that she felt that the building maintenance can be planned ahead, as is done with some of the Exp Trusts and Capital Reserve Funds.

Walton asked if it would be possible amend the warrant article to make the BOS the agent instead of the library trustees of the expendable trust. Carrier replied that it could be discussed from the floor at Town Meeting.

• **6:30 p.m. Bayard Tracy – Budget Committee**

Tracy explained reasons by some of the Warrant Article were not approved by the majority of the Budget Committee. McKeon explained that Article 11 was for the \$5,000 to be added to the fund, where a portion would be coming out of the fund for a study of the building in what could possibly be done for it. The balance would be to fund whatever needed to come out of the study in the end. Tracy stated that the Budget Committee didn't feel that it would not cost \$100,000, being \$25,000 plus the \$75,000 for the study. Levlocke added that the selectboard is trying to raise money to do the renovations with the town deciding on how to spend it and the study would come out of that money.

Tracy stated the Article 14 was for \$16,000 for repair and paint the Town Hall cupola. He added that Budget Committee would like to see the selectmen create a capital reserve fund for the

maintenance of the town buildings, which would smooth out the expenditures that are being made on an ongoing basis and be directed by the selectboard. Larkin expressed an interest in doing this in the future. Tracy also would like to see the Budget Committee and the selectmen work together at the Town Meeting.

Steve Laskowski stated that the question was raised of why wasn't action taken against the contractor or engineer for alterations and replacement of the library parking lot in Article 21. McKeon responded that the town would spend more money in court for a project that was completed 20 years ago. Laskowski and Larkin noted that both items will need to be done. Laskowski stated that the Budget Committee didn't support the way the funds were being raised directly from taxes, in total, as a lump and that a general fund be created for town owned buildings. McKeon noted that money won't be able to be pulled from a capital reserve fund unless the project is identified in March for any unexpected repairs from March to March. He added that if there was a capital reserve fund for each building gives the citizens a clearer picture of what each building needs.

McKeon stated that a capital reserve fund is to help lessen and not to eliminate the highs and lows of the tax burden.

FOR DISCUSSION

- **Bennett Road – Diesel Correspondence**

An email was reviewed that was sent to the town administrator from Richard Diesel stating that the road agent gave approval for Diesel to add 1-1/2 inch of gravel to the dip in Bennett Road for a temporary fix for traveling over that section of the road. The selectmen would like confirmation from Bevis on the discussion. McKeon thanked Diesel for his willingness to help with the road repairs and stated that any alterations to the road surface must be discussed at a selectboard meeting.

- **Correction to February 11th BOS Minutes**

Levlocke moved to amend the Selectboard meeting minutes to reflect that Warrant Articles 22 & 23 were not recommended by the Selectboard. The motion was seconded by Larkin, which passed unanimously.

- **Dreher Property Tax Refund**

Carrier stated that Andrew Dreher had purchased a parcel of property at Map 5J Lot D16 in April of 2013. The taxes were paid for the first issue of \$1,598 by the previous owner and the first and second issue bill was sent to the new owner. The tax collector researched the procedure and determined that a refund should be paid to Dreher.

Levlocke moved to send a refund Mr. Dreher \$1,598 for the double payment issue tax bill for 2013. Larkin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- **NH Ten-Year Transportation Improvement Program**

The board reviewed a letter and list of proposed road projects by Southwest Region Planning Commission of a 10-year plan. Carrier reported that DOT may be looking into installing rumble strips in areas of Chesterfield. The board had concerns as to why the selectboard wasn't

notified regarding potential projects or concerns of the studies that were done in the Chesterfield area by our local traffic study committees.

- **Workers Comp Multiyear Agreement**

Carrier stated that Primex is offering a Contribution Assurance Program if the town agrees to extend out the Workers' Comp agreement with them for two additional years, they will guarantee that the town's workers comp contribution will not go up by more than 10% a year. The board declined the offer.

PROJECT LIST

Enclosure for Transfer Station Cardboard Bales: Larkin is still waiting for a report from Ron Bell.

OTHER BUSINESS

Chesterfield school teacher, Greg Hammett, has expressed his interest in serving with the Conservation Commission, which the Commission felt it would be a great idea to have someone from the school to work with them. Currently the Commission has five full time and two alternated serving and Carrier found there was nothing in the Warrant Article to not allow for another seat. Hammett will be invited to an upcoming selectboard meeting.

The president of a local snowmobile club met with the Conservation Commission and received approval to be allowed the club to make some of the trails wider. Both groups will walk the trails to observe where the work needs to be done.

Larkin reported that February 25 is Alex Martins last day with the Chesterfield Police Department. The board would like to thank Alex for his years of service and wish him luck in his new position.

The NH Timberland Owners Assoc. and Timber Harvesting Council (a non-profit group) requested the use the Town Hall for a Fundamentals of Forestry workshop on May 19 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Levlocke moved to allow NH Timberland Owners Assoc. to use the Town Hall on May 19 at no rental fee. The motion was seconded by Larkin, which passed unanimously.

Levlocke announced that Antioch University was holding a Wilderness Ethics discussion on March 5, 2015 at 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the University in Keene featuring an expert panel of speakers. Please contact Peter Palmiotto for more information at ppalmiotto@antioch.edu.

Carrier announced that the Economic Development Committee are progressing on the development of the business portion on the town's website.

With no other business to conduct, Levlocke moved to adjourn at 7:12 p.m. The motion was seconded by Larkin, which carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Grace, Secretary to the Selectboard

Approved by:

Jon P. McKeon, Chairperson

Date

Elaine H. Levlocke

Date

James M. Larkin

Date