

**TOWN OF ENFIELD
SELECT BOARD
MEETING MINUTES NOVEMBER 6, 2023**

TIME: 6:00 PM
LOCATION: Public Works Facility & Teams videoconference
74 Lockehaven Road, Enfield

PRESENT

Board of Selectmen: John Kluge, Tracy Young, Alice Kennedy, Erik Russell, Kate P. Stewart

Administrative Staff: Ed Morris, Town Manager; Alisa Bonnette, Assistant Town Manager

Members of the Public: Phil Neily, Fire Chief; Emily Curtis, Recording Secretary; Dan Kiley, Ana Gerald

CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Stewart called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 16, 2023

Mr. Kluge made a motion to approve of the minutes as presented. Ms. Kennedy seconded.

Ms. Kennedy stated page 4, line 150, should be clarified.

Members of the SB agreed it should be amended to state: "...feedback from a corporation for public policy."

Mr. Kluge made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Ms. Kennedy seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

BOARD REPORTS

Members of the Select Board (SB) presented updates on their respective committee assignments.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Morris presented the following updates to the SB:

- He stated that we are looking for volunteers for trail work and interested parties are welcome to inquire at Town Hall for further information.
- The Enfield Police Department is engaging with a candidate to fill one of the vacancies in the department. The police department is currently working through their annual mental health evaluations, and it has been noted that the department's ongoing practice has been recognized by the New England Coalition of Law Enforcement Mental Health, and the practice is serving as a model for other departments.
- DPW is now accepting applications for: Cemetery Grounds Maintainer and a winter seasonal plow truck operator. He noted that a resignation has been submitted for the Janitor/Maintenance position and the job will be posted soon. An offer has been given for the Water Operator position to an individual who holds all of the necessary certifications.
- He thanked Kevin Marker and the staff that helped at the Trunk or Treat. It was well attended and greatly enjoyed.
- The Whitney Hall groundbreaking ceremony is tentatively scheduled for - December 8th, with the project to begin on December 11th.
- Town Offices are anticipated to be open at the La Salette property as of December 11th, and the library is anticipated to open at the former gift shop on the property in January of 2024.

- Ms. Stewart noted that residents are permitted to utilize the Canaan library.
- Mr. Morris added that there is also electronic media available that can continue to be utilized as well.
- Chinburg Properties are no longer looking to develop the Lacroix property as there were significant access problems to the Route 4 corridor identified in their survey process.
- The new tax rate has been set at \$27.16, which is an increase of 5.5%; he stated that the increase was on the low end of the projections put forward at the Town Meeting earlier in the year.
- Pumps are being installed for tests on the new wells.
- Maple Street was shimmed last week, and they will be back in the spring to put a wearing coat on it.
- FEMA disaster aid was received for the Christmas Storm in the amount of \$9,522.
- He thanked Chief Holland, Jim Taylor, Jeremy Clay, and other partners in Grafton County, as they contributed to the addition of Grafton County to the FEMA Declaration for the July storms, and the town will be applying for funds.
- DPW worked with Upper Valley Regional Planning to host a stormwater workshop, which 20 people attended. He noted it was recorded and will be available to the public in the future.
- Casella is working on changing all dumpsters to front loaders.

Mr. Russell inquired if other emergency personnel have access to mental health support.

Chief Neily stated that there are resources for fire and EMS and evaluations are done on an annual basis.

Mr. Morris added that there are Employee Assistance Program resources available to full-time staff as well.

Mr. Morris presented the painting that was restored, as was approved by the SB earlier in the year. He stated that the art restorer indicated that it was likely an early century traveling artist that made the painting of the original Shaker Bridge.

With no further comments or questions, Ms. Stewart moved on to the next agenda item.

BUSINESS

Energy Committee Updates: Solar Array, Community Power

Ms. Stewart stated that the Energy Committee updates would be rescheduled for a future meeting.

Authorization to enter Community Nursing Contract

Mr. Morris stated that the committee has worked hard to get things in place, and he requested the support of the SB to finalize the first-year contract with the City of Lebanon. He stated that the funds to pay for the one-year contract have been raised by the committee and he has worked with Chief Wheatley closely for the development of the contract.

Members of the Select Board expressed their support for entering the Community Nursing Contract.

Ms. Stewart extended her thanks to the committee members for their time and commitment to the project.

Authorize Use of CIP funds for the purchase of a Tanker Pumper for the Fire Department

Chief Neily stated that there are concerns with the length of time to get equipment, as well as upcoming EPA emissions standards which will put the burden on manufacturers to implement the changes. He stated that with the change in emissions standards there is an estimated increased cost of at least \$30,000. He noted that the request would support a 'two for one' replacement which would reduce the fleet by one vehicle and reduce the maintenance needs for the fleet. He noted that the transmission would also be automatic, which would allow access for more personnel to be able to operate it, and it would adhere to modern safety standards, for which there are concerns with the current tanker truck.

Mr. Morris stated that costs continue to go up for fire apparatus, and he recommends finding one that is certified by the NFPA. He stated that it concerns him that there are only a limited number of people that can operate the current equipment as well. Mr. Morris stated his recommendation to schedule a public hearing before having the SB vote for approval, but an RFP could be put out to get more information as well.

Members of the SB discussed the possible replacement of the current pumper tanker and supported having a public hearing on Monday, November 20th.

Mr. Kiley stated that we will be paying off a fire truck in 2031, and this would not be on payment until 2027 or 2028. He noted that the cost of vehicles such as cruisers has been increasing drastically and will need to be evaluated as a part of the CIP Plan.

Review current state of both building projects

Mr. Morris presented the current plans for the Public Safety Building and Whitney Hall. He stated that the Shaker Hill Granite land has been purchased and the Public Safety Building is on the path to begin in the spring. He noted that the emergency vehicles will exit onto Route 4.

Mr. Young stated that the facility might be named, which can be reserved for a future discussion.

Mr. Morris stated that the current elevator and staircases will remain in the same place. He noted that the Town Offices will be moving to the former La Salette buildings during the first week of December, with the anticipated reopening to be on December 11th, but they will open sooner if possible. He added that the library will be closed from Thanksgiving through the remainder of 2023.

Members of the SB congratulated everyone involved in the process.

Mr. Morris stated his appreciation for Ms. Bonnette and Julie Huntley for their support as well.

With no further discussion, Ms. Stewart moved on to the next agenda item.

TIF Committee Application (Lynds)

Mr. Kluge made a motion to approve the application as presented. Mr. Russell seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

Policy Review: Personnel Policy - Health Insurance Premium Addendum Amendment

Ms. Bonnette stated that a former town manager proposed the increase of the employee share of the insurance plan by 1% each year, to increase up to a total of 20% for the employee share.

Ms. Kennedy made a motion to approve an increase of 1% in Employee Health Insurance Premium Shares as presented, effective January 1, 2024. Mr. Kluge second. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

Acceptance of Donations to Community Nursing Program Trust Fund: \$3,500 (Vote required)

Mr. Russell made a motion to accept the donation to the Community Nursing Program Trust fund in the amount of \$3,500 with gratitude. Mr. Kluge seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

Acceptance of Donations to Mascoma Lakeside Park Trust Fund: \$1,000 (Vote required)

Mr. Russell made a motion to accept the \$1,000 in donations to the Mascoma Lakeside Park Trust Fund with gratitude. Ms. Kennedy seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Tax Warrant

Mr. Morris presented the Tax Warrant for the tax rate as presented in the Town Manager's report.

OTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN**Public Comment**

Ms. Stewart requested comments or questions from members of the public.

Ana Gerald, representing the consultants providing the town with a proposal for the Shaker Boulevard Bridge, introduced herself and inquired if there were any questions regarding the proposal.

Mr. Morris stated that Mr. J. Taylor is working on the process and is the point of contact regarding the proposal.

Mr. Morris noted to the SB that there are two projects moving through the LPA process with the state and federal government. He noted that due to the nature of the agreement for state and federal approval it is necessary to move forward with putting out RFP's and selecting a contract before bringing it before the SB. He stated that it is a complicated process for the contracts to be awarded and include them to come before the SB in the timeline necessary for completion, and he will keep them apprised of the process.

Mr. Morris informed the SB that the Shedd Street demolition is moving forward with the red barn and two older sheds. He stated that the brick building will be taken down early next year.

Ms. Curtis inquired about the timeline for the establishment of a new committee for the Community Nursing Project.

Mr. Morris stated that the formation of the committee will be on a future agenda with the intention that the committee will be formed in the beginning of January.

With no further comments from the public, members of the SB moved on to Non-public Session pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (c).

NON-PUBLIC SESSION PURSUANT TO RSA 91-A:3 II (c)

Motion to enter nonpublic session at 7:21pm.

At 7:21pm, Ms. Stewart made a motion to enter non-public session following 91-A:3 II (c). Mr. Young seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

At 7:33pm, John Kluge moved to come out of non-public session. Tracy Young seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

Tracy Young moved to seal the minutes for 10 years with an annual review, and that they will review the minutes at the next Select Board meeting. John Kluge seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS – NO ACTION REQUIRED

- Town Clerk's Report – October 2023
- Tax Collector's Report - October 2023
- NH DES Request for More Information (Dorskocil Mascoma Lake Realty Trust)

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Kluge made a motion to adjourn at 7:34pm. Mr. Young seconded. Vote unanimous in favor of the motion (5-0).

205

206 The meeting was adjourned at 7:34 pm.

207

208

209

210

211 _____
Katherine D. P. Stewart, Chair

212

213

214

215

216 _____
Erik Russell, Vice – Chair

217

218

219

220

221

222 _____
John W. Kluge

223

224

225

226

227 _____
Alice Kennedy

228

229

230

231

232 _____
Tracy Young
233 Enfield Select Board