



**Selectmen's Meeting
January 18, 2017
MINUTES**

Present: *Chad Hanna, Terry Lowd, Paul Yates; Chris Hall*

Also Present: *Gordon Benner, Sandee Brackett, Robert Davidson, Richard Francis, John Freeman, Charles Hanson, Sandra Lane, Clyde Pendleton*

Amendments to the Agenda

- There were no amendments to the agenda.

Approval of Minutes

- A motion was made by Lowd to approve the minutes of January 11th, seconded by Yates and carried 2-0, Hanna abstaining.

Old Business:

- Snow removal contract (tabled from 01/11):
Motion proposed by Lowd, seconded by Yates, to place an article on the Town Meeting Warrant to put the contract out to bid, for a term of three years with the option to renegotiate a renewal for a further three years.
Carried 3 – 0.
- Safety training (tabled from 01/11):
Motion proposed by Yates, seconded by Lowd, to compensate Neal Kimball for conducting safety training for Town departments, retroactive to cover trainings conducted in 2016. Carried 3 – 0.
- Light House Park – proposed fee increase to cover hiring a Parks Director position. Proposal from Parks and Recreation Commission, incorporated in their draft 2017 Budget, is to increase the fee from the current rate of \$2 to a new fee of \$3, while leaving the Resident's Pass fee unchanged. Based on 2016 visits to the Park, this would raise an estimated additional \$74,000, which would be more than sufficient to cover a full-time position to oversee the 30+ summer staff, conduct winter recreation activities, and be responsible for the maintenance of the properties.
Hanna believed that the Parks Commission, as an elected body, should not be second-guessed by the Selectmen and would support such an increase. Yates expressed concern that the hire – not the increase per se – was a major step that should be separately debated at Town Meeting. Public comments were invited, with opinions expressed for and against the hiring proposal.
Clyde Pendleton, Chair of the Parks Commission, indicated that he would support a decision either way by the Selectmen as to whether to place a

separate article on the Town Meeting Warrant. He expected to present the case for the fee increase and hire at Town Meeting, either in the budget discussion or as a separate article.

Tabled for further discussion on January 25th. The Budget Committee will review the Parks Commission draft on February 13 and, per the Selectmen's decision of January 4, vote a recommendation on the Commission's budget to be recorded in the Town Meeting Warrant.

2017 Budget – Review of Second Draft

- Hanna led a discussion of the revised draft. There are no major changes to lines included in the first draft, but
 - Draft budgets had been received and incorporated from the Transfer Station, Bristol Fire and Rescue, and the Parks and Recreation Commission.
 - Payroll taxes, workers' compensation and property/casualty insurance have now been assigned as appropriate among the Fire and Rescue, Parks and Recreation, and Town Administration departments.
 - Preliminary allocations of funding among carried balances, reserves, excise taxes, surplus and taxation had been made, but await the audit report for final surplus numbers.
 - Provision for \$5,000 was added for Wild Animal Control expense, pending a decision on a replacement for Mike Witte in that capacity.
 - Provision for \$10,000 to complete the Bristol Mills Liberty Pole restoration was added to Town Expense.

New Business

- Town Report dedication:
Moved by Yates and seconded by Lowd, to dedicate the 2016 Town report to the late Al Sears.
- Spirit of America Award:
Moved by Lowd and seconded by Yates, to nominate Kris Poland for a Spirit of America Award.
- An extension was approved and signed for a previously approved Building Permit
- Miscellaneous Correspondence:
 - Notification was received of a 90-day extension for an open claim of Workers Compensation.
- Waiver of waiting period, employee health insurance:
Moved by Lowd, seconded by Hanna, to sign a request to MMA for waiver of the 90-day waiting period for the Town Administrator's enrollment in health insurance, consistent with prior Town practice. Carried 3 – 0.

Warrants

- Reviewed and approved weekly disbursement warrants and the December Real Estate Reconciliation report.

Public Comment

- R. Davidson requested that a careful review be made of the Job Description for a Parks and Recreation Director.

Future Meetings

- The next regular Selectmen's meeting will be held Wednesday January 25 at 7:00 pm.
- Selectmen will meet with the Town's Auditor on Monday, January 23rd at 8:00 am to receive the Audit.
- The deadline to receive Nomination Papers for Town Offices is 4 pm on Friday, February 3rd.
- Notice was given of additional public meetings in the balance of January:
 - Planning Board, January 19, 7 pm
 - Parks and Recreation Commission, January 24, 6 pm
 - Dam Advisory Committee, January 24, 6 pm (note change of time)
 - Harbor Committee, January 26, 6 pm
 - Budget Committee, January 25, 6 pmSelectmen will attend the Budget Committee meeting Jan. 25 and hold their weekly meeting after its end.

Motion to adjourn, at 8.25 pm: proposed Lowd, seconded Yates, carried 3 – 0.