



Town of Plaistow ♦ Board of Selectmen
145 Main Street ♦ Plaistow ♦ NH ♦ 03865

Plaistow Board of Selectmen Minutes

Date: October 18, 2021

Meeting Called to Order: 6:30 p.m.

Roll Call:

Select Chairman, Darrell Britton
Select Vice Chairman, John A. Blinn, Sr. - Excused
Selectman, Greg Taillon
Selectman, Jay DeRoche
Selectman, Bill Coye
Interim Town Manager, Greg Colby
Also present: Beth Hossack, Recording Secretary.

Minutes

G. Taillon motions to approve the October 4, 2021, minutes. Seconded by B. Coye. There was no discussion on the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

G. Taillon motions to approve the October 7, 2021, minutes. Seconded by B. Coye. There was no discussion on the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0.

Motion carries.

Public Comment

None

Police Department Budget Review

The Police Department budget has been updated. The salary for a Victim Witness Advocate is still in the budget. Interim Chief Kane reached out to the five (5) other towns that use the service and has only heard back from two (2) of them. Atkinson does not want to help pay for the service or continue using the service. Another town is interested in supporting the position if it is based on usage. The Board discusses keeping the position in the budget or removing it. The position will remain in the budget. A line item for mobile laptop terminals has been added in the amount of \$10,000. Five hundred dollars (\$500) has been added to the tuition line. Two hundred (\$200) was added to the miscellaneous line item and the crossing guard line item was increased by three hundred (\$300). Interim Chief Kane is working with the school district to reassign the crossing guards to the school district and not the police department. The total increase in the police department budget is \$59,461.

J. DeRoche motions to approve the police department budget in the amount of \$2,123,225. Seconded by G. Taillon. There was no discussion on the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries

G. Colby states the library budget was received today. It is level funded. The Board cannot change the library budget.

G. Taillon motions to approve the library budget in the amount of \$599,174. Seconded by B. Coye. Discussion: The Board would like information on the library trust funds. G. Taillon states a prior selectman tried to get that information and had difficulty getting the information from the Library Trustees. D. Britton states he will talk to Mr. Peck and bring the information back to the Board.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

G. Colby states the Budget Committee did not approve the line item of \$7,500.00 for miscellaneous assistance in the welfare budget. He took \$7000.00 out of the line item leaving \$500.00. He added \$2,000.00 to the electric assistance line and \$5,000.00 to the shelter/rent line. The Board agreed with the recommended reallocations, the total welfare budget did not change.

G. Colby states the insurance rates came in and Primex is up 13.7% mainly for property liability. The increase is \$13,276.00 bringing the total budget for insurance to \$164,237.00.

G. Taillon motions to reconsider the insurance budget and approve it in the amount of \$164,237.00 due to the new information received. Seconded by J. DeRoche. There was no discussion on the motion.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

G. Colby states the water department budget is level funded based on the recommendation by Underwood Engineers.

G. Taillon motions to approve the water department budget in the amount of \$431,300.00. Seconded by B. Coye.

Discussion: J. DeRoche asks what items come out of the payroll line.

G. Colby replies, part of the salary for the Special Projects Coordinator, Finance Director, Town Manager, and a part-time water employee.

J. DeRoche asks about a salary for a future Water Superintendent.

G. Colby replies, Underwood Engineers does not think we will need a water superintendent. Hampstead Area Water Company (HAWC) has been hired as the water operator and they can take care of most of the work a superintendent would handle. Some things will be handled in house. In house responsibilities will include fielding phone calls, scheduling service, quarterly billing, and final meter readings. The Town Manager will assist with some responsibilities too.

J. DeRoche asks if the amount of water currently purchased will suffice or if we need to purchase more soon.

G. Colby replies, Underwood thinks we have enough supply for now.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

Approval of prior Executive Session Minutes

J. DeRoche motions to approve and keep sealed the Executive Session minutes from October 7, 2021. Seconded by B. Coye.

Vote: 4-0-0

Motion carries.

Town Managers Report

- Had a meeting with Mike Skinner regarding the Beede Waste Oil Site Cleanup. They will be looking for the Town's input on the future use of the area. For example, will it be used for residential, commercial, or open space? The site will be cleaned up to environmental standards no matter what the future is. D. Britton states years ago the idea was to use the area for recreation. All selectmen agree we will need public input.
- The property the Conservation Commission purchased was recently finalized.
- Attended a water meeting.
- Busy working on the budget.
- Met with Marybeth Walker from Corcoran Associates and completed the MS-1. The current value of property is 1.34 billion. It is 149 million more than last year. Sale prices are continuing to rise, and we may need to do a statistical update next year. G. Taillon asks if trends continue will we have to update values this year. G. Colby replies no, the values need to be accurate as of April 1, 2021, not December.
- Has been working on preparation for tax rate setting. At this point, the Town portion of the tax rate will be approximately 12-13% lower than last year. An estimate for the Town portion is \$4.70/1000. We do not know the Rockingham County or school portions yet.

Selectmen's Reports

D. Britton

- Asks if we have the costs for printing the Town Report this year, as everything is going up and supply shortages are occurring.

B. Coye

- The Recreation Department has several upcoming activities.
 - 10/29 Toddler Trick or Treat
 - 10/29 Kids night out at the library
 - 10/30 Pumpkin Lighting at Town Hall
 - 10/31 Town Trick or Treat 5-7pmThere are also some Elder Affairs events. Coffee, cards, and socializing will be held on Wednesday's from 10am – 12pm. The movie, Ghostbusters will be shown at the library on 10/29 at 1pm.
- An Eagle Scout Candidate wants to come before the Board to present his project idea. This will be added to the 10/25 agenda.

G. Taillon

- He talked to the Town Clerk and found the two (2) possible dates for the deliberative session are 2/5/22 or 2/12/22. The Town Moderator chooses the date.

- He states J. Senter told him there will be some profit from the timber maintenance cut in the Town Forest. Hopefully there will be a profit on wood to be cut in the new section of the cemetery.

J. DeRoche

- The TRAC committee is working on information to be put in the new barrels. They will come before the Board with their recommendations after their next meeting. G. Taillon recommends having a new trash and recycling barrel at a future meeting to let people see it. He wants to know how residents will be informed. J. DeRoche replies once the contract is finalized, we will have a press release. He states the TRAC committee would like some money in the budget for training/educational materials. There is a possibility we can get a grant on recycle carts in the amount of \$15/each. There is a caveat - we will have to keep records of tonnage for 4-5 years. G. Taillon states we need a plan to dispose of old trash and recycling barrels. J. DeRoche replies some options are being investigated. We may ask JRM to take them or there may be a fundraiser by Boy/Cub Scouts.

J. DeRoche motions to increase the solid waste collection budget by \$500 to add a line for training/educational materials for TRAC. Seconded by G. Taillon. There was no discussion on the motion.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion carries.

- Attended the Conservation Commission meeting and participated in a site walk on the property behind the police station. The house on 309 Main Street is filing a dredge and fill permit. The report on prime wetlands is complete. There are seventeen (17) parcels the Conservation Commission wants to consider prime. They will be on the ballot in March.

D. Britton asks if the cable studio in the basement is ever used.

J. DeRoche states it has been used in the past for a few TV shows, budget presentations, and recycling presentations. The public can use it.

D. Britton states we should encourage folks to use it.

As there is no further business before the Board, D. Britton adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack
Recording Secretary