



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

Plaistow Board of Selectmen Minutes

Date: September 11, 2023

Meeting Called to Order: 6:02 P.M.

Roll Call:

Select Chairman, Bill Coye – Present
Select Vice Chairman, Jay Deroche – Present
Selectman, Darrell Britton – Present
Selectman, Jonathan Gifford – Present
Selectwoman, Tammy Bergeron – Present

Also present: Town Manager, Greg Colby and Administrative Specialist, Beth Hossack.

Chair Coye states we should take a moment to remember the tragedy that occurred twenty-two years ago today. He asks if anyone would like to speak.

Vice Chair DeRoche replies yes and states:

“Today we remember the tragic events of September 11, 2021.

We remember the selfless acts and courage of police, fire, EMT’s, paramedics, citizens who ran into the burning buildings.

We remember the courage and sacrifice of the passengers on Flight 93 who fought to bring the plane down so it would not reach its destination.

We remember the heart wrenching loss of that day.

Today we remember one of our own, Plaistow resident Carol A. Flyzik.

Carol is remembered as a partner to Nancy of 13 years.

Carol is remembered as a mother to their 3 children, Kristen, Kevin and Joe.

Carol is remembered as a nurse 1985-1996.

Carol is remembered as a neighbor, friend, girl scout and recipient of the gold award.

Carol is remembered as honest, sincere, and thoughtful.

Carol loved her family, spending time with Nancy and their children, brother, sisters, and nephews in the Old Victorian on Palmer Ave. She loved to cook and try different recipes.

Carol is remembered as a valued colleague and a trusted friend. She would offer to travel so other senior colleagues did not have to.

Carol lived her life with joy, humor, and a warm, caring heart.

We remember the sacrifice and tragic loss that Carol’s family and friends live with every day.

Let us honor Carol’s memory and live life with joy, humor, and a warm caring heart.

We will never forget Carol Flyzik and all those innocent lives that were lost on September 11, 2001.

Chair Coye calls for a moment of silence.

Public Comment

None

Library Trustees Approval to Use Capital Reserve Funds

Library Director Cab Vinton and Meghan Lee, Chair of the Library Trustees, are here to ask the Board to expend funds from the Library Capital Reserve Account.

Library Director C. Vinton states this year the Library experienced some unexpected maintenance issues. Some of the issues that arose include problems with the sprinkler/ pump system, electric projects, a failed well pump, a heat problem in the building, water damage to the rug in the Nelson room and a few other small issues.

Discussion occurs.

Selectwoman Bergeron motions to withdraw \$13,918.35 from the Library Capital Reserve fund to pay the invoices for several unanticipated repair items that occurred in 2023. The invoices were reviewed at tonight's Board meeting and the Library Trustees have requested the use of the funds. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion carries

Discuss Ambulance Service for Plaistow

Chief Knutsen states for the last several years there have only been two (2) ambulances to service six (6) towns. It is insufficient. Chief Knutsen has been looking for solutions. A Request For Proposals was sent out to determine costs for hiring an outside ambulance service. Two (2) responses were received, and the costs are high. Chief Knutsen states it would be more cost effective to have our own ambulance service. We already have the infrastructure, and a new ambulance has been ordered. If we add money to the budget for three (3) full-time paramedics, the total cost is still less than hiring an outside service. There will be some revenue from insurance billing. The additional cost is approximately \$287,671 after taking revenue into account. It is a much better deal than paying about 1.3 million dollars to a third-party provider.

Chair Coye asks if revenue from insurance billing will go into the general fund.

Town Manager Colby replies, yes.

Chair Coye recommends hosting a few information nights for the public at the Library or the Fire Station.

Chief Knutsen is happy to host multiple information sessions in different locations.

Selectman DeRoche believes ambulance service is a required service. It can be provided by the Town or an outside contractor. He asks if it would be included in the default budget.

Town Manager Colby replies, yes, it would be included in a default budget.

Chief Knutsen suggests holding information sessions with groups such as the Elder Affairs Committee, and at the Vic Geary Center. He will talk to residents who call him or who stop by the fire station with questions.

Discuss Updating the Allowable Levels for Financial Assistance

Town Manager Colby states the Human Resources Department completed research from several sources to obtain current recommended levels for financial assistance for residents who qualify.

Selectman DeRoche wants to confirm that the dollar amounts listed in the draft document titled *Town of Plaistow Human Services Department Welfare Guidelines* have been recommended by Plaistow’s Human Service Department.

Town Manger Colby replies, that is correct.

Selectman Britton motions to accept the updated Human Services Department Welfare Guidelines as reviewed at tonight's Board of Selectmen’s meeting. The allowable levels of assistance should be updated annually. Seconded by Selectman DeRoche.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion carries.

Update Permitting Procedures for Hawkers and Peddlers

Town Manager Colby was informed by Chief Santoro about a change in law effective September 1, 2023. Previously all hawkers and peddlers were required to obtain a state permit as well as following the Plaistow Police Procedure before soliciting in town. As of 9/1/23 a state permit is no longer required.

Chief Santoro would like the Board to change the Town Ordinance to reflect the change in law.

Selectman DeRoche motions to strike the last line of §134-4 Registration required under the Peddling and Soliciting Ordinance. Seconded by Selectwoman Bergeron.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion carries.

Approval of Prior Nonpublic Session Minutes

The minutes are passed out and reviewed.

Selectman DeRoche motions to approve and keep sealed the nonpublic session minutes from August, 21, 2023 session #1. Seconded by Selectman Britton.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion carries.

Selectman DeRoche motions to approve and keep sealed the nonpublic session minutes from August 21, 2023 session #2. Seconded by Selectman Britton.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion carries.

Approve Consent Agenda

Item Description

1. Accounts Payable Manifest week of August 31st, September 7th, & 14th, 2023.
2. BOS Draft Minutes August 21st, 2023.
3. Appointment to the Old Home Day Committee (B. Major)
4. One (1) Elderly Tax Exemption Application.

5. One (1) Veterans Tax Credit Application.

Selectman DeRoche motions to approve the consent agenda as written. Seconded by Selectman Gifford.

Vote: 5-0-0

Motion carries.

Town Managers Report

- Still very busy.
- Met with department heads for budget preparation. Budgets are due back to the Town Manager next Thursday.
- The new highway truck should be in next week. Line striping was going to start tonight. It has been postponed due to rain.
- Worked through some enforcement issues. The Judge complimented Plaistow.
- Suggests a joint meeting with the Budget Committee and the Board of Selectmen on October 16 to discuss some of the larger budgets.
- Met with some Atkinson Officials regarding dispatch negotiations.
- Attended a water meeting last week. Well decommissioning is still in process along with about thirteen (13) – fifteen (15) Memorandum of Understanding's (MOU's).
- The only Town well to be decommissioned will be the one at the Annex. The well at the Safety Complex will be used to wash vehicles. The one at Town Hall will be used as a backup system if necessary.
- Working on another lease for the cell tower.
- The August Expenditure Report is ready. The budget is being closely monitored.

Selectman DeRoche asks if there is a sense of the tax rate.

Town Manager Colby replies, no. The information is still with the Department of Revenue Administration (DRA).

Selectmen's Reports

Selectwoman Bergeron

- Attended the Elder Affairs Committee. An apple pie social will be held at the Library on 9/13. Plaistow & Sandown are hosting a fall foliage trip on 10/11.
- Attended the Conservation Commission Meeting. A guest speaker spoke about Prime Wetlands. Money was approved for the 5th Grade class to visit Mt. Major. A complaint was received by the Conservation Commission that someone is making a bike trail in the Town Forest. On September 30, the Boy Scouts will be cleaning the trails.

Selectman Britton

- Met with the Building Inspector. A lot of permits have been requested for additions.
- Met with the Highway Supervisor. There was a problem with the sidewalk plow. Town Manager Colby states it has been fixed.

Selectman DeRoche

- Will attend the Budget Committee meeting next week. The purpose of the meeting is to fill the vacancy.

- Attended the Energy Committee meeting. There will be a public hearing on 9/21 at the Library for community power. Another meeting will be held on 9/27.

Selectman Gifford

- The Town Wide Yard Sale will be held on Saturday, 9/16.
- The Historical Society will host an event on 9/23 for artist Tomaso.
- The Energy Committee will attend a future Board meeting regarding solar panels on the land fill.

Select Chair Coye

- Attended the Planning Board meeting. He encourages residents to complete the housing survey.

Events

1. Apple Pie Social – 9/13/23.
2. Town Wide Yard Sale – 9/16/23.
3. Friends of the Library Craft Fair – 9/16/23.
4. Fall Foliage Trip with Plaistow & Sandown – 10/11/23.
5. Fall trips with Best of Times Travel (see the website or call Jenn in the Recreation Dept.)
 - The McCartney Years – 9/21/23
 - Splish Splash – 10/19/23
 - Mama Mia – 11/16/23
 - Merry Country Christmas – 12/6/23

Select Chair Coye recommends entering a nonpublic session for hiring.

Selectman DeRoche motions to enter nonpublic session under RSA 91-A:3 II B) Hiring of a public employee. Seconded by Selectman Britton.

Board Polled: Chair Coye = yes, Vice Chair DeRoche = yes, Selectman Britton = yes, Selectman Gifford = yes, Selectwoman Bergeron = yes.

Motion carries.

Chair Coye states we will not return to public session tonight.

The public session adjourned at 7:14 P.M.

The public session reconvened at 7:42 P.M.

Selectman DeRoche motions to seal the minutes of the nonpublic session as disclosure would have an adverse effect on reputation. Seconded by Selectman Britton.

Board Polled: Chair Coye = yes, Vice Chair DeRoche = yes, Selectman Britton = yes, Selectman Gifford = yes, Selectwoman Bergeron = yes.

Motion carries.

As there is no further business before the Board, Chair Coye adjourned the meeting at 7:42 P.M.
Respectfully submitted,

Beth Hossack,
Administrative Specialist