

Town of Atkinson

Board of Selectmen

Regular Meeting

Monday, March 23, 2009

At 7:30pm on Monday, March 23, 2009 Chairman Childs called the Regular Meeting to order in the Atkinson Town Hall.

Members Present:

Chairman Fred Childs
Bill Friel
Bill Bennett

Approval of Minutes

Approval of March 16, 2009 Regular Meeting Minutes.

The Board reviewed the minutes.

Page 2, text should read Chairman Childs, not Chairman Sullivan.

Page 4, add Mr. Friel to attend the Area Selectmen's meeting.

Mr. Friel made a motion to accept the minutes of March 16, 2009 as presented with changes as outlined, seconded by Mr. Bennett, carried unanimously.

Application for Appointment

Library Trustee - Term to end March 2011

No applications have been filled out. Anyone interested in an application can get one at Town Hall or in the Town Report. The deadline for applications is April 6, 2009 to make appointments.

The Board of Selectmen would like to start up a Building Needs Committee, there will be six openings on the Board.

Award Bid

East Road Recreation Area

Mr. Friel received a packet from Coleman McDonough and will review tomorrow, March 24th. The Recreation Committee is satisfied with the company and is asking for input from the Board of Selectmen.

Mr. Friel made a motion to accept the bid pending review and not finding any issues with the final information and if appropriate and in place will accept the bid and move forward after review, seconded by Mr. Bennett, carried unanimously.

Open Bids

Care of Grounds

Chairman Childs opened the bids.

Grounds Crew - Methuen, MA \$17,865.

GreensKeeper No total price listed

Scanlon Property - Derry, NH \$51,975.

MJ Hammell Enterprises \$19,850.

Shamrock Irrigation - Haverhill, MA \$71,550.

Pentucket Company - Haverhill, MA \$18,000.

A-1 Patriot - Atkinson, NH \$19,500.

Clean Cut Landscaping - Methuen, MA No total price listed

MSI Landscaping - W. Newbury, MA \$23,177.

Matthews Landscaping - Salem, NH \$24,080.

Cut & Green Landscaping - Raymond, NH No total price listed

Dragos Landscaping - Derry, NH \$25,960.

Gordon Landscaping - Candia, NH \$23,700.

Blue Willow Landscaping - Lee, NH \$28,434.

Cantone Landscaping No total price listed

Athletic Fields & Lawn Care

Green World No total price listed

Hillside Landscaping - Nottingham, NH \$6,144.

Mr. Bennett suggested that in the future the Board of Selectmen specify a bid format.

The Board of Selectmen reviewed the bid specifications listed in the newspaper. It was suggested the businesses that submitted a bid get sent a form to fill out. Ted Stewart appeared before the Board of Selectmen and states he will review the bids. If the information does not make sense then they will send out to re-bid. Mr. Stewart stated the bid package included all the specifics.

Department Heads

Highway Department

Mr. Stewart stated he had a letter from Pro-Bark and they will be going to the brush dump next Monday to chip the brush for free. He states the date has been confirmed. General discussion of the size of brush that Pro-Bark will chip, they will grind up to 2 feet. A sign will be posted at the dump. Mr. Stewart to ask Pro-Bark for a contract for one year. Mr. Stewart asked about the town wide brush cleanup. The Board of Selectmen discussed whether to have the town provide this service. Mr. Bennett stated that FEMA guidelines and rules state they will only pay for overtime only. The Board of Selectmen agreed that there is not enough money in the budget for a town wide cleanup. Mr. Stewart stated residents should not put brush within 15 feet of the road, it is illegal to put it in the right of way. Mr. Childs urged residents to bring their brush to the dump. The Board of Selectmen discussed coming up with a list of people that would be willing to haul away brush inexpensively. Barbara Snicer to maintain a list of names and fees of who would be willing to offer their services.

Mr. Friel made a motion to not do a town wide cleanup for brush, seconded by Mr. Bennett, carried unanimously.

Mr. Friel to contact Mr. Stewart regarding complaints from residents regarding plow damage to lawns.

Cable TV

Bid Cable Equipment

Dave Williams appeared before the Board of Selectmen. He stated he has not run the bid specifications by Todd Barbera of the IT Committee. Mr. Friel requested Mr. Williams discuss bid with Mr. Barbera. The Board of Selectmen reviewed the bid specifications. General discussion of where and how to advertise, three days of general circulation. Mr. Williams suggested it be advertised in a trade publication. Mr. Childs stated it would need to be advertised in three different places and is not restricted to newspapers. Mr. Williams stated he has equipment that will get rid of feedback issues. Mr. Childs informed Mr. Williams that channel 20 has diagonal lines across the pictures, Mr. Williams to look into this issue.

Police Department

Annual Review

Mr. Friel requested a non-public meeting under 93A:3 Paragraph 2, Letter A to discuss personnel issues.

Old Business

AARP Tax Preparation Service to be held every Wednesday from 9am-1pm and every other Monday from 9am-1pm until April 15th at the Vic Geary Senior Center. This is a free service. Call Joyce for an appointment at 382-9276.

New Library

Mr. Friel sent an e-mail to Ron Lamare and Kay to request a meeting with Ron to discuss water issue, swale, outstanding punch list, schedule for completion of punch list, schedule of completion of interior and exterior things for the library, including the parking lot striping. To be set up tomorrow.

Energy Efficiency Meeting

Mr. Friel to follow up with Michele Veasy to set up the Energy Efficiency Meeting.

Public Hearing

Alpha numerical house numbering on April 21, 2009.

Notice sent to abutters on Coventry Road and need to send notice to Washington Road. E911 wants to look at whole town and do an evaluation. There are two roads in the proposal package.

Address two streets at public hearing.

Cemetery Cleanup

Discussion of cemetery cleanup. Mr. Friel to address with Mr. Stewart on getting the roads cleared.

NH Selectperson Institute

Information given to Mr. Bennett.

Parkland Medical Center in Derry, NH

Parkland is having a meeting on Friday, March 27th to discuss Community needs. The Board of Selectmen will not be attending.

HAWC

Barbara Snicer to contact HAWC that the Selectmen will attend and it will be considered a public meeting on Thursday, March 26th at 9am. Mrs. Snicer to ask HAWC to prepare for a public meeting or they can move it to Town Hall.

Mr. Bennett stated the public has no assumed right to speak at the meeting, but to watch and listen. The meeting is to be informational. The Board of Selectmen to attend.

Mr. Friel made a motion for Mr. Bennett to take the minutes at the meeting, seconded by Mr. Childs.

Glacial Energy

Mr. Friel discussed this program providing electricity at a discounted rate. The town could save \$7,600 a year. Chairman Childs and Mr. Bennett to review information. A copy of the information sent to James Garrity and Michele Veasy. Mr. Friel stated it would be on a non-contract basis and there is no down-side. He stated we would buy energy from Glacial, this would be a 24% savings.

Public Meeting

Mr. Bennett stated there is a public meeting regarding ice storm damage at the Timberlane Performing Arts Center with Unitil on April 7th. Mr. Bennett stated he will represent Atkinson at the meeting.

Memo from the Board of Selectmen to the Tax Collector

The Board of Selectmen by majority vote to allow the Tax Collector to hire Land and Boundary Consultants Inc. to proceed at the direction of the Tax Collector and complete all research necessary to perfect the lien process.

Mr. Friel made a motion to grand authority to the Tax Collector to hire the entity as required, seconded by Mr. Childs, carried unanimously.

Discussion of several properties that would be up for lien. The Tax Collector requests that we do not lien the properties. Mr. Friel stated some of the properties are three years running.

Mr. Bennett suggested contacting the resident to make arrangements. The Board of Selectmen agreed to hold off until next week and plan to talk to the Tax Collector further.

Police Department

Chief Consentino recommended more money for employees at yearly review. To discuss compensation at the closed meeting following the regular meeting.

Meeting of American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

Mr. Bennett to attend a meeting on American Recovery and Reinvestment Act in Durham, NH.

Highway Department

Mr. Stewart requested two laborers and has recommendations. Hourly rate was not presented. Discussion of dump attendant rate is \$9.30 and laborer is \$10.50.

Mr. Friel made a motion to authorize the Road Agent to hire with a maximum of 20 hours per week at \$9.00 per hour and will research the minutes of the past year to make sure the rate is not higher, seconded by Mr. Bennett, carried unanimously.

Town Administrator

Discussion of the contract signed with LGC regarding Interim Town Administrator. There is a call in to Chuck regarding original agreement. Still stands \$5,000 fee.

Previously interviewed applicants to bring in to re-interview. The Board of Selectmen would like to get someone in place as soon as possible. Mr. Friel to follow-up.

Maggie Osborn of Zoning Board will not be seeking re-appointment. The Board of Selectmen thanked Ms. Osborn for her service to the town.

Mr. Hammond resigned from the Conflict of Interest Committee

Chairman Childs made a motion to accept resignations of Ms. Osborn and Mr. Hammond, seconded by Mr. Bennett, carried unanimously.

The Board of Selectmen received a letter from DES regarding uranium in the water at the Police Station. Recommended the water be tested. To be discussed next week with the Police Chief.

Elderly Affairs

The budget has passed to re-label cars follow thru Mr. Friel to follow up.

Cemetery

Dale Childs appeared before the Board of Selectmen to discuss the cemetery clean-up. Mr. Morelli has cleared the roads, brush to be removed. Mr. Childs suggested renting a chipper and have the Highway Department laborers do the work. Mr. Morelli to supervise. There is not money in the budget for removal

Follow-up with Sandra LaVallee regarding where the funds will come from .

Letters from Insurance Company to be filled out to fix fence, cost approximately \$1250. Mr. Friel to look at insurance forms to find out deductible. Barbara Snicer to call insurance company to get details.

Mr. Morelli to meet with Mr. Benner after the legal meeting on March 31st to show where the damage is in the cemetery.

Mr. Childs addressed the issue of signs around town in the right of way. He asked what the Board of Selectmen would like to do. No sign permits for signs. Mr. Bennett asked if landowners had given permission to post signs. The Board of Selectmen stated there are ordinances and state RSA. Mr. Bennett asked if the blog signs are political, Jack Sapia appeared before the Board and stated to be political the signs must promote a candidate.

Town zoning. Table until until next week when Mr. Bennett has read the zoning ordinances n

Mr. Sapia appeared before the Board of Selectmen to discuss the need for a consistent enforcement of signs.

Decision to be made next week.

Mrs. Childs stated the cemetery would be open this week but residents should be careful to stay on pavement in order to avoid more damage.

Mr. Childs made a motion to adjorun the meeting Non public 93A for discussion of public employees and compensation.

Mr. Friel made a motion to enter the non-public meeting under 93A:3 Paragraph 2, Letter ! for discussion of public employees compensation, seconded by Mr. Bennett, and carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kristen J. LeBlanc

Fred J. Childs, Jr., Chairman

William G. Friel

William M. Bennett

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