

*Town of Atkinson
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
August 19, 2013*

Open Meeting:

Chairman T. Barbera opened the Regular Meeting of Monday, August 19, 2013, at 7:18 PM in the Atkinson Town Hall.

Members Present:

T. Barbera, Chairman
W. Friel
W. Baldwin

Others Present:

B. Snicer, Administrative Assistant

Non-Public Session:

T. Barbera made a motion to go into Non-Public Session under RSA 91- A:3 II (e) to discuss a pending claim. Second: W. Friel. Vote: W. Baldwin – yes, T. Barbera – yes, W. Friel - yes.

Chairman T. Barbera re-opened the Regular Meeting of Monday, August 19, 2013 at 7:29pm in the Atkinson Town Hall and led all present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present:

W. Baldwin
T. Barbera, Acting Chair
W. Friel

Others Present:

Atkinson Residents
P. Caggiano, Acting Chief
J. Dugdale, Animal Control
S. Hancox, Resident, 54 Walker Road
B. Snicer, Administrative Assistant
N. Travers, Recreation Department

Approvals:

Regular Meeting Minutes – 8/13/2013

W. Baldwin made a motion to accept the Regular Meeting Minutes of 8/13/2013 as submitted. Second: W. Friel. 2/0/1. T. Barbera abstained from the motion.

Payroll Manifest for 8/7/13 - \$25,377.57

W. Baldwin made a motion to approve the Payroll Manifest of 8/7/13 in the amount of \$25,377.57. Second: W. Friel. 3/0/0.

Accounts Payable Manifest for 7/24/2013 - \$563,736.27

W. Baldwin made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest of 7/24/2013 in the amount of \$563,736.27. Second: W. Friel. 3/0/0.

Payroll Manifest for 8/20/13 - \$21,418.80

W. Baldwin made a motion to approve the Payroll Manifest of 8/20/13 in the amount of \$21,418.80. Second: W. Friel. 3/0/0.

Accounts Payable Manifest for 8/14/13 - \$14,875.30

W. Baldwin made a motion to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest of 8/14/13 in the amount of \$14,875.30. Second: W. Friel. 3/0/0.

Appearances:

S. Hancox – Animal Control Issue

Ms. Hancox appeared before the Board of Selectmen to discuss a safety concern. Recently, there was an incident on Walker Road where two pit bulls escaped from their fenced-in yard and attacked another dog being walked by its owner. Ms. Hancox and several residents from the audience expressed their concern for safety, for children and other dogs in town due to this incident. The group acknowledged the owner of the dogs has been working very cooperatively with Animal Control, but would like the Selectmen to make a decision on next steps for the two dogs. Ms. Hancox recommended muzzling the dogs as a way to avoid this type of incident from occurring again.

Mr. Dugdale also appeared before the Board of Selectmen to address this issue. Mr. Dugdale explained the two dogs escaped through a chicken wire fence. Since then, a new fence has been put up. The owner of the dogs has been very cooperative in paying all fines, and the dogs have been put into obedience school.

Mr. Barbera explained he has had several conversations with Mr. Dugdale, law enforcement, and the owner of the dogs and feels Animal Control has followed the town ordinances and state statutes closely on handling this issue and that all possible enforcement actions have been taken. The Selectmen want residents to feel safe. Everything that could have been done, according to the law, has been done. In order to change the law, a warrant article will need to be submitted or residents are allowed to submit a citizen’s petition which requires the signatures of at least 25 registered voters of Atkinson.

Acting Chief Caggiano explained the limitations of the town on this issue. The town and law enforcement is limited to the statutes that have been put in place. All necessary protocol has been followed. Any new attack by these animals would go to a district court hearing. Safety can never be guaranteed to any resident, but all statutes can and will be followed to the fullest extent possible.

Selectmen will take this issue under advisement.

Assessing:

Administrative Abatement – Map 12 Lot 1-11B, 8 Heald Bailey Drive – Rec: Deny – Request: \$1,003.09

Ms. Snicer presented in Administrative Abatement on Map 12, Lot 1-11 B in the amount of \$1,003.09. The recommendation is to deny this request because the resident not demonstrated an inability to pay.

W. Baldwin made a motion to deny the request for Administrative Abatement on Map 12, Lot 1-11 B, 8 Heald Bailey Drive in the amount of \$1,003.09 because the resident has not demonstrated an inability to pay. Second: W. Friel. 3/0/0.

Old Business:

Community Center Floor Repair Discussion and Approval

Ms. Snicer presented the following bids to the Board of Selectmen to do repair work to the community center floor. Ms. Snicer explained that Mr. Innes recommends awarding the bid to Hantzis and Son Home Improvements in the amount of \$45,076.41. Mr. Antczak will not be able to start the work until October, 2013. W. Friel will draw up the Scope of Work from the Request for Proposals, to be signed by Mr. Hantzis.

Company	Contact	Bid
AJ Wood Construction, Inc.	Richard Smith	\$89,900

	603-887-4468	
Antczak Building	Nate Antczak 303-335-9779	\$67,950
Hantzis and Son Home Improvements	Nick Hantzis	\$45,076.41

W. Friel made a motion to award the Community Center Floor bid to Hantzis and Son Home Improvements in the amount of \$45,076.01, contingent upon confirmation that he signs the Scope of Work outlined in the Request for Proposals and signs a contract with a start date no later than October 15, 2013. Second: W. Baldwin. 3/0/0.

Over-Expenditures:

40.42151.660.00 Elder Affairs Vehicle Maintenance \$105.90
40.44421.810.00 Other Assistance – Food \$150.00

Ms. Snicer presented the above over-expenditure requests to the Board of Selectmen for approval.

W. Friel made a motion to approve an over-expenditure request in the amount of \$105.90 out of budget line 40.42151.660.00 for Elder Affairs Vehicle Maintenance. Second: W. Baldwin. 3/0/0.

W. Baldwin made a motion to approve an over-expenditure request in the amount of \$150.00 out of budget line 40.44421.810.00 for Other Assistance - Food. Second: W. Friel. 3/0/0.

New Business:

E-911 Discussion:

The recommendation of the Highway Safety Committee is to change the shared driveway on Washington Road to a “Way” and to renumber the minimum number of houses required to fix the numbering issue on Coventry Road. The Selectmen reviewed tax maps. Mr. Baldwin will draft a formal recommendation from the Highway Safety Committee and bring to the next meeting for Selectmen’s review and approval.

Budget Holdback:

Selectmen do not want to “cherry pick” line items in the Operating Budget and would like to put a motion in place to freeze 8% of all department budgets. Department heads are welcome to appear before the Board of Selectmen to make special requests.

W. Friel made a motion to freeze 8% of all department budgets, across the board. Second: W. Baldwin. 3/0/0.

Mosquito Control Update:

Ms. Snicer provided an update on test results of mosquito pools in Atkinson and the surrounding areas. There have been 3 mosquito pools that have tested positive for the West Nile Virus (2 in Pelham and 1 in Sandown). No pools have tested positive for EEE.

Dangerous Intersection at Robie Lane and Indian Ridge Road:

Ms. Snicer presented a recommendation from Robert D. Tingley regarding the dangerous intersection at Robie Lane and Indian Ridge Road. Mr. Tingley made the following suggestions to reduce the danger at this intersection:

1. Paint a dotted curved line on the roadway to show the lane vehicles should follow when turning from Robie Lane into Indian Ridge Road.

2. Move the street light from the dead end of Robie Lane to the pole at the intersection.
3. If this is not possible, I recommend installing a new street light at the intersection.

Selectmen referred the recommendation to the Highway Safety Committee for review. Ms. Snicer will also send a copy to the Road Agent.

Financial Reports:

Ms. Snicer informed the Selectmen that the 2012 Financial Reports were on their desks for review.

Proposal from the Hampstead Area Water Company:

Ms. Snicer presented a proposal from the Hampstead Area Water Company suggesting a process for permitting a new SR4 well and large ground water withdrawal, for the Selectmen's file.

Community Center Floor Repair – Yoshida Travers

Ms. Travers appeared before the Board of Selectmen to express her disappointment in the delay of the Community Center floor being repaired. Ms. Travers hopes the approval to have the floor repaired by October 15, 2013 will not be delayed because this will interfere tremendously with planned holiday parties. The Board of Selectmen explained there were many factors involved that influenced the delay in repairing the community center floor. The Selectmen's number one concern is safety and want to ensure sure the center is repaired correctly and in a timely manner.

Future Agenda:

8/22/2013 – Plaistow Commuter Rail Extension Listening Session – 7:00PM

8/29/13 – Atkinson Road Race – 6:00PM @ Woodlock Park

9/22 – 25/2013 – Autumn in Canada Quebec City leave from Community Center – PASSPORT REQUIRED

9/28/13 – Town-wide Yard Sale 8AM – 2PM

W. Baldwin made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting of August 19, 2013 at 8:58pm . Second: W. Friel. 3/0/0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Lueders

Todd Barbera, Acting Chairman

William Baldwin

William Friel