

*Town of Atkinson
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
September 14, 2015*

H. Morse returned to the Regular Meeting of Monday, September 14, 2015 at 7:31pm and led all present in the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present:
P. Consentino
W. Friel
J. Grosky
H. Morse, Vice Chair

Members Absent:
W. Baldwin, Chair
(Excused due to
Military duty)

Others Present:
R. Cavalear, Town Clerk
K. Delfino, Timberlane Budget Committee
J. Hammond, Timberlane Budget Committee
P. Holligan, Patriotic Services
B. Innes, Town Administrator
J. Sapia, Timberlane School Board
G. Spero, Timberlane School Board
T. Stewart, Road Agent
N. Travers, Recreation Director

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Minutes
 - 8/31/2015 – Non-Public Meeting
 - 8/31/2015 – Budget Workshop
 - 9/9/2015 – Town Administrator Selection Workshop

P. Consentino made a motion to accept the Consent Agenda of September 14, 2015 with no changes. Second. J. Grosky. 4/0/0.

Appearances:

School Adequacy Aid

Ms. Delfino, Ms. Hammond, Mr. Spero, and Mr. Sapia appeared before the Board of Selectmen to discuss implications for the Town of Atkinson on the pending law suit that is related to education adequacy aid. The state places a cap on funding in the amount of 108% that towns can receive. In other words, towns cannot receive more than 8% than it did in the previous year. Atkinson and Plaistow are both underfunded and Sandown and Danville are not. Atkinson has been underfunded by \$2,015,087.00 since 2012 causing a burden to tax payers. Dover has filed a law suit against the state of NH arguing that 108% is unconstitutional. The second part of the law suit is for underfunded towns to be able to recover some of the adequacy aid that has been previously withheld. If Dover wins the law suit and if the state cap is declared unconstitutional then Atkinson would benefit as well. Dover is asking for support from the surrounding, underfunded communities. Mr. Grosky asked Ms. Delfino for the definition of adequacy aid and she responded by stating that adequacy aid is the amount of funding that towns receive per pupil from the state to put toward education. The state looks at how many students are attending school from each town and then multiplies that number by 3,500. Property values are also considered.

J. Grosky made a motion that the Atkinson Board of Selectmen vote to support the actions of the City of Dover in suing the State over school funding. The statute at issue in the suit places an unconstitutional cap on education adequacy aid that deprives growing communities of their full payment for educational adequacy. The cap is arbitrary and unconstitutional. Its effect is to downshift costs from the State to local taxpayers. We urge the State to quickly resolve the suit by agreeing that the cap is unconstitutional and removing it, beginning with the adequacy payment due to schools on November 1st. Second. P. Consentino. 3/0/1. W. Friel recused himself from the motion.

Announcements:

Ms. Delfino announced that the district is hosting a facilities tour at Atkinson Academy on September 24th at 6pm.

Mr. Sapia also announced there has been a good start to the year. Class temperatures are being monitored. There is a college fair for juniors starting on Tuesday, September 15th.

Appointment:

Energy Commission – Leslie Barbera – term to end April, 2017

P. Consentino made a motion to appoint Leslie Barbera to the Energy Commission for a term to end April, 2017. Second. W. Friel. 4/0/0.

Old Business:

Pay Raise for Police Department Administrative Assistance and Dispatcher

J. Grosky made a motion to increase the pay of the Police Department Administrative Assistant and Dispatcher, effective Monday, September 14, 2015 from a hiring rate of \$17.84 per hour to \$18.50 per hour discussed at point of hire. Second. W. Friel. 4/0/0.

J. Grosky made a motion to unseal any of the sealed minutes specific to this issue. Second. W. Friel. 4/0/0.

Timberlane Withdrawal Study Committee Update

Mr. Grosky updated the Board of Selectmen that the Timberlane Withdrawal Committee will be meeting on Tuesday, September 15th. The Sandown Board of Selectmen voted to dissolve the Minority Committee they created.

Stop Sign Situation

The Public Input Session is scheduled for September 28th. All letters have gone out. Mr. Innes will get Mr. Consentino a list of the property owners who were sent a letter.

New Business:

Change in Police Department Budget

Mr. Innes explained the following budget line was corrected.

42107.410.00	Electricity	5,500	7,252	14.27%	Due to an increase in the 'lock-in' rate for 2016
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J. Grosky made a motion to increase the PD budget line 42107.410.00 for Electricity to \$7,252. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Budget Presentations

Town Clerk

Ms. Cavalear appeared before the Board of Selectmen to present the 2016 Town Clerk budget and made comments to the following budget lines:

Account No.	Description	Budget	Proposed	Change	Reason for Change
41401.110.00	Town Clerk Assistants	50,715	52,360	3.24%	Per hire stipulations, assistant is receiving her .25 cent raise and then her probationary period end raise of .50 cents.
41401.740.00	New Equipment	10,552	500	-95.26%	Don't need anything this year since the purchase of fire proof cabinets last year. Put \$500 just in case.
41401.820.00	Mileage	1,300	1,500	15.38%	Went up in order to send Assistants to classes
41401.850.00	Education/Conferences	586	589	0.51%	Based on tax increase

P. Consentino made a motion to accept the Town Clerk budget for preliminary approval in the amount of \$157,950 with a decrease of -8.47%. Second. W. Friel. 4/0/0.

Ms. Cavalear also provided a salary analysis of the Town Clerk's salary. Selectmen will review the packet and take it into consideration.

Moderator, Election Administration, and Supervisors of the Checklist

Mr. Innes presented the 2016 Moderator, Election Administration, and Supervisors of the Checklists budgets on behalf of Jim Garrity and explained the budgets are increased due to 2016 being a federal election year.

W. Friel made a motion to accept the Moderator (\$13,951) , Election & Registration (\$157,950), and Supervisors of the Checklist (\$5,081) budgets for preliminary approval. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Community Center

Ms. Travers appeared before the Board of Selectmen to present the 2016 Community Center budget and made comments to the following budget lines:

Account No.	Description	Budget	Proposed	Change	Reason for Change
45208.341.00	Telephone	2,197	2,000	-8.96%	Less usage
45208.410.00	Electricity	3,345	5,000	49.49%	Based on last year's usage
45208.411.00	Heat	4,862	4,800	-1.27%	Changed to gas
45208.412.00	Water	864	700	-18.95%	Less usage
45208.640.00	Custodial Supplies	874	1,000	14.36%	More usage

J. Grosky made a motion to accept the Community Center budget for preliminary approval in the amount of \$68,426 with an increase of 3.04%. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Recreation

Ms. Travers also presented the 2016 Recreation budget and made comments to the following budget lines:

Account No.	Description	Budget	Proposed	Change	Reason for Change
45201.120.01	Sun & Fun Director	3,860	3,976	3.01%	Ms. Travers would like to increase pay.
45201.410.00	Supplies & Electricity – Pope	1,900	3,050	60.53%	This line should only say Electricity. This is for recreation fields including East Road.
45201.430.00	Equipment Maintenance	1,000	2,000	100%	Need to repair playground and baseball field gates. Baseball league is going to come up with half the money.
45201.890.00	Contract Labor/Equipment	3,000	4,000	33.33%	For youth baseball to put a high pole with a net around the fence to prevent balls going into the woods. Mr. Grosky asked if it would be cheaper to just buy more balls.

J. Grosky made a motion to change the proposed budget to reflect what was budgeted for in 2015 for lines 01, 02, and 03 and to adjust FICA and Medicare accordingly and to then accept the 2016 Recreation Budget (\$81,714) for preliminary approval. Second. W. Friel. 3/1/0. P. Consentino is opposed.

The Board of Selectmen took a 10 minute recess

Patriotic Services

Ms. Holligan presented the 2016 Patriotic Services as level funded.

W. Friel made a motion accept the Patriotic Services Budget (\$1,430) under preliminary approval. Second. J. Grosky. 4/0/0.

Highway Department

Mr. Stewart appeared before the Board of Selectmen to present 2016 Highway Department budget and made comments to the following budget lines:

Account No.	Description	Budget	Proposed	Change	Reason for Change
43111.110.00	Assist. Road Agent	32,670	47,476		Adjusting for a full year's worth of pay. Also affects FICA, Medicare, and Retirement.
43112.341.00	Telephone	1,100	1,600	45.45%	Currently overexpended. Don't see it going down.
43112.390.00	Other Professional Services – Engineer	5,500	15,500	181.82%	Covers storm water project.
43122.430.00	Equipment Repairs	10,500	4,000	-61.90%	Cut it down with anticipation of having new equipment.
43122.660.00	Truck Lease	0	55,000	100%	Money to cover 2 trucks and the backhoe lease.
43122.680.05	Sealers	15,000	17,500	16.67%	Need in town for crack sealing
43122.680.06	Other Materials/Summer	2,500	3,000	20.00%	Over expended this year. This is a catch all for everything, bark mulch, safety chips on playground etc.
43122.890.00	Contract	20,000	15,000	-25.00%	To offset savings for back hoe for

	Labor/Equipment/Summer				the summer season
43125.890.00	Contract Labor/Equipment/Winter	95,000	140,000	47.37%	H. Morse made a motion to drop the contract labor/equipment/winter line from 140,000 to 120,000. Second. J. Grosky. 3/1/0. P. Consentino is opposed.
43125.740.00	Cutting Edges/Winter	3,000	3,000		J. Grosky made a motion to reduce line from 3,000 to 1,000. Second. W. Friel. 2/2/0. P. Consentino and H. Morse opposed. Motion dies.

J. Grosky made a motion to preliminarily approve the 2016 Highway Dept budget in the amount of \$573,280. Second. W. Friel. 3/1/0. P. Consentino is opposed.

Street Lighting

Budget is up due to an increase in rates.

W. Friel made a motion to preliminarily approve the 2016 Street Lighting budget in the amount of \$52,703 with an increase of 23.90% due to an increase in rates. Second. J. Grosky. 4/0/0.

Recycling

Budget is decreased in the amount of 19.34%.

W. Friel made a motion to preliminarily approve the 2016 Recycling budget in the amount of \$25,021 with an decrease of 19.34%. Second. J. Grosky. 4/0/0.

Solid Waste Disposal

Budget is decreased in the amount of 3.32%.

W. Friel made a motion to preliminarily approve the 2016 Solid Waste Disposal budget in the amount of \$425,502 with a decrease of 3.32%. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Ground Maintenance

Budget is level funded.

W. Friel made a motion to preliminarily approve the 2016 Ground Maintenance budget in the amount of \$41,400. Second. J. Grosky. 4/0/0.

Fence on Salem Road

Discussion occurred regarding the fence on Salem Road that was replaced about 2 years ago because of a complaint made by a resident with little kids, who complained the her small children had access to the pond. It is currently an eye sore, but could also be an increase in liability for the town.

P. Consentino made a motion to remove the section of the fence in the front that looks bad laying down on Sawyer Road with the stipulation that the money we are getting from the insurance company is going to be reimbursed to us, pending the outcome of what money we get and that we replace that fence with a guardrail. Second. J. Grosky. 3/0/1. H. Morse abstained from the motion.

Budget Update

Mr. Innes provided an update on the 2015 Operating Budget. 56.3% of the budget has been spent, keeping the town on track for the year. There is about \$150,000 in unanticipated offsetting revenue. The town can pull from the Winter Capital Reserve Fund, if necessary. There are about \$10,000 to \$25,000 expected back from FEMA. Maintenance is not being done on buildings like it should be. Mr. Innes will bring maintenance priorities in front of the Board at the next meeting.

Resignation – Donna Sullivan

J. Grosky made a motion to accept Donna Sullivan’s resignation from the Fire Department. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Social Media Policy – Approval

Mr. Innes presented a Social Media Policy to the Board of Selectmen for approval.

W. Friel made a motion to accept the Social Media Policy dated September 14, 2015 as presented. Second. J. Grosky. 4/0/0.

Mosquito Update

Mr. Innes explained there have been no EEE and no WNV cases in NH year-to-date. Massachusetts and Vermont have had some issues.

Elder Services – Driver Hire – Joe Pelosi

Mr. Innes explained that Elder Services would like to hire Joe Pelosi as a driver at the rate of pay of \$11.00 per hour pending the completion of a background and motor vehicle record check.

P. Consentino made a motion to hire Joe Pelosi as a driver for Elder Services at the rate of pay of \$11.00 per hour pending the completion of a background and motor vehicle record check. Second: for discussion. J. Grosky. Mr. Pelosi will ride along with other Elder Services drivers to learn the ropes. The town will pay for the background and motor vehicle record checks, if he passes. 4/0/0.

Elder Services – Vehicle Strategy

Mr. Innes explained the Ms. LoPizzo has been going back and forth with negotiations with Toyota. There is currently \$9,500 in the vehicle fund. Elder Services would like to take about \$3,200 out of transportation maintenance and move it over to the Elder Services Expendable Trust Fund. Per the Board of Selectmen, Mr. Innes will put the need for a vehicle out for bid and bring it back to the Selectmen next meeting.

W. Friel made a motion to transfer \$3,240 from transportation maintenance to the Elder Services Expendable Transportation Fund. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Future Dates:

10/2 – Timberlane Got Talent at the PAC starting at 7:00PM
10/25 – Lions Citizen of the Year Award

P. Consentino made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of September 14, 2015 at 10:30pm. Second. W. Friel. 4/0/0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Lueders

William Baldwin, Chair

Phil Consentino

William Friel

Jason Grosky

Harold Morse, Vice Chair