

*Town of Atkinson
Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
October 5, 2015*

W. Baldwin opened the Regular Meeting of Monday, October 5, 2015 at 7:41pm and led all present in the pledge of allegiance.

Members Present:

W. Baldwin, Chair
P. Consentino
W. Friel
J. Grosky

Members Absent:

H. Morse, Vice Chair

Others Present:

B. Innes, Town Administrator
K. Jones, Police Chief, Plaistow Police Department
M. Murphy, Fire Chief, Atkinson
L. Theberge, Communications Supervisor, Plaistow PD

Approval of Consent Agenda:

- Minutes
 - 9/28/2015 – Regular Meeting Minutes
 - 9/28/2015 – Non-Public Meeting Minutes
- Donations:
 - Elder Services Transportation Fund - \$690

W. Friel made a motion to approve the consent agenda of 10/5/15 as presented. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Mr. Baldwin recused himself from the following topic.

Appearances:

Dispatch Contract – Plaistow Police Chief Kathy Jones, Lucia Theberge

Chief Jones and Ms. Theberge appeared before the Board of Selectmen to present the dispatch services offered by the Plaistow Police Department. The Plaistow Police Department has provided dispatch services to the Town of Atkinson since 1993. Plaistow has continuously upgraded their infrastructure and communication systems in order to improve service. Chief Jones believes that after 22 years Plaistow can offer Atkinson a “personal touch” because they possess a level of knowledge about the history of emergency calls in Atkinson that can serve as an incredible resource for the future. The Plaistow Police Department is fully staffed at all times and can deal with the volume of calls brought in by the Town of Atkinson. Chief Jones believes Rockingham is great and is run by great people, but is too busy to take on the Town of Atkinson. The Plaistow Police Department also offers EMD pending calls where the location of the emergency displays on a computer screen prior to the details of the call, however allows responders to make their way to the location. This time saved can make a difference between life and death. Statistical data is available to the Town of Atkinson. Mr. Grosky likes the idea of a “personal touch” and believes the Town of Atkinson would lose something by switching services. Mr. Friel believes you cannot put a price tag on safety and asked how the Town of Plaistow would handle a catastrophic event. Chief Jones believes the Town of Plaistow could handle a catastrophic event as well as anyone else. Chief Jones and Ms. Theberge were unsure about the rate of calls received for the Town of Atkinson but will provide that information ASAP. Chief Murphy asked whether or not the Department Heads and end users of the dispatch service will have a chance to speak prior to a decision. Mr. Innes will schedule a meeting for that conversation to occur.

Mr. Baldwin returned to the meeting and the Board of Selectmen took a 5 minute recess.

Old Business:

Highway Department Roof

Mr. Innes explained that AJ Wood is not able to meet the requirements of the RFP. Mr. Innes will get another RFP out this week.

W. Friel made a motion to retract the previous award of the bid for the Highway Department Roof to AJ Wood based on the Contractor not being able to meet the requirements of the RFP. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Sandown Withdrawal Committee

Mr. Grosky met with the Sandown Withdrawal Committee last week. The Committee took a vote and decided it is not feasible or suitable for Sandown to withdraw from the district. It was a 5/0/2 vote with abstentions from Danville and Sandown Selectmen. A report will be put together and a meeting will be held at the PAC mid-October. The Committee meets again on Tuesday night.

New Business:

Conflict of Interest Committee Update

Mr. Grosky explained he recently watched a Conflict of Interest Committee meeting where it was announced that a citizen's petition will be going on the ballot that would require any action recommended by them be discussed in a public meeting.

3 Way Stop Sign – Discussion and Decision

Topic was put off until the next meeting due to Mr. Morse being absent.

2015/2016 Building Maintenance Proposals

Mr. Innes presented the 2015/2016 Building Maintenance and Repair which included a two year snapshot for each building with actual and proposed figures.

Budget Presentations

Topic was put off until Mr. Innes has had the chance to update the spreadsheet with actual numbers.

Department Heads Required/Date/Time for Finalizing Budget

Discussion occurred around giving the town employees a cost of living adjustment (COLA) versus a merit raise or both.

W. Friel made a motion to give town employees a 2% COLA, and a 1% merit increase. Second. P. Consentino. 4/0/0.

Department heads will make the decision along with the Town Administrator on who will receive a merit raise. They will have 1% of their payroll to work with. The Board of Selectmen will make the final decision. The next Selectmen's meeting will be on Wednesday, October 14th at 6pm and Mr. Innes will invite the Cemetery, the Town Clerk, and the Tax Collector, and will have the Buildings Maintenance budget updated.

Highway Department Over Expenditure Request

Mr. Innes asked the Board of Selectmen to approve an over expenditure in the amount of \$78,000 on the highway department winter labor line due to winter clean up. Mr. Innes also asked the Selectmen to approve a request for an Emergency Expenditure for \$105,870, to be expended from the undesignated fund balance.

W. Friel made a motion to approve an over-expenditure in the amount of \$78,000 for the Highway Department due to the 2015 winter clean up. Second. J. Grosky. 4/0/0.

W. Friel made a motion to approve an application to the Department of Revenue Administration for an Emergency Expenditure of \$105,870, to be expended from the undesignated fund balance if required. Second. J. Grosky. 4/0/0.

Family Mediation Grounds

Mr. Innes encouraged the Board of Selectmen to stop by the Family Mediation Grounds to check out the great job that the Road Agent and his crew did over there.

RFP to Car Dealerships for Elder Services

Mr. Innes explained that he did not get any response on the RFP he sent out to car dealerships. Mr. Friel will follow up with the state to find out about next steps.

TA Search Committee

Mr. Baldwin explained the Committee will be meeting on Wednesday to narrow the candidates down to three to present to the Board of Selectmen.

Comments from Department Heads on Dispatcher Service

Topic will be on the agenda for the first meeting in November.

Future Dates:

- 10/13 – Public Hearing for Timberlane Sandown Withdrawal – 7pm
- 10/24 – Republican Breakfast – Community Center 8:00am – 10:00am
- 10/25 – Lions Citizen of the year award going to Noriko Travers

J. Grosky made a motion to adjourn the Regular Meeting of October 5, 2015 at 9:40pm. Second. P. Consentino.

Respectfully Submitted,
Amanda Lueders

William Baldwin, Chair

Phil Consentino

William Friel

Jason Grosky

Harold Morse, Vice Chair