



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MEETING MINUTES  
JANUARY 13, 2020**

**PRESENT:** JON OSBORNE, SELECTMAN; JAN SNYDER, SELECTMAN; JACK MEANEY, VICE CHAIRMAN; SHERRY BURDICK, SELECTMAN (absent: Chairman Hippler)

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR:** Naomi L Bolton

**GUESTS:** Police Chief, Chris Moore; Finance Administrator, Beth Rouse; Finance Committee Member, Tom Clow; DPW Director, Benjamin Knapp; Frank Campana; Richard Butt; Eileen Meaney

Vice Chairman Meaney opened the meeting at 6:30pm., welcomed those present to the January 13, 2020 meeting of the Weare Board of Selectmen and proceeded with the pledge of allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Frank Campana asked two questions. First, he stated John Stark high school presented a budget that includes a Resource Officer. Mr. Campana wanted to know if the Board was aware of their warrant article looking to hire an SRO at \$85,000.00 for eight months.

Vice Chairman Meaney answered, "No, first I've heard of it." He went on to say that John Stark has not approached the board.

Mr. Campana then expressed this new officer, SRO, will affect the Weare Police Department.

Vice Chairman Meaney stated the SRO could come from Henniker.

Selectman Burdick added, "We will have to pay for part of it."

Mr. Campana continued to explain that back around September at a Library coffee hour with Mike Sullivan, the subject of an SRO at John Stark was addressed by the School Superintendent, stating she was going to request one on the ballot. In addition, Chief Moore attended this coffee hour and said he had an officer taking SRO courses in Maine.

Mr. Campana believes the added SRO will affect the budget with the proposed \$85,000.00 salary with Weare's portion being 2/3rds.

Vice Chairman Meaney stated, "We don't know. We have not heard word one about it."

Mr. Campana's second question, "Should the Board get involved in the workings of the SRO and the budget implications which might be next year?"

Vice Chairman Meaney responds, "We don't know."

Police Chief Moore spoke next citing, "The first I've heard of the SRO position was when I was at the meeting with them, (pointing to Frank Campana)." Police Chief Moore went on to explain, "There's been no coordination between the school and myself to try and set this up. This has all been their initiative." He went on to say the only thing John Stark has asked him, "How much does it cost for an officer for a year?" He responded, their number (\$85,000.00) was ok, because it would only be for eight months.

Richard Butt spoke next, his first point, "I understand, as well, that John Stark is entering into a contract with the Weare Police Department for their officer. It seems like it is gone to a point, now, where it is on the warrant for the JSRH. I understand that you haven't seen it, but there's got to be some intervention here because if we can't afford to release a police officer, because we are limited in our force, then somebody needs to be aware." He understands the Board will discuss it further.

Mr. Butt's second point was in reference to the allocation of the two new Tahoe police cruisers. Police Chief Moore stated he was receiving one and the other was for a patrolling officer. Mr. Butt expressed he would not support the current warrant unless both of the new vehicles went to patrolling officers as there are issues with the ergonomics in a current vehicle. He suggested different changes within the rotation of vehicles.

Tom Clow, Finance Committee member, spoke next as an individual, stating he supports the Resource Officer for the high school. He feels it is important. Mr. Clow continued, now addressing the Board as a Finance Committee member, on the two policies on tonight's Board of Selectmen's Agenda. The first one, establishing a Class VI Road policy, Mr. Clow feels this one should be a Planning Board issue. Along with the second policy, making changes to the Facilities Use Form, Mr. Clow recommends a Public Hearing for both, as he believes they effect many people.

#### **REVIEW AND FINALIZE 2020 WARRANT:**

Town Administrator Bolton read over the warrant articles and noted changes. Tom Clow, Finance Committee member, asked about article #19 regarding the Town Hall projects. He thought the figure proposed seemed low. Walker Roofing provided quotes for all items listed.

Public Works Director Knapp spoke in relation to the non-union raise of 3%. He feels it should be the same as union employees stating, "Fair is fair. Why is one different than the other percentage wise?" He explained his shop used to be union, but they voted to go non-union and he runs a "happy non-union shop!" Director Knapp strongly clarified; however, he is not suggesting cutting anything from the union. He believes all town employees, union or non-union, should be treated with the same respect.

Town Administrator Bolton added, "He brings up a good point, though, because you're gonna have to have that answer."

Selectman Burdick responded, "Do you want to do it across the board, the same amount, for non-union this year and then next year drop back to 3%?"

Vice Chairman Meaney said that is something that we would have to discuss.

Police Chief Moore suggested taking the union sum total percentage over the next three years and dividing it evenly, each year, for three years for non-union employees. The union has a higher percentage the first year, but then lowers the following two years. He gave the example, if the union employees have a total sum of a 15% raise over the next three years; break it down to 5% a year for non-union employees. The actual breaks out at 4% a year, for three years, to match the non-union and union employees.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD/COMMITTEE ITEMS:** none

#### **DISCUSS PROPOSED CLASS VI and PRIVATE ROAD POLICY:**

DPW Director Knapp stated Class VI roads are his number one headache so he supports a more defined, revised policy. Vice Chairman Meaney stated some people are not currently following statutes and this new checklist will clarify things and be given to anyone who comes in for a building permit. He went on to say

the Planning Board looked it over and it is part of the permitting process. Vice Chairman Meaney then asked should we make a motion. Through further discussion, **Selectman Osborne made a motion to adopt as written the Revised Class VI Road Policy, Vice Chairman Meaney seconded, passed 4-0-0**

**REVIEW FACILITY USE and TOWN HALL SIGNAGE POLICIES:**

Vice Chairman Meaney discussed the fact that the town hall is heated, has lights and the current rental fees do not cover the costs when used. He then described previous rental history not handled properly and situations of abuse. Collectively, the Board and the Town Administrator discussed there is a need for fee changes, taking charge of inspecting the facility after a rental, imposing a cleaning deposit and a way to have renters adhere to the guidelines. One consideration would be to ticket people who do not park in designated areas, as written and posted, creating a hazard for emergency personal and adjoining landowners. A Public Hearing scheduled for the Town Hall and Town Sign set for Monday, February 3, 2020 for a discussion on a scheduled fee and declaration of usage.

**MINUTES:**

**January 6, 2020 Minutes:** Vice Chairman Meaney moved to accept the minutes of January 6<sup>th</sup> as written, Selectman Burdick seconded. Passed 4-0-0

**MANIFEST:**

Vice Chairman Meaney and Selectman Burdick, moved to accept the manifest as follows, which passed 4-0-0.

*To order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated January 13, 2020, as included in the following manifests:*

*To order the Treasurer to sign the payroll and accounts payables checks dated January 16, 2020, as included in the following manifests:*

<i>Payroll Manifest</i>	\$	<i>53,311.31</i> (Weekly payroll)
<i>2019 Accounts Payable Manifest</i>	\$	<i>51,364.84</i>
<i>2020 Accounts Payable Manifest</i>	\$	<i>17,929.49</i>
<i>Weare School District Manifest</i>	\$	<i>300,000.00</i>
<i>John Stark School Manifest</i>	\$	<i>250,000.00</i>
<i>Total</i>	\$	<b><u>672,605.64</u></b>

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

A tax deed repurchase for the Board to sign as a taxpayer repurchased their property. Two town employee resignations were accepted on January 6, 2020. The first was Library Trustee, Lee Marcroft and the second was Police Officer, Sheila Allatt. The Board and Town Administrator Bolton would like to thank them both for their service and wish them well.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: Administrative Topics:**

- December 31<sup>st</sup> year-end with the 2019 balances for the Capital Reserve Funds was given to the Board.
- Class VI Road policy discussed previously.

- The 2020 Proposed Budget, Warrant Articles, Default Budget Public Hearing is scheduled for Monday, January 20, 2020 at 7:00pm.
- The 2020 Deliberative Session scheduled for Saturday, February 8, 2020 at 9:00am at Weare Middle School Cafetorium.
- The Finance Committee will have their recommendations done at their meeting on Wednesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting at 6:30pm.
- Radio Communication is open, no new information.

Government Building-

- Tim Maskiell stopped by to get an idea on painting upstairs and re-glazing windows. It will still go out to bid.
- Hold off on the propane tanks.
- East Road letter in reference to the gate went out.

**CORRESPONDENCE & OTHER BUSINESS:**

Vice Chairman Meaney inquired about the outcome of our hearing with Gary Bedard's property. Laura Spector-Morgan, town attorney, is going to forward the answer to Town Administrator Bolton.

Selectman Burdick requested an email with the Perambulation paperwork to access a photo, but then decided to get a better picture she will call Laura in New Boston herself.

**Being there was no further business to come before the Board, Vice Chairman Meaney moved, Selectmen Snyder seconded to adjourn at 8:14 pm, seconded. Passed 4-0-0.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

A True Record.

*Karen Nelson*

Karen Nelson transcribed from  
TA Bolton notes & YouTube recording