

FINAL



**WEARE BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
March 28, 2016**

PRESENT: TOM CLOW, VICE CHAIRMAN; JENNIFER BOHL, SELECTMAN; FREDERICK W. HIPPLER, SELECTMAN; JOHN (JACK) MEANEY, SELECTMAN.

Chairman Keith Lacasse was not present.

RECORDING SECRETARY: Kathleen Humphreys

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR: Naomi Bolton

GUESTS: Frank Campana, Jan Snyder, Lori Davis, Dave Hatch, Candace Harrison, EJ Chamberlin, William Raymond, Glen and Krista Connell, Brian B. Muise, Jean M. Muise, Benjamin Knapp, Barry Arnold, Burke, Angela Drake, Delia Muise, Mike Muise, Neal Kurk, Heleen Kurk, Alexander G. Gatzoulis, Brandon Montplaisir, Jacob Hatch, Sadie Barton, Frank Hebert, Allison Murdough and Rene Montplaisir.

7:00 p.m. Chairman Lacasse called the meeting to order.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Neal Kurk asked about the health insurance buyout and was informed by Vice Chairman Clow that a decision has not been reached. Mr. Kurk asked they take into consideration the taxpayer's interests.

Vice Chairman Clow explained that per the personnel policy, the town offers health insurance for full time employees with the employee paying 10% of the cost of the premiums, but those who do not take the insurance and can provide proof of having insurance are eligible for a \$5,500.00 buyout. Back in the 2015 the town inquired to HealthTrust regarding the health care rules under the Affordable Care Act (ACA) or Obama Care. A worksheet was provided by HealthTrust to determine if Weare is a large or small employer. As a result, Weare is a large employer which means that if you work 30 or more hours the Town has to offer health insurance, which was done. So in lieu of the health insurance, three employees began to receive the buyout. We have since been informed that offering (not providing or paying for) health insurance under the ACA guidelines only has to do with the fines that could be imposed if an employee purchases insurance on the exchange because they were not offered affordable health insurance. The personnel policy does not address providing part time employees with the insurance buyout. The town attorney has reviewed this issue and has indicated that the federal requirements under the ACA and paying the buyout in lieu of health insurance are two separate issues, but these employees are not eligible for the buyout. The Board has not made a decision as to how this is going to be rectified at this time.

Resident Heleen Kurk noted that there are committees and town boards that do not have selectman as a member such as the Conservation Commission, ZBA, Economic Development, Agriculture Commission or Trails Committee. She mentioned that minutes are missing for groups such as the Cable Committee and Heritage Commission for example. She felt the minutes are an easy way for residents to stay informed.

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Vice Chair Clow informed her that the Conservation Commission has not had a BOS member in over 10-years and that seat is used for a member. He also encouraged people to come forward and get involved.

Swear-in New Police Officers and Promotion:

Police Chief Sean Kelley announced the promotion of Officer Brandon Montplaisir to Sergeant. He is a 28-year old Weare resident and has been with the Weare Police Department for seven years. Chief Kelly read off a long list of education, certifications, experience and awards.

Selectman Hippler moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to promote Officer Brandon Montplaisir to Sergeant at a rate of \$27.56 per hour. Passed 4-0-0

Sgt. Montplaisir took his oath and was sworn-in by Vice Chair Clow. His badge was pinned on him by his young son Brayden.

Chief Kelly recommended Michael Muise, age 36, and Jacob Hatch, age 24, be hired as officers for the Weare Police Department after a very extensive and stringent search. Officer Muise will attend the 170th Police Academy in May and Officer Hatch will attend the 171 Police Academy in August.

Selectman Meaney moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to hire Officer Michael Muise as a new police officer for the Weare Police Department, effective March 29, 2015 at a starting rate of \$19.59/hour. Passed 4-0-0

Officer Muise took his oath and was sworn-in by Vice Chair Clow. His badge was pinned on him by his young daughter while his wife Delia and two other daughters's stood by his side.

Selectman Meaney moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to hire Officer Jacob Hatch as a new police officer for the Weare Police Department, effective March 29, 2015 at a starting rate of \$19.59/hour. Passed 4-0-0

Officer Hatch took his oath and was sworn-in by Vice Chair Clow. His badge was pinned on him by his girlfriend Sadie Barton.

New DPW Director:

The Board announced the selection of Benjamin Knapp of Deering as DPW Director. Mr. Knapp has worked in Weare for 15-years, eight as a foreman. He has a Level 4 Solid Waste Facility Certification plus is a DOT Vehicle Inspector and a Master Road Scholar.

Vice Chair Clow moved, Selectman Hippler seconded to hire Benjamin Knapp as the new DPW Director with the pay scale of \$58,000 starting April 15, 2016. Passed 4-0-0

DEPARTMENT HEAD AND COMMITTEE ITEMS

Angela Drake volunteered to be the town's representative to SNHPC and has valuable experience in the field.

Selectman Meaney moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to appoint Angela Drake as SNHPC Representative. Passed 4-0-0

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Ms. Drake took her oath and was sworn-in by Vice Chair Clow.

MEETING MINUTES

Selectman Meaney moved, Selectman Bohl seconded to approve the minutes of 3/21/16 as amended. Passed 4-0-0

MANIFESTS

Vice Chair Clow moved, Selectman Hippler seconded to order the Deputy Treasurer to sign accounts payable and payroll checks dated March 31, 2016 as included in the following manifests:

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------|---|
| Payroll Manifest | \$ 49,737.51 | (Weekly payroll including deduction checks) |
| Accounts Payable Manifest | \$ 50,645.04 | |
| John Stark Regional Manifest | \$ 250,000.00 | (March 31, 2016 Appropriation) |
| John Stark Regional Manifest | \$ 450,000.00 | (March 28, 2016 Appropriation) |
| TOTAL | \$800,382.55 | |

Passed 4-0-0

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

-Town Litter Pick-up Day is April 23 with a rain-date of April 30. The Selectmen can clean a street together.

-Freedom Printers, LLC has donated two lateral filing cabinets (\$50 value)

Selectman Meaney moved, Selectman Hippler seconded to accept the donation of two lateral filing cabinets from Freedom Printers, LCC. Passed 4-0-0

Resident Keith Lion recently sold his house and would like to donate a mahogany office desk, cabinets and metal cabinets valued at \$500 and suggest it would be a perfect fit for highway department office when the building is completed. The highway department can pick-up the donation.

Selectman Hippler moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to accept the donation of a mahogany office desk, cabinets and metal cabinets valued at \$500 from Keith Lion for the highway department office. Passed 4-0-0

PUBLIC COMMENT

Resident Frank Campana inquired about the previous and new pay scale of the sergeant promoted tonight. Town Administrator Bolton will provide that information and it will be reflected in the minutes.

He discussed the March 14, 2016 meeting minutes and the commented about repairs for the police cruiser. He visited the transfer station last Tuesday but the cruiser was not there. He felt it is a cosmetic repair and was uncomfortable the dent should get fixed. Vice Chair Clow said the Board left it up to the Chief to determine which vehicles needed repairs and also felt the cars are a matter of pride to the community. Selectman Hippler mentioned there was more damage to the interior of the trunk than what appeared on the exterior and he looked at the damage when it happened

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Mr. Campana questioned why the loader bid came in \$23,000 under the warrant article and questioned if this is a new mechanism for getting money into the accounts by adding a little more. He questioned the transparency and felt the money should be returned to reduce taxes. Town Administrator Bolton explained that bids are estimates and when it comes time to purchase the equipment, with money in hand, the vendor then sharpens their pencil for a more accurate price. She explained that other items came in under the projected amount such as the trailer last year and the bridge.

Mr. Campana discussed the cost to transport bulk items at the Transfer Station and felt it is being paid for twice.

CORRESPONDENCE

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

Selectman Hippler moved, Selectman Meaney seconded to enter into nonpublic session @ 8:20 p.m. pursuant to the authority granted in RSA 91-A:3II (a&c). A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Bohl – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Selectman Hippler – yes; Vice Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 4-0-0

Selectman Bohl moved, Selectman Hippler seconded to come out of nonpublic session @ 8:29 p.m. A roll call vote was taken, Selectman Bohl – yes; Selectman Meaney – yes; Selectman Hippler – yes; Vice Chairman Clow – yes. Passed 4-0-0

The Board discussed a tax payment arrangement for a resident.

ADJOURNMENT

A True Record.

Kathleen Humphreys, Recording Secretary