

**Town of Woodstock
Selectmen's Meeting
Tuesday, December 15, 2020
Using ZOOM**

Selectmen: R. Gil Rand, Charyl Reardon, Scott Rice

Staff: Judy Welch

Public: Sharon Carroll, Betsy Scrafford, Bill Waterhouse, Mike Donahue, Melissa Sabourn, Barbara Avery, Kelly Keating Trinkle, Patrick Griffin, Tom Sabourn, Robert McAfee.

Scott called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

Minutes of the November 17, 2020 Meeting:

Charyl motioned to accept the minutes of the November 17, 2020 Selectmen's Meeting and sign them at the office. Scott seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative. Gil abstained.

Minutes of the November 30, 2020 Workshop:

Charyl motioned to accept the minutes of the November 30, 2020 Selectmen's Workshop and sign them at the office. Gil seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Minutes of the December 10, 2020 Workshop:

Gil motioned to accept the minutes of the December 10, 2020 Selectmen's Workshop and sign them at the office. Charyl seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative. Scott abstained.

Ice Castle/Clark Farm Road Winter Maintenance Agreement:

Scott stated that the Ice Castles had some concerns with the Clark Farm Road Maintenance Agreement that was approved at the October 6, 2020 Selectmen's Meeting. Kyle Stanifird, CEO Ice Castles, reached out to Scott to ask the Board to consider some changes. Scott noted that these concerns and proposed changes were sent off to our insurance company and legal counsel to come up with an agreement that we think we need to protect ourselves. Scott pointed out that the required Builders Risk Insurance has been removed and we have come up with an agreement that both parties feel comfortable with. Charyl motioned to approve the revised agreement. Gil seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Authorize TANS/Union Bank:

In light of the current State of Emergency and potential current cash flow crisis due to the uncertainty of revenue coming from tax dollars and the State in 2021, Scott recommended taking out another TANS. Scott pointed out that this is just for precautionary measures and will only be used if absolutely necessary. Charyl motioned to authorize a \$800,000 Tax Anticipation Note with Union Bank with a 1.10% interest rate. Charyl pointed out that TANS expire at the end of every year. Gil seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Adopt/ 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan & Community Wildfire Protection Plan Updates:

Gil motioned to adopt the final 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan and Community Wildfire Protection Plan updates as presented. Charyl seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative. The Board will sign the resolution adopting the 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update for FEMA and signed the resolution for the Community Wildfire Protection Plan for DRED at the office.

Approve Inter-Municipal Agreement for Regional Prosecutor:

The Board reviewed the 2021 Inter-Municipal Agreement for a Regional Municipal Prosecutor. Scott noted that this is an agreement between Campton, Lincoln, and Woodstock to share a prosecutor and pointed out that we get better coverage for less money. Scott pointed out that Woodstock's share remains the same as last year. Charyl motion to approve the agreement as presented and sign at the office. Gil seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Woodstock Firefighter Fund/Donation:

The Woodstock Fire Department presented the Board with a gift in the amount of \$5,625.00, on behalf of the Woodstock Firefighters, to be deposited in the previously established Woodstock Firefighter Fund. Gil motioned to accept the gift of \$5,625.00 from the Woodstock Firefighters and requested that the Trustees of Trust Funds deposit it into the Woodstock Firefighter Fund. Charyl seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Woodstock Firefighter Fund/Check Request:

Gil motioned to approve the check request for \$850.16 payable to Anne Englert for wreaths. This money is to be withdrawn from the Woodstock Firefighter Capital Reserve Fund. Charyl seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Other Business:**Charyl:**

Charyl noted that at the December 10th Workshop she had made a motion to accept all the policies as presented and forgot to point out that a change had been made in the definition section of the Purchasing Policy. Charyl intended to point out that the Purchasing Policy had been amended to read that any major or non-major purchases in the amount of \$25,000 or more shall be subject to the bid process. Gil pointed out that this does not mean the Town has taken the lowest bid.

At the Budget Committee Meeting last week Mr. McAfee asked Charyl if there was any planning being done in the highway budget to upgrade class 6 roads to class 5 and questioned if there were any current building permits on class 6 roads. Charyl stated that she informed Mr. McAfee that she wasn't aware of any current building permits and that there were no plans in the immediate future to upgrade class 6 roads. Charyl told Mr. McAfee that she would check with the other Board members. All Board members agreed that there were no immediate plans to upgrade any roads and were unaware of any current building permits on class 6 roads.

Scott:

Scott pointed out that the Board has just received the formal proposal from Horizons Engineering for the sewer study that was approved at the last Selectmen's Meeting. Scott would like a motion to sign the proposal. Gil motioned to have Scott sign the proposal at the office. Charyl seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

Scott informed everyone that the Peeling Project for workforce housing on Lost River Road is moving forward. They are currently working with NHDOT on a driveway permit.

Public Participation:**Patrick Griffin:**

Patrick Griffin questioned why he wasn't added to the agenda. Scott pointed out that Judy had sent him a few emails requesting his agenda items and received no response. Patrick stated that there are no rules stating he has to provide agenda items in writing. Scott informed Patrick that the Board checked with legal counsel and they can indeed require topics before adding someone to the agenda. Patrick informed the Board that they were allowing Judy to run the Town like Butch Burbank and that if they wanted to play hard ball, he would play hard ball. Patrick noted that he had a lawyer as well.

Patrick informed the Board that they all had his phone number and questioned why they didn't call him directly and demanded that they stop spending taxpayer money on lawyers for stupid crap.

Patrick pointed out that both Scott and Charyl work in tourism. He suggested that Scott and Charyl be very careful with what they do in tourism and pointed out they should be recusing themselves.

Mike Donahue:

Mike Donahue questioned why the Board voted to sign a contract to do a sewer study when they already have this information and already know that the pump station is at 60% and is good to 80%. Mike pointed out that this is more than enough for any single-family homes in Town. Mike feels the Board is acting prematurely and catering to developers.

Scott informed Mike that the Board is trying to get ahead of the game instead of always being behind and look into the future needs of the Town. Scott noted that the money spent on this study and future infrastructure upgrades will be recouped by Impact Fees.

Mike questioned if the Ice Castles has signed the Water MOU and questioned why they are using water if the MOU hasn't been signed. Mike questioned why the Town was allowing Ice Castles to read their own meter and report their own daily numbers. Mike suggested installing a remote reading device on the meter. Mike state that he has been against the Ice Castles from the very beginning and does not believe we should be selling good water to them to make ice. Mike doesn't feel the Town is charging the Ice Castles enough for the water they are using and pointed out the impact they have on the Town's water system. Mike noted that the water fund runs in a deficit and questioned why we are not charging them more. Mike pointed out that the Town survived before them and it is wrong to subsidize them. Mike asked why the upfront yearly payment of \$6,000.00 has been removed from the 2020 MOU. Mike questioned if the \$6,000 has been paid, how they pay for their water usage, and how he gains access to their daily readings.

Scott informed Mike that Water MOU has not been signed yet because the Town has hired Weston & Sampson to study the water system which tell us how many gallons a day we can safely provide the Ice Castles. The Town intended to amend the prior MOU based on the information they receive. Scott noted that they have had a huge impact on the tourism industry and the Town should try and be reasonably supportive. Scott pointed out that he doesn't have the necessary information in front on him but assured Mike that he would look into the \$6,000.00 upfront payment, charges, billing, and remote readers. Scott suggested that Mike reach out to the Town Office to get the daily readings.

Robert McAfee:

Robert questioned if the sewer study was specific to the proposed developments on Lost River Road and how those fees would be recouped if the developments don't happen. Robert asked if this study would incorporate other areas of the Town and pointed out that other areas could benefit from a sewer expansion. Robert noted that the Planning Board is working on a Master Plan revision and this would be valuable information. Robert also touched on the fact that more developments adds more kids to the school system which impacts our tax dollars. Robert also questioned when the tax bills were going out.

Scott informed Robert that this is an overall study of sewer system which is needed to plan for future infrastructure upgrades. Scott pointed out that everyone that connects to the sewer system pays an impact fee and the fees are structure according.

Charyl stated that the tax bill should be mailed within the next 7 to 10 days and pointed out that the Town picked up \$56,000,000.00 in assessed value and our tax rate dropped from \$21.69 to \$19.95. Charyl explained that it was a full re-evaluations year for the Town and the assessors were unable to be in the field for 4 months which delayed our tax rate setting.

Scott encouraged everyone to call the Selectmen anytime they have a question and noted they are always happy to talk and help.

The public was able to participate remotely over Zoom by going to www.zoom.us, using the Zoom App on a cellphone, or on a **landline calling 1-646-558-8656 Password: 887892** and entering **Meeting ID: 969 9041 5848 Password: 887892**. If the public were unable to access the meeting, they were asked to call 603-348-8752 for assistance.

Gil motioned to adjourn the Selectmen's Meeting at 5:42 p.m. Charyl seconded the motion and the vote was affirmative.

January 12, 2021

R. G. Flavel
Chairman
John