



BARRINGTON, NH SELECT BOARD MINUTES

MONDAY, October 26th, 2020

The Select Board meeting for Monday, October 26th, 2020 began at 6:30 p.m. The meeting was held by remote participation via a Microsoft Teams Meeting due to the COVID-19 pandemic, in accordance with [Emergency Order #12](#), pursuant to [Executive Order 2020-04](#). In attendance were Chairperson Hardekopf, Vice-Chair Knapp, Selectperson Bailey, Selectperson Saccoccia, Selectperson Ayer, Town Administrator (TA) MacIver, Municipal Office Administrator (MOA) Caudle, as well as Advisory Budget Committee (ABC) Chair Steve Saunders, member Dannen Mannschreck and Town Treasurer Peter Royce.

6:30pm. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Hardekopf.

RSA 91-A EMERGENCY PROVISIONS/SELECT BOARD CHAIR EMERGENCY DETERMINATION

6:30pm. Chairperson Hardekopf read the emergency provisions of the State of Emergency and explained how this meeting is accessible as well as how to access future meetings.

ROLL CALL ATTENDANCE

6:33pm Select Board attendance was taken via Roll Call: Ayer – Present, Bailey – Present, Knapp – Present, Saccoccia – Present, Hardekopf - Present. Each Select Board member shared their location and stated that at present, they were alone in their respective rooms with no one influencing their votes.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

6:35pm. Chairperson Hardekopf led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no public hearings.

APPOINTMENTS

Daniel Cassidy – Conservation Commission Full Member

6:35pm. Motion to appoint Daniel Cassidy as a full member of the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire March of 2023 by Selectperson Bailey, seconded by Chairperson Hardekopf. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye, Hardekopf - Aye. *The motion passed.*

Jennifer Stuart – Conservation Commission Alternate Member

6:36pm. The Select Board agreed by consensus to postpone the vote to allow acceptance and review of the candidate's application.

Jack Gale – Conservation Commission Alternate Member

6:37pm. Motion to appoint Jack Gale as an alternate member of the Conservation Commission, with a term to expire March of 2022 by Selectperson Bailey, seconded by Chairperson Hardekopf. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye, Hardekopf - Aye. ***The motion passed.***

Budget Presentation - Building

6:39pm. Presented by John Huckins, Building Inspector/Code Enforcement Officer shared the history of the first known Building Code, from the Babylonian Empire. If a builder built a home and it collapsed, killing the owner, the owner's son, or slave, the builder or builder's son would be put to death, or the builder's slave would become property of the homeowner, respectively.

Details regarding significant budget changes were reviewed, including the impacts that COVID-19 have had on various budget lines. All budget documents are available for review by visiting [Building-Section16](#) on the [2021 Budget page](#).

At the request of Selectperson Bailey, Chairperson Hardekopf clarified that Select Board members will have further opportunity to review budgets prior to the final vote for Select Board recommendations. Inspector Huckins also explained some of the increases to [building fees](#) when questioned by Selectperson Ayer.

Budget Presentation – Planning/Land Use

6:49pm. Town Planner Marcia Gasses shared that Barrington Historical Society is the owner of the first registered vehicle in Barrington, originally purchased by the Swains and donated to the Historical Society by Peter Cook, their grandson.

The Planning and Land Use budget as presented is comparable to 2020. Marcia shared reasons for some reduced expenditures in 2020, primarily COVID-19 related. Selectperson Bailey suggested the proposed postage budget be increased \$500 to prepare for unexpected costs due to increased mailings from COVID-19 and requested consideration that the trainings line be increased to accommodate conferences for Trails and Conservation. Selectperson Ayer requested information about expenditures by the Trails Committee. Marcia confirmed that the Conferences and Training line is available for use by Conservation Commission members if funds are available. All budget documents are available for review by visiting [Planning-Section17](#) on the [2021 Budget page](#).

At the request of ABC Chair Steve Saunders, Marcia explained the advertisement line and fee. Steve suggested developing a plan to update computers, equipment, and other technology across Town offices.

Updated Budget Binder Documents

7:06pm. TA MacIver provided updated [Unassigned Fund Balance projections](#) (12.3%), the new [2020 Tax Rate](#) (\$22.77), and [September's Treasurer's Report](#). For a full list of all updated documents, view page three of the [TA Report](#) for this meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

7:08pm. *Public comments are limited to three minutes per person, and a total of 15 minutes.*

Daniel Ayer of 334 Old Concord Turnpike shared that on Saturday he attended the Trunk or Treat hosted by Barrington Recreation Department, honoring family and friends who have passed. He wished there were more participants but noted that the children who attended had a fun day.

There were no additional public comments. Public comment was closed at 7:10pm.

REVIEW OF MINUTES

7:10pm. Motion to approve minutes for [October 5th, 2020](#) meeting by Selectperson Bailey, seconded by Vice Chair Knapp. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye, Hardekopf - Aye. ***The motion passed.***

Motion to approve minutes for [October 19th, 2020](#) meeting by Vice Chair Knapp, seconded by Selectperson Bailey. Roll call vote: Ayer – No, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye, Hardekopf - Aye. ***The motion passed.***

STAFF REPORTS**Letter from Lee Police Chief**

7:15pm. A letter was received from Lee Police Chief Thomas Dronsfield, Jr. thanking Chief George Joy, Officer Michelle Cloutier and Sergeant Erik Baker for their assistance during an incident on October 17th at the Lee Market Basket Plaza. Thank each of you for your textbook response and your assistance in ensuring a safe end for all!

Request for Signatures

7:17pm. MOA Caudle requested signatures for the following:

- Two administrative abatements for taxes, both for the same property. They're due to a software error stemming from the exemptions & credit deadline having been extended.

OLD BUSINESS**Ready Rides Funding Request Reduction**

7:17pm. ReadyRides [submitted a letter](#) adjusting their request to \$750 from \$1,500, citing their understanding of fiscal challenges facing communities due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Board agreed by consensus to reduce the funding request to \$750.

Acceptance of Tax Record Preservation Grant

7:19pm. Motion to accept a Moose Plate grant in the amount of \$6,740 to preserve two historical tax ledgers by Vice Chair Knapp, seconded by Selectperson Ayer to accept \$6,709. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye, Hardekopf - Aye. ***The motion passed.***

Highway Garage Office Improvements

7:20pm. Road Agent Marc Moreau is reviewing the possibility of a semi-permanent installation at the Highway Garage, and noted costs changed when septic installation was added. He is currently considering options including renovating the side area of the existing Highway Garage.

NEW BUSINESS**2020 Tax Rate – Discussion**

7:23pm. Barrington is one of the first communities in the state to receive their tax rate. The final **2020 Tax Rate** is \$22.67, a ten-cent increase over 2019. The municipal rate has remained stable, due greatly to the hard work and fiscal responsibility of Department Heads. Tax bills will be mailed out this week, and will include an **informational insert**.

November 3, 2020 Election – Select Board Schedule

7:27pm. The Select Board is required to have a quorum of either Select Board members or members pro tem. From 8am-12pm Chairperson Hardekopf and Selectperson Bailey will be present along with one member pro tem, from 4pm to 8pm (possibly later) Vice-Chair Knapp, Selectperson Ayer and Selectperson Saccoccia will be present. From 12pm-4pm three members pro tem will be present. A list of named Selectpersons and Selectpersons pro tem will be sent to Kim Kerekes and Ronald St. Jean, and visible for an election official to review when they arrive. Masks are strongly encouraged but not required.

2020 Credit and Exemption Analysis

7:34pm. The Select Board did not have any questions regarding the exemptions and credits currently

New Business – Signs on Utility Poles

7:36pm. Chairperson Hardekopf polled the Board about adding signs on utility poles to the agenda under New Business. The Select Board declined to further discuss signs on poles.

SELECTPERSONS REPORTS

7:38pm.

Selectperson Ayer – There has not been a Town Lands Committee meeting since the prior report out. Progress is being made with the auctioning of Town Lands in 2020. The Conservation Commission has new members, approved earlier in this meeting.

Selectperson Bailey – Attended a ZBA meeting, where the first item was approved and had been on the docket for four months, and was approved with two stipulations, the other was for a variance. Library cancelled their meeting last week and rescheduled to tomorrow.

Vice-Chair Knapp – Planning Board met Tuesday, and was attended by Strafford Regional Planning, work with them continued until November 17th. The attorney for Barrington Shores Campground presented a proposal. No decision was made on the campground, as they're awaiting information from and regarding the water district.

Selectperson Saccoccia – Trunk or Treat was last Saturday, put on by the Recreation Department, still making decisions about upcoming seasonal plans.

Chairperson Hardekopf – Had no report-outs as she was unable to attend the ABC meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

7:41pm. Fire Chief Richard Walker commented that the State of New Hampshire acquired 300 decontamination misters, which they distributed to communities including Barrington at no cost to the Town. Additional tablets will need to be purchased in the future. Rapid testing for COVID will be available for first responders soon through the state. The Tricentennial Committee developed a logo, will send it to Conner tomorrow for distribution.

7:44pm. Chairperson Hardekopf commented that Per RSA 664:17 political signs on poles are not allowed. She shared her disappointment with the Select Board's choice to not act as allowed by the RSA's, and intends to strongly encourage the Board to, prior to the next election, decide how to respond in similar situations. She feels that as leaders of the Town, the Select Board should set the tone and ensure compliance.

7:46pm. Selectperson Bailey commented that both parties have responsibility, the Select Board needs to carefully consider the issue, and people need to adhere to the rules.

7:48pm. Selectperson Saccoccia commented on his concern about the cost of sign removal and agreed with the need to develop a plan in the future.

7:49pm. Selectperson Ayer commented that there are some things he is unable to support but shared his respect for Chairperson Hardekopf.

Public comment closed at 7:50pm.

ADJOURNMENT

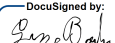
7:50pm. Motion to adjourn the Select Board meeting by Selectperson Saccoccia, seconded by Vice-Chair Knapp. Roll call vote: Ayer – Aye, Bailey – Aye, Knapp- Aye, Saccoccia – Aye, Hardekopf - Aye. ***The motion passed.***

Links to all reviewed documents can be found in the October 26th, 2020 [Town Administrator's Report](#).

DocuSigned by:

59A1E1FA38BD4EE

Chairperson T. Hardekopf

DocuSigned by:

E1A8A54234AD546C

Selectperson G. Bailey

Vice-Chairperson A. Knapp

Selectperson D. Ayer

DocuSigned by:

7CC28395A3194D3

Selectperson J. Saccoccia

November 2nd, 2020

Date Minutes Were Approved