

Barrington Selectmen's Minutes
Monday, April 10, 2017

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, April 10, 2017 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Ayer, Selectman Bailey, Selectman Hatch, Selectman Knapp, Chairman O'Brien, Administrator Scruton and Clerk McNeil.

Chairman O'Brien welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPOINTMENTS

Representatives from Metrocast – Mr. Edward Merrill was present to answer questions regarding Metrocast service. He is the general manager and is responsible for operations in New Hampshire and Maine. Mr. Merrill has been with Metrocast for seven years. They provide business and residential service. He supplied forms to be completed with any issues and concerns. Selectman Ayer stated that there are certain areas where trees are laying on wires. Metrocast has a maintenance program and they are currently working on tree trimming. Chairman O'Brien commented that there have been complaints about Metrocast on social media. Residents need to call Metrocast and let them know there are problems or they don't know you have a problem. Dave Hallbach asked about future upgrades with fiber going to residential homes. They are investing in the system before they put fiber to the home. Steve Diamond asked if they serve all of Strafford County – no they do not. There are several homes that aren't able to get Metrocast service. Mr. Diamond asked if they are a small cable provider – yes. They operate in five states. Steve Graves from Hickory Lane stated that Metrocast came out to look at a pole, the pole was condemned and no one could climb the pole. Whoever owns the pole is responsible. It is not Metrocast as they rent space on the poles. Selectman Knapp asked if Metrocast could supply a report of written complaints in Barrington. Mr. Merrill will look into it. Their contract is not exclusive in Barrington other companies can come in. Peter Royce was curious about the fee for the pole rental – is it a straight pass though or it it marked up. The fee is worked into the rates along with the electricity that is used. Administrator Scruton spoke about the I-Net fiber for town/school buildings. The town would like to connect I-Net fiber to the current town office. Fiber currently runs down Route 125. The town would like to upgrade fiber connection at the public safety building and connect the town office and the public safety building together. The cost is approximately \$3,000. Metrocast

would do the work at no cost if the town would add five years to the franchise agreement. Selectman Ayer supports adding five years to the franchise agreement. Selectman Bailey would like to maintain the current contract length in case there are any upgrades in technology that change negotiations for a new contract. Selectman Knapp supports Selectman Bailey's opinion. The Metrocast system is being upgraded every year. Selectman Bailey moved to pay the \$3,000 as necessary for fiber off Route 125 to the town office at 333 Route 125 and implement the quote that was given, seconded by Selectman Knapp. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Steve Diamond asked the cost for basic internet service - \$32.95 plus taxes. The internet speed has been increasing every year.

Rick & Melissa Simmons – Request to make improvements on a Class VI road – Kelleher Road. Selectman Hatch recused herself as her company submitted the estimate for the Simmons' work. The work needs to be completed before occupancy. Peter Cook had asked them to submit a quote and bring it to the Board. He feels the estimate meets the private road policy. Chairman O'Brien moved to accept their proposal to upgrade a portion of the Class VI section and no building construction until the upgrade is approved, seconded by Selectman Knapp. Chief Walker stated that there needs to be a turn around and upgrade before construction as accidents happen during the construction process. They need to be able get an ambulance or fire truck up there before construction of the house is started. The motion passes. Selectman Hatch abstained from the vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chief Walker recently attended a meeting regarding up graded broadband service for NH emergency services that would be available anywhere in New Hampshire. This would be a five year process to get New Hampshire up and running.

Sam Boduch asked if the equipment being moved in the I-Net upgrade would effect the library. Seacoast Computer will be involved in this move and keep the library in the loop.

Chief Williams stated that the Barrington Police Department will be participating in National Drug Takeback Day on April 29th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the

Public Safety Building. They will pick up old medications if a person is unable to come to the Public Safety Building.

Steve Graves thanked Chief Williams and asked if they would also take liquids – yes.

Steve Diamond noted that the town has an option to charge a franchise fee to cable customers with that money being used to upgrade the town's cable equipment.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – March 13, 2017 and March 27, 2017 – The minutes from March 13th were tabled for additional information. Selectman Hatch moved to accept the minutes of March 27, 2017, seconded by Chairman O'Brien. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

Administrator Scruton

1. Chairman O'Brien opened the insurance RFPs. Two were received - Davis and Towle & Primex. Administrator Scruton will need to review the two RFPs before making a recommendation.
2. Selectman Hatch moved to reappoint Karyn Forbes to the Zoning Board of Adjustment, seconded by Selectman Knapp. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
3. The following are the appointments to boards and commissions: Ayer – Conservation Commission and Planning Board alternate, Hatch – Recreation Commission, Bailey – Library Trustees and alternate to the ZBA, O'Brien – Planning Board, Knapp – School Board.
4. Chairman O'Brien moved to authorize Administrator Scruton to extend the lease for 333 Calef Highway from August 1, 2017 – July 31, 2018, seconded by Selectman Knapp. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectman Ayer moved to authorize Administrator Scruton to negotiate an option extension to renew the lease at a guaranteed rate from August 1, 2018 – July 31, 2019, seconded by Selectman Knapp. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectman Knapp asked Administrator Scruton if the current owner is interested in selling and at what price. There was discussion of who is responsible for maintenance at the town office - the

town or the property owner. It was suggested that a marquis be placed outside the town office.

5. Public Safety Garage RFP – Selectman Ayer stepped down from the discussion. Administrator Scruton asked about the proposed RFP for the public safety garage. To be included are the following: 1. 10' high doors/11' clearance inside, 2. conduit through floor but no electricity and 3. no plans to heat but keep insulated garage doors.
6. Chairman O'Brien opened the public hearing on a \$14,920 grant from the Land Protection Transaction Grant Program at 8:03 p.m. There was no public comment. Selectman Hatch moved to accept and expend \$14,920 from the Land Protection Transaction Grant Program for the Barr property easement, seconded by Selectman Ayer. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. The public hearing closed at 8:04 p.m.
7. Administrator Scruton asked what e-mail addresses the Board members wanted to use in order to complete the MS 123 form and use on the webpage.
8. The Board decided to hold off proceeding with the June bond bank sale of \$230,000 for a conservation project. The town has other options.
9. Chairman O'Brien moved to appoint Victoria Sellers as a Library Trustee Alternate for one year, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Clerk McNeil

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on vendor manifest dated 04/06/2017.

Selectman Ayer asked for the total cost of the new cruiser including the swap of the gear. Chief Williams will provide the information.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Peter Royce spoke representing the Advisory Budget Committee. The ABC would like to make a more meaningful contribution and hold meetings with the Board without anything else on the agenda. Mr. Royce went over their requests and concerns to be reviewed by the Board of Selectmen. They would like some

response from the Board for the next meeting. The ABC is looking for new membership.

Selectman Knapp wants to see some upgrade to the town's web page. He also would like to follow-up with issues that need further discussion.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Ayer attended a recent Planning Board meeting where there was site review and subdivision approval. He further stated that the Planning Board is in need of new members.

Selectman Bailey has met with two department heads and will be making appointments to meeting with others.

Selectman Hatch noted that Sam Boduch is the new chairman of the Library Trustees. She thanked Ron St. Jean for all of his time.

Selectman Knapp was unable to attend the last school board meeting. The technology committee meets on April 20th at 5:30 p.m.

Chairman O'Brien will be away for the next Selectmen's meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Huckins – He and Marcia Gasses will be doing a presentation at the Library on April 25th. Their discussion will include what their jobs are, the process for permits, inspections, and variances and what role certain committees have in making decisions. In their program, they will also be asking for more volunteers.

Mr. Huckins also asked the Board to move forward with the town employee raises. The Board will be discussing this issue in non-public session at the end of the meeting.

Steve Graves complimented Peter Cook and his crew on the great job they did with winter maintenance. He asked for the criteria that is used to rank the roads and decide on the maintenance schedule. Peter Cook is currently working on the list.

Steve Graves stated that he supported the retroactive raises for town employees going back to the first full pay week in April.

Regarding the pay raises, Chief Walker noted that he cares about the people that work for him. He asked that the people who work for the department heads get their raises and be compensated.

Selectman Knapp moved to go into non-public session at 8:47 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel per RSA 91 A: II 3 II a, l, e, seconded by Selectman Bailey.

Chairman O'Brien asked for a roll call, Ayer – aye, Bailey – aye, Hatch – aye, Knapp – aye, O'Brien – aye. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

Selectman Bailey moved, Selectman O'Brien seconded to exit nonpublic session at 9:40 PM. Roll call Dan Ayer-aye, George Bailey-aye, Dawn Hatch-aye, Andy Knapp-aye, Casey O'Brien-aye. Approved 5-0.

Selectman Bailey moved, Selectman Ayer seconded to seal the minutes one year to avoid rendering the proposed action ineffective. Roll Call Dan Ayer-aye, George Bailey-aye, Dawn Hatch-aye, Andy Knapp-aye, Casey O'Brien-aye. Approved 5-0.

Selectman Bailey moved, Selectman Hatch seconded to grant steps for those eligible for a step and increase the Matrix by 1% effective April 3, 2017. Dan Ayer-abstain, George Bailey-aye, Dawn Hatch-aye, Andy Knapp-aye, Casey O'Brien-aye. Approved 4-0-1.

Selectman Bailey moved, Selectman O'Brien seconded to adjourn at 9:45 PM. Passed 5-0