

Town of Bartlett
Office of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 18, 2020
Meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Chairman Gene Chandler, Selectman Vicki Garland, Selectman August Vincent

Meeting opened at 2:32 p.m.

Chairman Chandler and Selectman Vincent attended the meeting in person. Selectman Garland attended via Zoom.

Selectman Garland came to Town Hall on Tuesday 11/17/2020 to sign checks, letters and building permits. Chairman Chandler and Selectman Vincent signed items throughout the meeting.

Julia King asked about McShreffrey's Up North to see if anything is being done about their canopy over the gas pumps. This appears to be internally lit. Chairman Chandler told Ms. King that there are several issues that they are addressing with the property owner.

State Representative Anita Burroughs asked for an update on the town audit because she has constituents contacting her for information. Chairman Chandler told Representative Burroughs that people are welcome to call the Selectmen's Office for information too. Selectman Garland updated everyone on the two audit situations. First, the Supervisors of the Checklist met Friday, 11/13/2020 and appointed Peter Gagne as the Town Auditor. Mr. Gagne will be sworn in this week. Second, the town has heard back from the audit company Vachon Clukay & Co PA. They have had staffing changes and did not realize they needed to complete this audit. They hope to perform the work in December 2020 for the 2019 year.

Selectman Garland updated everyone on her role as Health Officer for the Town of Bartlett. There have been some complaints received regarding the Governor's orders. Selectmen Garland has been visiting each business involved and offering assistance understanding and implementing the orders. Her role is to educate and help, not enforce. Most businesses are very good. Few complaints have been received and all complaints are addressed and taken seriously. Anyone with a concern can contact the selectman's office or contact the NH Attorney General's office directly as they are the enforcement agency.

Chairman Chandler reported that an agreement has been reached with the landowner of the property at 1300 US Route 302 for Sanborn Head & Associates to access the Saco River bank for their work. Reporter Daymond Steer requested a copy of the agreement. Chairman Chandler told him we would check with our attorney and let him know. Peter Gagne asked what the agreement said. Chairman Chandler reported it gave Sanborn Head access to the property to survey and plan the riverbank work.

Chairman Chandler reported that the highway department's 2006 loader has broken down. The estimate to repair is \$13,000.00 to \$15,000.00. They are investigating other options including a lease or a lease/purchase agreement to get us through until Town Meeting in March 2021. Currently there are two companies they are working with. The value of the loader if repaired is only \$25,000.00. Scott Grant asked if either company would offer any trade in on the loader. Only one company seems interested in doing so.

Chairman Chandler reported that the selectmen have received a letter from the Bartlett School Board requesting a meeting regarding use of the Josiah Bartlett Elementary School for polling in March. The Governor will be releasing guidelines for town meetings. Chairman Chandler is not sure when those guidelines will be released. He does not anticipate requesting the use of the building for voting since school will be in session. We will respond to the request for a meeting once the guidelines have been released.

Chairman Chandler reported that the two river projects on the Saco River and the Rocky Branch have been completed.

Peter Gagne requested that the selectmen meet in the Town Hall meeting room so that the public may attend. If the meetings take place in the meeting room with all selectmen present, they cannot refuse access. It is hard to control numbers that way. Scott Grant reported that the School Board is able to all meet in person and provide Zoom access for others. They are able to keep people out that way. Chairman Chandler told Mr. Grant that is not the guidance we received. Some towns changed back to in person meetings and have already had to go back to Zoom. Mr. Gagne indicated that meeting in the Selectmen's Meeting room is too intimidating. The Planning Board and ZBA meet in the meeting room because that is where all their files are located. Selectman Garland reminded everyone of the guidance from the state to avoid being in the same space if possible. Everyone is safer at home. Chairman Chandler said that the Planning Board and ZBA are independent boards who set their meeting style. The selectmen chose to meet this way.

Chairman Chandler reported there will be no meeting next week. The next Selectmen's meeting will be Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 2:30pm. Wednesdays will be the meeting day from now on.

Scott Grant reported that Maintenance Director, Greg Allen from the Josiah Bartlett Elementary School will be in touch with Road Agent, Travis Chick to coordinate the installation of the lit speed limit sign.

Selectman Garland made a motion at 3:00 p.m. to enter nonpublic session for discussion of pending litigation per NH RSA 91-A:3, II (e) and consideration of legal advice per NH RSA 91-A:3, II(l). Selectman Vincent seconded the motion.

Roll call vote GGC – yes, VLG - yes, ADV – yes.

Selectman Garland made a motion at 3:05 p.m. to end the nonpublic session. Selectman Vincent seconded the motion.

Roll call vote GGC – yes, VLG - yes, ADV – yes.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Miller
Secretary