

Town of Bartlett Office of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes: January 18, 2016

Attendance: Chairman Gene Chandler, David Patch, Jonathan Hebert

Visitors: Linda Bernard

Reporters: None

Meeting opened at 03:00 PM.

Road Agent Travis Chick met with the Selectmen to go over new equipment he would like to purchase and projects that he would like to do this year. Chick stated that he would like to purchase a new backhoe loader as the one they presently have is a 2005. He had received a couple of price quotes which he gave to the Selectmen to review. Selectman Hebert inquired if the old one still works. Chick replied that it does but it is costing money now. Selectman Hebert was wondering if it was in better shape than the one at the Bartlett Jackson transfer station. Chick stated that it probably is but he can get \$30,000.00 as a trade in. Chairman Chandler inquired if the price quoted was a municipal price. Chick didn't know but will check. Selectman Patch mentioned that his work place just bought one with a tag along for around \$100,000.00. Chairman Chandler inquired if there were items on the loader that might not be needed but just wanted. Chick replied no and explained that some items are standard equipment on them now. Selectman Hebert suggested that he ask about the municipal discount and if they do leasing. The other pieces of equipment that Chick would like to purchase are: 1.) 24 rims and tires for the trucks which would give all the four wheel drive trucks a second set of rims and tires to switch out in the summer months and winter months that will give longer wear life of the tires as well as allowing us to have spares 2.) Chick would also like a plasma cutter for cutting metal instead of using the torches all the time. The plasma cutter cuts cleaner, faster, and thicker sheet metal. Selectman Hebert inquired about needing training to use it. Chick stated that the price includes training and he has used them quite a bit already. 3.) The garage doors need trim work done to them and the roof because the rubber is coming off. The metal trim along the side is bent and the insulation is falling down. Chairman Chandler suggested that we ask David Shedd to look at the doors and the roof to give us an idea of how much we need to budget for these repairs. 4.) Chick would also like to get internet put in at the garage so that can receive equipment diagrams and check on the weather. Selectman Hebert will find out the cost to put it in the garage and because of the metal building we will need a modem. 5.) Chick presented a list of roads that he would like to work on this year. The roads are Alpstrasse, Glen Ledge, Rolling Ridge, Dundee, and Mittenwald Strasse. Selectman Hebert inquired if he has an inventory of what roads have been done and when they were done. Chick stated that he does have documentation in folders over in the garage. Selectman Hebert would like to see this information put on a spread sheet. Chick stated that it would be difficult to find time to do that. Chairman Chandler inquired as to where on each road was he talking about doing. Chairman Chandler asked Chick to give them this information. Selectman Hebert inquired as to what chip seal is. Chick explained that it was a thicker seal with gravel over it instead of sand. It makes a stronger wear surface and they do run a sweeper over it to pick up any loose gravel. Selectman Hebert inquired as to how Chick comes up with which roads needs to have maintenance done. Chick replied that it is the roads with the most traffic, which are damaged the most and can't wait to be repaired. Selectman Hebert inquired if the highway department goes for trainings on equipment and road construction. Chick replied that we do get a list of available schools and he has taken most of them. Selectman Hebert would like to see Chick attend a supervisor's school. Chairman Chandler commented that we do take advantage of what is offered.

Additional visitors arrived at this point: Brendan and Kate Battenfelder, Scott Grant, Erik Corbett and Rick Murnik.

Police Chief Janet Champlin met with the Selectmen to go over her proposed police budget for the year. Champlin stated that she is looking to increase her budget by \$78,100.00 as she would like to hire two full time police officers so that she can offer 24 hour coverage. Champlin explained that right now she has more part time than full time officers. There are some hours that aren't covered and the State Police are low on staffing. The other issue she is currently having is that one of her full time officers has been deployed every other year which makes the department short of officers. Her department has become more active, doing more stops, the number of arrests have doubled say nothing about the heroin epidemic that all towns are experiencing. Selectman Hebert inquired if the \$78,000.00 included insurance costs. Champlin replied no. Chairman Chandler reminder her that we do have a full time officer returning this year. Champlin would like five full time officers plus herself and she would just do administrative work. She would like to overlap the shifts and be more proactive not just react. It is also a safety concern for the officer as when you are out there the closest backup could be an hour away. She would like to attract some officers that are certified as the town activity is increasing not decreasing. Selectman Hebert stated that he would like to see more specific information on the numbers. Chairman Chandler also pointed out that retirement is a very big expense to also be considered. L. Bernard commented that in seven years she has had six incidents and she has concerns over the growing rentals in the area. She would feel better knowing there was more coverage. K. Battenfelder stated that she is a new veterinarian in the area who does get called out at all hours of the night. She meets people at her building and she would feel more comfortable knowing an officer was available. S. Grant inquired about the role the Sheriff's department plays. Champlin stated that they have a big area to cover and not always available. S. Grant also inquired if Jackson has full time coverage. Champlin stated that they don't and she has compared their activity and we are much busier. S. Grant replied that if that is the case they should have time to help us out. R. Murnik would like to encourage the two towns to work together and teach children that all police officers are not bad. Champlin stated that they do train together now. Selectman Hebert inquired if she needed to upgrade or do anything to the cruisers. Champlin replied that she is fine for this year. Selectman Hebert inquired about vests. Champlin stated that she is applying for a grant. Champlin also has concerns that only two officers live in town and when others are on call do they take the cruisers home as this is a lot of wear and tear on the vehicle. Selectman Hebert stated that we need to discuss this further as there is a concern of out of state liability. A policy needs to be done. (Visitors left)

David Shedd met with the Selectmen in reference to improvements in the basement. The primary issue is the door which would cost about \$440.00 to replace. The sash and hardware on the windows are good and to replace each with insulated glass would be \$120.00 each. The other thing that could be done is to replace the glass with plexiglas. Chairman Chandler inquired if we needed windows. Shedd stated that natural light is good and it can be damp in the basement. Shedd also mentioned that the planning board records are in the meeting hall and this is going to be a problem as we need storage space for them. He recommends that wooden shelves be built downstairs.

Chairman Chandler mentioned that the town would pay Shedd to look at the town garage doors that need trim around and to look at the roof. We would like you to give us an estimate of what these repairs would cost.

Shedd has a question about current use and disqualifying a portion of his land so that he would have more storage room for his lumber pile. He does realize there is a penalty for this. He doesn't want to subdivide his lot. Chairman Chandler inquired if he could just move the lumber over to the two acres he already has out of current use. Selectman Hebert inquired about current use and Chairman Chandler explained to him how it works. Lynn Jones, AA, suggested that Shedd call Mary Pinkham Langer of the Department of Revenue Administration as she deals with this on a regular basis.

Motion was made by Selectman Hebert to enter nonpublic session at 04:35 PM per NH RSA 91-A: 3 (c). Selectman Patch seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.

Motion was made by Chairman Chandler at 05:10 PM to end the nonpublic session. Selectman Patch seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.

The Selectmen signed checks, reviewed correspondence and building permits throughout the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 05:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Medeiros, Sec.