

Selectmen's Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, June 4, 2019

Present: Chairman Miller, Selectman Prescott and Selectman Maxfield.  
Also, present: Deputy Fire Chief Bill Lake and Road Agent Russ Pearl.

- I. Chairman Miller called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.
- II. Selectman Prescott made a motion to approve the Selectmen's Work Session Minutes of Friday, May 24, 2019 with an amendment to make a correction to the name Mr. Berry, it should be Mr. Ferry. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- III. Selectman Prescott made a motion to approve the Scholarship Committee Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, May 28, 2019 as written. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- IV. Selectman Prescott made a motion to approve the Selectmen's Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, May 28, 2019 as written. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- V. Selectman Prescott made a motion to approve the Selectmen's Work Session Minutes of Tuesday, May 29, 2019 as written. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- VI. Selectman Prescott made a motion to go into nonpublic session per RSA 91-A: 3, II (b) at 5:08 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. Roll call vote: Miller – yes; Prescott – yes; Maxfield – yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Prescott made a motion to come out of nonpublic session at 6:00 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Prescott made a motion to seal the minutes for 5 years. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. Roll call vote: Miller – yes; Prescott – yes; Maxfield – yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Miller said the reason for the non public session was to discuss the hiring and reviewing the contract of the Fire Chief.
- VII. The Board met with Deputy Fire Chief Bill Lake.
  - a. Deputy Lake submitted a letter regarding the proposal for the purchase of a power cot and the budget lines from which they will be taken. The Board and Deputy Lake reviewed the budget. The Selectmen agreed that Deputy Lake can purchase the cot with the money taken from line items as follows: \$10,000 from 01-42200-800-845, \$5,000 from 01-42200-600-60, \$1503.78 from 01-42200-400-430, \$1,200 from 01-42200-100-190, \$1,000 from 01-42200-700-745, and \$1,000 from 01-42200-600-690. Chairman Miller asked Deputy Lake to update the proposal with the correct budget lines and amounts agreed to.
  - b. Deputy Lake said that Firefighter Baldassare has completed his one-year probation. He explained that he has not completed Mr. Baldassare's review; he'd like to wait and do it with the new Chief.

- c. Deputy Lake said he posted the open full-time position in-house. He said there are at least four candidates interested in the job.
- d. Deputy Lake said the Road Agent dug the hole for the additional tank at Station 2, Eastern will put the tank in on Thursday and then Milton Cat will come back and retest the generator.
- e. Deputy Lake said the paperwork for the radio reprogramming grant has been completed and sent in.

VIII. The Board met with Road Agent Russ Pearl.

- a. Mr. Pearl invited the Selectmen to join him for a meeting on Tuesday, June 11<sup>th</sup> at 9am at the Lower Ridge Road/McKenzie Road bridge with Quantum Construction Consultants for a free bridge consultation.
- b. Mr. Pearl said the crack sealing at Hemlock, Ilona and Plateau Ridge started today.
- c. Mr. Pearl said that they are scheduled to start paving; dependent on the weather.
- d. Mr. Pearl said he and Selectman Maxfield rode around and came up with a list of fifteen trees that need attention. Chairman Miller suggested Mr. Pearl get a bid to see if they can get a package deal on removing them all. Selectman Prescott said the job will include everything being cleaned up and gone. Selectman Prescott said there is a company going around taking trees down around wires; he suggested that company be contacted. Janice Morin said they worked with an arborist that worked with PSNH a few years ago. She will try to locate the name and get it to Mr. Pearl.
- e. Mr. Pearl said they have been trimming back the bushes on Hemlock and Ilona.
- f. Mr. Pearl said Dump road is prepped and ready to go.

IX. Selectman Prescott said he saw an email from the church about the money for the repairs of the rails at the steeple. Chairman Miller said they have the money to pay half of the invoice for the repairs. Mr. Fifield will be contacted to see when he can do the work.

X. Selectman Maxfield said the signs are in for the Community Building and the Historical Society. He explained that the location has been marked out in front of the old town office where he'd like to see them go. Selectman Prescott said he has no problem with the location as long as it doesn't interfere with the catch basin.

XI. Selectman Prescott made the following motion To: THOMAS W. BLANCHETTE: of Loudon, NH in the County of Merrimack. Whereas, there is a vacancy in the office of the LOUDON FIRE DEPARTMENT in said town and whereas we, the subscribers, have confidence in your ability and integrity to perform the duties of said office, we do hereby appoint you the said THOMAS W. BLANCHETTE to the position of LOUDON FIRE DEPARTMENT CHIEF, of said town; and upon you taking the oath of office, and having this appointment and the certificate of said oath of office recorded by the town clerk, you shall have the powers, perform the duties, and be subject to the liabilities of such office. THIS APPOINTMENT PAPER SHALL EXPIRE ON JUNE 4<sup>TH</sup> 2021. Given under our hands this 4<sup>th</sup> day of June 2019. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. Chairman Miller said this is effective June 4<sup>th</sup> and Chief Blanchette will be working under a contract. He explained that they had five committee members do interviews; they gave the Selectmen the top three names, the Selectmen interviewed those three, did their

due diligence and selected the person they want to be the Fire Chief. Chairman Miller said the contract is for two years from June 4, 2019 through June 4, 2021, he will be under probation for one-year as per the town policy. All in favor. Motion carried.

Selectman Maxfield asked the Town Clerk to come up to the room and swear Mr. Blanchette which she did.

The Board thanked Deputy Lake for doing an outstanding job in the absence of a Chief.

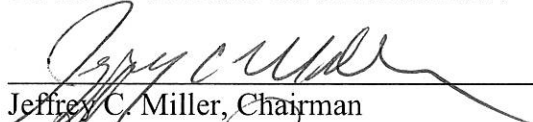
XII. The Board began their review of weekly correspondence.

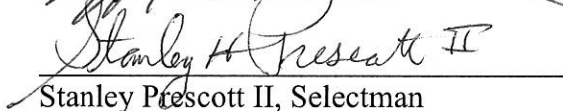
- a. The Board received an estimate of the Towns assessment for the 2019-2020 school year for the Merrimack Valley School District. Chairman Miller said the monthly payment starting July 1, 2019 for eleven months will be \$771,061.47.
- b. The Board received an email from the Trustee of the First Freewill Baptist Church regarding the repairs to the steeple.
- c. The Board received an email from Lee Ann Childress regarding window boxes at the library. The Board agreed that that they don't think drilling into the granite is a good idea. Selectman Prescott suggested that they look into free-standing boxes.
- d. The Board received information from Julie Robinson regarding a bog bridge for a trail. Chairman Miller has seen similar bridges in wooded areas; he said there is less impact than regular bridges. The Board agreed that they have no problem with the bog bridge on the trail.
- e. The Board received information from Eversource regarding rate increases.
- f. The Board received an email from Cindy Sullivan regarding the purchase of land that was discussed at last week's meeting. Ms. Sullivan forwarded copies of maps that the title company found. Selectman Prescott made a motion to authorize Chairman Miller to sign the warranty deed from the Town of Loudon to the State of NH for a certain parcel of land, situated on the North side of Soucook Lane for the future construction of a retention pond. Selectman Prescott said the deed shall be held until the check is delivered. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- g. The Board received a request from Angel Meadow Farm for Caution Horse signs to be placed at the ends of Old Shaker, Lovejoy and Flagg Roads. Chairman Miller said he is not a fan of signs; it is an enforcement issue. Selectman Maxfield said they would be asked to put them up all over town. Selectman Prescott said he wouldn't be in favor of it. Chairman Miller asked that the letter be forwarded to the Police Department. He also suggested something be put in the Ledger about vehicles sharing the roads with horses, bicycles, runners etc. this time of the year.

XIII. Selectman Prescott made a motion to go into nonpublic session per RSA 91-A: 3, II (c) at 6:58 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. Roll call vote: Miller – yes; Prescott - yes; Maxfield – yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Prescott made a motion to come out of nonpublic session at 7:28 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried. Selectman Prescott made a motion to seal the minutes for 5 years. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. Roll call vote: Miller – yes; Prescott – yes; Maxfield – yes. All in favor. Motion carried. Chairman Miller said the reason for the meeting was about employee information and questions.

- XIV. Selectman Maxfield said when riding around with the road agent looking at trees, they looked at Currier Road. He said there are big holes that are dangerous because people have to drive on the wrong side of the road to go around them. The Selectmen and Road Agent discussed options for taking care of the road. The Board and Road Agent will look into options for this road and others in Town.
- XV. The Board and the Road Agent discussed impact fees. They will ask Mike Tardiff from Central NH Regional Planning Commission to come in and review how the impact fees can be used.
- XVI. The Board reviewed and signed the weekly bills and payroll manifests.
- XVII. Selectman Prescott moved to adjourn at 8:09 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- XVIII. Chairman Miller re-opened the meeting at 8:20 p.m.
- XIX. Selectman Maxfield made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign Volunteer Liability Forms for the Conservation Commission for the following people: Peter Crouch, Robert Lyon, Harold MacLauchlan Jr., Jodie Russell, Nancy Huckins, Deb Eastman – Proulx, Sandy Blanchard, Denis Proulx, Craig Tufts, David Emerson, Martha Butterfield. Seconded by Selectman Prescott. All in favor. Motion carried.
- XX. Selectman Prescott made a motion to authorize the Chairman to sign the Commercial Haulers application for Zero Waste. Seconded by Roger Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- XXI. Selectman Prescott made a motion to grant an abatement, as recommended by the assessor, for Map 25, Lot 7. Seconded by Selectman Maxfield. All in favor. Motion carried.
- XXII. Selectman Maxfield moved to adjourn at 8:28 p.m. Seconded by Selectman Prescott. All in favor. Motion carried.

LOUDON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

  
Jeffrey C. Miller, Chairman

  
Stanley Prescott II, Selectman

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Roger A. Maxfield, Selectman