

TOWN OF LITCHFIELD BOARD OF SELECTMEN

February 27, 2017

Selectmen's Meeting

Members Present: Frank Byron, Chairman
Brent Lemire, Vice Chairman
John Brunelle
Steve Perry
Kevin Bourque

Also Present: Troy Brown, Town Administrator

5:00 p.m. Paperwork Review

6:00 p.m. Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Review of Items for Consent

1. February 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes
2. Payroll Manifest 2/23/2017 (\$48,038.64) & 3/02/2017 (\$48,845.05)
3. Accounts Payable Manifest 2/21/2017 (\$87,607.95) & 2/28/2017 (\$125,398.50)
4. January Reconciliation - Town Treasurer

Approval of Consent Items

Selectman F. Byron reads aloud the items for consent.

Selectman B. Lemire **motioned** to approve the items for consent. Selectman K. Bourque **seconded** the motion. The vote carried 5-0-0.

Request for Items - Other Business

None

Public Input (will occur no earlier than 6:05pm)

Business

1. Public Hearing

a. Tax Cap (RSA 32:5b)

Selectman Byron asked Administrator Brown if the Hearing notice has been put into the paper. Mr. Brown stated that that is correct.

Mr. Byron officially opened the Public Hearing on the Tax Cap Adoption:

The Litchfield Board of Selectmen will hold a public hearing on Monday, February 27, 2017 at 6 p.m. at the Town Office Meeting Room, located at 2 Liberty Way, Litchfield, NH to discuss the adoption of the provisions of RSA 32:5b, to implement a tax cap whereby the budget committee shall not submit a recommended budget that increases the amount to be raised by taxes, based on the prior fiscal year's actual amount of local taxes raised, by more than \$175,000.00. Residents wishing to speak on this matter are invited to attend. Residents who are not able to attend may send comments to: Tbrown@Litchfieldnh.gov or Town of Litchfield, Troy Brown, Town Administrator, 2 Liberty Way, Litchfield, NH 03052

Selectman Byron asked if there were any members of the public who wished to speak on the Tax Cap adoption. No members of the public wished to speak.

Selectman Byron closed the Public Input.

Selectman Byron asked Mr. Brown if he received any letters or any communication concerning this. Mr. Brown stated that he had not.

Selectman Byron asked if there were any members of the Board who have any comments or thoughts on this.

Selectman Lemire stated that he would reiterate that unfortunately the language in this article will severely restrict the Budget Committees ability to present the budget to the Town that they feel is in the best interest of the Town due to the fact that it is all encompassing and encompasses all of the appropriation including warrants and everything else, and Mr. Lemire stated that he doesn't know that everybody had that impression and when he attended the Budget Committee meeting they were not under that impression and they were a bit disturbed, so his recommendation is to not vote for this and allow the language to be tweaked so that if the people would like to have the tax cap on the operating budget, then we can tweak the language next year for that, and at least remove the warrant articles and items that were essential to operation of the town. Selectman Byron stated to make Mr. Lemire aware that you can't tweak it, because that is a state law. There is a possibility that it can be changed next year in the legislature.

Selectman Byron closed the Public Hearing on Tax Cap Adoption. Mr. Byron stated that this completes the two Public Hearings that they have been suggested to have by town counsel and therefore this will be a valid article as it appears on the warrant.

2. 2017 Pat Jewett Award - Linda Peeples

6:30 after meeting.

Public Input

No members of the wished to speak. **Public Input closed.**

Administrator Report

Troy mentioned that he wanted to make the Board aware that today the Highway Agent discovered a minor sink hole on Pinecrest, near the intersection of Pinecrest and Augusta Way. They dug up a culvert and discovered that the entire length of the culvert needs replacement, they were able to purchase the pipe today and are planning on installing the culvert tomorrow. They are very hopeful that they will be able to keep the traffic open to one lane, it may be closed for a half an hour to one hour depending on how the installation goes. They have contacted dig safe, police and fire, so it is all scheduled to start tomorrow morning. Selectman Byron asked if there was any idea of the cost. Mr. Brown stated that he did not at this time. Mr. Brown stated that it was a galvanized pipe and will be replaced with a plastic pipe.

Troy also mentioned that they did finish the voter guide last week and has been submitted to the printers and will be working with the Hudson Litchfield News and is scheduled to be inserted into the paper either this Friday or next Friday but it will be in the paper prior to our election on the 14th. Troy stated that he is also working with NHDES who contacted him and asked that they coordinate with the schools to secure the auditorium for another informational meeting and it will be at the end of March, they want to reach out to the community to give an update on what has occurred in the fall and basically talk about the construction that will start up in the spring and how they plan on wrapping all the work up this summer.

Selectmen Reports

Selectman Brunelle stated that the Recreation Commission is meeting Tuesday night.

Selectman Perry stated that he attended the Planning Board Meeting last Tuesday and they had guest speakers in from Pennichuck about the water lines that are going to be put in underneath the river and also a suction line. They did a presentation which was about 40-45 minutes. They are going to put a 42" line into the river and suck water out. They are going to put a 12" line underneath the river to connect us to Merrimack, but they are also going to dig a supply line to help feed down. Mr. Perry stated that 40 plus million gallons of water a day. Mr. Perry stated that it was unbelievable and asked Troy if they were going to come in and present to the Board as well. Troy stated that he will coordinate it with them so they can come in. Troy stated that it might be a good idea to have them come in during a meeting in March. Mr. Perry stated that it is a great informational piece. Mr. Perry stated that there was a presentation about a possible commercial building just south of Small Tube. 15,000 square foot construction building.

Selectman Lemire mentioned that the conservation commission moved their meeting to next week and the River Access Committee has started their work and they are actively pursuing

different sites and will be working with them to get them contact information to the Manchester area.

Selectman Byron stated that at the next meeting he will not be able to attend so asked Brent to chair that meeting which will be on the 13th. The big thing that needs to be discussed will be coverage for the polls which is the next day on the 14th, Selectman Byron stated that he can be there all day.

Selectman Lemire stated that this will be Selectman Byron's last meeting and wanted to let him know how thankful he is for Mr. Byron's diligence and commitment to the Town and thank him for all the work he has done for his term as a Selectman and appreciate what he is doing in Concord and wish him the best.

Items removed from Consent

No items removed

Other Business

Pat Jewett Award After Meeting.

The next Board of Selectmen meeting will be March 13, 2017 at 6:00 pm at Town Hall.

Selectman Byron wanted to remind everybody that there is an election on March 14th from 7am til 7pm at the Campbell High School Gymnasium. Please be there and cast your ballots for Town and School budgets.

Selectman Brent Lemire **motioned** to Adjourn. Selectman Kevin Bourque **seconded** the motion. **The vote carried 4-1-0.**

Chairman Frank Byron

Vice Chairman Brent Lemire

John Brunelle

Steve Perry

Kevin Bourque