

TOWN OF JEFFERSON  
SELECT BOARD  
February 27, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Jefferson was held at the Select Board Office Wednesday February 27, 2019 at 7:00 pm

PRESENT: Cindy Silver, Chair; Kevin Meehan and Tom Brady members comprising a quorum of the Board.

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Cushman, Assistant to Selectmen; Jeff Young, Asst. Moderator

Cindy Silver opened the regular Select Board meeting at 7:00. The Highway and Transfer Station report was reviewed.

*The regularly scheduled meeting February 25 was cancelled and rescheduled due to weather conditions.*

The Chair led the Pledge of Allegiance

The warrants were signed for the payroll and accounts payable.

**Minute Approval:**

Tom Brady made a motion to accepted the minutes of the February 11, 2019 meeting. Kevin Meehan seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes as presented carries.

Tom made a motion to accept the minutes of the 2019 Budget Hearing as presented. Kevin seconded the motion. Motion carries.

**Public input:** Jeff Young said that he was here as Assistant Moderator, to observe the meeting to see if there was anything that may come up that would involve the Town Meeting and report back to the Moderator, Lynn Holland. Kevin asked if he had gotten a copy of the warrant and budget to look through it yet. No.

**Reports of Departments/Boards:**

*Highway Department:* Linda Cushman said that in talking with Mark Dubois everything is going good.

*Office:* Linda reported that she had a couple calls from a logger and forester regarding the road ban notice that was sent out.

She has spoken with an attorney with regards to why the tax maps did not correspond with survey maps. It was explained that if the surveys were not presented to the Town that the tax map could not be updated with the information. Cindy asked how it was handled if someone has an issue with the information on the tax map. If a property owners has a survey map done by a licensed surveyor and provides a copy to the Town then any update or correction will be made. When the Planning board does a subdivision, lot line adjustment or merger that information is passed on so that it can be given to

the mapping company that does the tax maps to make any changes. Linda said that the tax maps are only for reference.

Cindy asked if there had been any issue in the past with this. Yes, and the people have brought in surveys and got the correction taken care of.

Linda said that she purged files and set up new files for 2019. The proofing of the Town report was completed and it went to press on the 21<sup>st</sup>. The report should be delivered March 5<sup>th</sup>.

### **Budget:**

The warrant and budget were signed. Linda reported that she did post the warrant and budget as required even though they had not been signed.

Tom asked if anyone wanted to change an item within the operating budget can they do that and if so by how much. Jeff Young said that there is a 10% limit. Linda said that she did not think you could change a specific line item, you could reduce the operating budget. Tom said that it was a just a question. Jeff explained how the process would work by a motion, second and then a discussion.

### **Adoption of Hazard Mitigation Plan:**

Kevin made a motion to adopt the Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Tom seconded the motion. The motion carries. The Board signed the Hazard Mitigation Plan Update Certificate of Adoption and the CWPP Approval Letter

### **Old Business:**

Andy French of USF & W had called Monday saying that he would not be able to make the meeting and wanted to know if a call-in would be acceptable. Linda said that she had told him yes to the call-in. As the meeting Monday was cancelled Mr. French did say that he still would be available for Wednesday night. Mr. French would like to discuss the overlook on Route 115.

Cindy called Andy. The Board had three photos of the area that Andy is looking at. The map shows the approved acquisition boundary of the USF & W. The other photo is a blow up of the lot 91 the State overlook and lots 92 and 94 that are owned by Mr. Corkery. The USF & W has had a long standing interest in purchasing lots 92 and 94. Andy said that in fact that they would like to maintain the open space and create more. The third photo is an aerial of what the area looked like back ten or fifteen years ago. On lot 92 specifically which is next to the State pull out Andy said that he would like to create a universal access overlook. This would give people a panoramic view of the entire valley. Andy said that he has had conversations with Presby about coming in and removing a lot of the trees to open this all up. As well as giving a panoramic view in the early morning and evening it should give a chance to view wildlife. If it is possible that Jefferson, Carroll and Whitefield could work together to work with the State to get this accomplished., there were several options given that may be approached.

There is Federal Land Access Program funds that can be used to improve access to federally owned lands. In order to apply for the FLAP money a municipality has to own the access.

Andy said that in building a overlook is is looking a having tip-out that would identify what people are

looking at and giving a history of the location.

Kevin said that this is definitely something he believes that the Board is interested in. Kevin asked what options are available at this point and how should we proceed. Once USF & W and the Town decided to go forward there would be a meeting of the minds to determine which plan moving forward would best work. There may be a benefit if Jefferson, Carroll and Whitefield along with USF & W working together that the State may be more receptive to the idea of working to improve the turn out. Tom said that he thinks that this is advantageous to the Town and however you would like to proceed. Cindy said that she agrees with Tom and Kevin. Andy asked how he should be working with the Board. Andy said that he is more than willing to work with the Board, however in doing the due diligence he would like a contact. Cindy said that the contact would be her for now then Kevin. Tom said that if Kevin doesn't have time then the we could have Cindy as the designated person. Cindy said that was fine with her. Andy asked Cindy to provide her contact information. Andy said that the next step would be to come up with a couple of different scenarios then discuss them as a group and go from there.

The one challenge is to determine how to acquire the property from Mr. Corkery. If the Town has an interest in working with USF & W to do this and perhaps dedicate the overlook to Mr. Corkery. Cindy said that the Board would be more than happy to entertain some ideas and have some diagonal around as to how we could move forward. Andy said that he would check with DOT and the Board will check around here, come up with a few scenarios.

**Public input** – None

**Non-Public(if needed):** -None

**Other Business** -

*Layout:* It was asked what this this is about. Linda said that she thought that Tom had suggested that the Board would work on the layout of office space at the school.

There was some discussion as to the location of office space and the administrative assistant office. Kevin said that he had thought that there would be two separate entrances. Should there be a counter space for a service area. Linda was asked to talk with the other staff that would have office space at the school building to get an idea as to what they would want in a space and have this information ready for the March 18 meeting.

Kevin asked if the Board had copies of the layout that was done by the library building committee. No, there is none of that information here. Cindy said that the Library Trustees may have this information. Kevin said that with all the work and research that was done the Board may be able to key on what they had done as to a layout for the Library should be. Debbie Dubois had mentioned that there had been a lot of work done on what the Library wanted and how it should be laid out. This information should be used.

Cindy said that she would reach out to the Library Trustee chair to see if they have the plans. Cindy asked if once the Board has the plans do they want the Trustees to come in and discuss the plans and findings the Board has. Kevin said either way would work, the more input is all ways better.

Tom said that what is needed is the input of all the people involved in having an office space. They are the ones that know what they would need and what their concerns are. Safety should be considered for everyone.

Cindy said that we need to make a decision as to where Town Meeting is going to be held. Kevin said that at this point it is too late to make a change, it has been posted that the meeting is going to be at the Town Hall. Kevin said that that decision should have been made back in January. Linda said that the Town Clerk and supervisors were not in favor of having it at the school. Cindy said why. All the files are here and the lack of space at the school. Cindy said that this will be a good discussion for next year.

Tom said that in looking at office space there should be some consideration given to having a space for the Select Board to have a desk to work at.

Cindy asked if there had been any word from North Country Council regarding the next step. No, there have been no contact. Cindy said that she would contact Michele.

**Public Input:** None

**Non-Public RSA-91-A:39(if needed):** None

The next meeting will be March 4, 2019.

Tom made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kevin seconded the motion. Motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,