

TOWN OF JEFFERSON
SELECT BOARD
April 8, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Jefferson was held at the Select Board Office Monday April 8, 2019 at 7:00 pm

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Cushman, Assistant to Selectmen; Eric and Gwen Higgins

Kevin Meehan opened the regular Select Board meeting at 7:05. The Highway and Transfer Station report was reviewed.

The Linda Cushman led the Pledge of Allegiance

The warrants were signed for the payroll and accounts payable. Invoices were approved for payment April 5, 2019.

Minute Approval:

Tom Brady made a motion to accepted the minutes of the April 1, 2019 meeting as presented. Cindy Silver seconded the motion. The motion carries.

Public input:

Gwen Higgins said they have sold there property and are going to put their personal property in storage and travel for a year. Gwen asked if there would be space at the school building that they could rent out for a year. Eric Higgins said that they have looked at local storage facilities and they do not have a space big enough for their belongs. Eric said that this could give the Town some income while they are figuring out what to do with the building. Cindy said that when she spoke with Gwen she mentioned the timing of when things would start to move down in that area with the feasibility study cost analysis study that hasn't started yet. That perhaps a year would supplement not having a complete empty building. Kevin said that he does not know how having anything in a room would effect the study, where that it is personal belongs. Kevin said that the Board is responsible for having people in the building doing the studies. Eric asked Kevin if what he was thinking when doing an inspection he meant the walls and such. Eric said they would not have an issue with that. He would not want just anyone having a key to go in. Tom said that the Board would have to discuss time lines and what if any effect the use of the building would have on the studies. Gwen asked if the entire building was going to be used. Kevin said that is the question that they are not sure of. The feasibility study should tell the Board what is to be used and for what. Eric said that he did not believe that having things in a room would have any effect on a feasibility study. Tom said that wasn't what he meant. There may be time when the Board would have people and Towns people in the building talking about different plans. The Board needs to discuss this further, the Board would need to make sure your belongings would be safe, would it interfare, what would Town's people think about the building being used when there has been no plan done yet. Eric said that he would think that people would like the idea of some income to help offset some of the cost. Tom asked when the Higgins would want an answer. They

said the first of May. Cindy said that North Country Council is coming in to the Board meeting on April 15 to discuss the feasibility study and more information on that note. Cindy stated that after the meeting the Board should have a better idea of what will be happening and the next step. After meeting with NCC the Board will have a better of what needs to happen and can discuss your request. Kevin and Tom agreed. Eric said that they would be willing to pay for the storage in advance.

Kevin asked if there was any discussion. Cindy said that Kevin and Tom both brought up some good questions. Kevin said one thing that comes to mind is the Towns people have asked if a hearing was going to be held once the Board decided what was going to be done at the building. Does bring in a tenant like this does it effect that discussion. Cindy said that after the meeting next Monday with NCC that the Board will have a better idea of where we want to go and more dialog moving forward. Cindy said the Higgins are right it is only space and they can keep their belongs out away from the walls and it is also an income. We don't know how long it is going to take to do a feasibility study. Cindy said once the Board an idea of timing then the Board can get something out to the public to let them know what is being done. Cindy did state that the Board does need to be sensitive to engineers and such going through the building.

Reports of Departments/Boards:

Highway Department:

Mark Dubois reported to Linda that he did not have anything new to report.

Office:

Linda said that she had filed the State and Federal quarterly employer reports. The Workers Comp renewal has been done for the new year.

She talked with the Planning Board secretary and the Planning Board did not get a chance to go over the 2020 Transportation. This is scheduled for the April 9 meeting.

Linda said that she spoke with a property owner wanting to know what effect an added building would have on his property value and taxes.

The web site was updated with a new business listing and the old minutes being archived.

Unfinished Business:

Cindy asked if the Board had a chance to read the information from the library building committee on the library needs and layout. Kevin said that he had skimmed it over, but not read it. Tom said that he had not read it yet.

Tom said that he is still working on the rooms and meals license questions.

Linda asked the Board what they wanted to do about the Spectrum/Charter franchise renewal. Kevin asked how it was left. Linda said that the only communication was last year and a meeting date was not able to be arranged. There is a new government affairs contact.

The Board agreed that an email should be sent requesting a meeting prior to July 15, 2019. If there has been no response in a couple of weeks then try to follow up with a phone call.

Cindy asked for clarification. In contacting Spectrum would you be asking them to come to the office to meet with the Board. Yes, so that the contact could be gone over and the Board get any questions answered in person. Cindy asked if there is anything that would need to be brought to this meeting. Linda said that a copy of the proposed new franchise agreement had been handed out some time ago. Tom asked if there still was a copy of that agreement in the office and if so perhaps the Board could go over it before a meeting with Spectrum.

The Planning Board had asked for a joint meeting with the Select Board on April 23. Is the Board available to make this meeting. The Planning Board will be meeting with June Garneau to discuss updating the town's Master Plan. Tom said that he would not be available. Kevin and Cindy said that they would be available.

New Business:

The Board reviewed the abatement settlement for the property located at 789 Meadows Road. The assessor and property owner have agreed on a valuation of \$120,000. John Trumbull did some comparison figures coming up with the \$120,000. After review of the paperwork the Board approved the abatement settlement for Tohkomeupog Real Estate Holdings, LLC. The amount of the abatement for two years is \$4815.77.

Cindy presented some books, the annual town reports some going back to the 1800's. These were collected by Louis Pelkey and Vyron Lowe. Cindy said that she is aware that there was a fire one time and didn't know how many of the old town reports the Town has. Linda said that there are a number of reports at the Library. In looking at the old reports town meeting was held in February.

Public Input: None

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

Any Other Business:

The next meeting will be April 15, 2019.

Cindy made a motion to adjourn. Tom seconded the motion. Motion carries.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,