

TOWN OF JEFFERSON  
SELECT BOARD  
April 29, 2019

The regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen for the Town of Jefferson was held at the Select Board Office Monday April 29, 2019 at 7:00 pm

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Cushman, Assistant to Selectmen; Bill Jolly Colonial Life Benefits; Christian Gainer

Kevin Meehan opened the regular Select Board meeting at 7:02. The Highway and Transfer Station report was reviewed.

Tom Brady led the Pledge of Allegiance

The warrants were signed for the payroll and accounts payable. Invoices were approved for payment May 6, 2019.

**Minute Approval:**

Tom Brady made a motion to accepted the minutes of the April 22, 2019 meeting as presented. Kevin Meehan seconded the motion. The motion carries.

**Public input:**

Bill Jolly introduced himself, he is with Colonial Life/Colonial Benefits. Colonial is an insurance company but not in the traditional sense. We work with organizations to help their employees get access to life and disability coverage as well as to harder to access like a cancer policy, critical illness policy and accident coverage. Sixty percent of Colonial's business is with government agencies, state, county and local government. We work with your employees as an extension of your human resources department to give your employees something they wouldn't get otherwise. There is no expense to the Town, coverage is payroll deducted. Employees pick and choose what they want. Mr. Jolly said that he wanted to introduce himself to the Board and see if this is something the Town may want to explore. He handles northern New England for Colonial.

It was asked if the coverage is limited to full-time employees only. Mr. Jolly said if any employee who works 20 or more hours per week can participate. Having three employees is the only requirement and 33% participation is needed. Tom asked if there were area town that participate. Mr. Jolly said that Lancaster is a long time customer and he works with the town of Gorham. Most of the participate now are in the southern part of the state such as Claremont. He was brought in to provide more service to the northern area. Mr. Jolly said that he will sit down with an interested employee and guide them through the process. The coverage is inexpensive and it is important that an employee have some guidance in what they want. As a rule of thumb if an employee makes \$10 an hour then that is the budget for the employee. Colonial does not want anyone to be insurance poor, they try to keep these things very affordable. Linda asked what happens if an employee leave the employer. Coverage can be taken to another employer if the employer has Colonial or it can be bill directly to the employee monthly.

Mr. Jolly explained some of the coverage, accident for example. This would cover accidents outside of work and pay out is based on the injury. Say someone broke a finger perhaps the payout would be \$200 the idea is to cover such things as deductibles from other coverage. Disability would be off the job cost would be based on what someone makes. The accident coverage is less than \$5 a week. The life insurance Colonial has both term and whole life. They also have a cancer and critical illness plan. Tom said that if the Town was to become interested in providing this service he would ask that five to ten references of towns and counties that are currently participating with Colonial, with contact names and how long you have been working with them.

### **Public Input:**

Christian Gainer said that he had a few questions for the Board. He said that in reading some of the Planning Board meeting minutes since the expansion of the water park that the Planning Board advised that before anymore building permits be approved that Santa's Village do something about the highway crossings. We are getting the formal traffic study done working with the State. Part of this study is what is Santa's Village anticipated changes at the Village in the next 10-year. This isn't how it works for the Village. We listen to what our guests have to say one year and perhaps address it the next year. Christian said however, they do have an idea as to what they would like to do for 2020 and it would require a building permit for a 12 by 12 addition to one of their buildings. Christian asked if the Select Board see a problem with the Village getting a building permit for 2020. Kevin said that at this time he would say no.

Christian said the next idea that they are looking at is selling beer at the water park facility. Based on talking with other amusement parks in New England and their success and the request from our guests we would like to entertain the thought of selling alcohol. Part of the State of New Hampshire liquor sales permit is to get approval from the Town. Kevin asked what has been required in the past. Linda stated just knowing what an establishment is doing. It was asked if sales would only be at the water park. Christian said that the sales would be a one facility in the water park. It was asked if consumption would be confined to the water park. He said that is a good question, sales would only be in the water park. Tom said that would it be a better question to say within the park and not outside. Yes, that also. Christian said that the water park area is not fenced off so it would be difficult to control. In terms of learning from other amusement parks such as Canobie Lake Park, Fun Town or Six Flags they all serve alcohol and none have said anything about having problems. Story Land sells alcohol at their night time active not during the day. Linda said that in the past any establishment that has asked for the Board's approval it has been given as long as they meet State requirements. Kevin said that he knows that the Board has signed something for the golf course in the past. Tom states that the County Commissioner have also done the same for Wildcat when they have had a couple of events. Christian said that they are just looking for a place that guests can go get a beverage and sit down while their kids are playing. The water park seems to be the place where the kids play for up to two hours. Kevin said that he believes that Whales Tale serves alcohol as well. Christian said that is correct. Tom asked if there is a form that has to be filled out. Linda states that usually there is a form letter. Christian said he has a copy of what was done for the Lantern store. Christian said at this point they are looking at all the requirements and talking with their attorney. He said that he wants to make sure that the Town does not have any issue that should be addressed. Christian asked what the Town would need from the Village in the event they go ahead with this. Tom said that it would be just a request from the Village.

Christian thanked the Board for their time.

Linda said on another subject all together. The Town is starting to work on their Emergency Operation Plan. There was a meeting last week and it was asked if different organization has an operations plan in the case of an emergency. Olin Garneau said that he would work with anyone that did not have a plan in place. Christian said that Santa's Village does have a plan and it is an on going project. Christian said they had a safety person at the park today that they hired to work with them. Yes, they do have something in place and it is on going. Christian said that he would not like to present the plan as it is not. Linda said that that wasn't what she was asking for. Mr. Garneau had just said that he would be willing to work with anyone if they would like him to. Linda stated that the group was working the Towns emergency plan and the question came up wondering if other businesses in Town had their own emergency plan.

### **Reports of Departments/Boards:**

*Highway Department:* None - Mark was on vacation last week.

*Office:* Linda stated that she worked with two different property owners regarding boundary line issues. The parties wanted to know what they had to do to resolve this type of issue. They were provided all the information that was in the office and told that copies of any sub-division maps should be recorded at the Registry of Deeds. Tom said that he had gotten one of these calls.

There were several call and emails for property cards and tax bills as well as questions about estimating what a change would be for property taxes.

### **Unfinished Business:**

NCC draft RFP proposal. Tom asked if where Cindy is not here if this could be postponed until next week. Linda asked if there was anything that Kevin and Tom wanted changed or added. They both said that there was nothing that they saw. Kevin asked if the changes that were discussed last week had been made and a draft of that sent back. Linda said that she believes that Michelle was waiting for an additional changes that Cindy may have. The Board did designate Cindy as the contact person on this. Kevin said that he did not find anything that jumped out as needing to be changed except for changing the times and a couple of lines that Michelle had suggested be changed. Tom asked if that being the case then to contact Cindy and let her know that we did not have any changes and if she wants to finalize it this week and bring in an updated draft for next week. Kevin states that he agrees with that. Kevin will contact Cindy.

Linda asked if the Board had any ideas as to how they would like to update the web site. Linda said that she thinks that if a new page could be added that is titled Select Board notice and or updates it would be sufficient. This being the case it would make it difficult to have something posted on the home page. Perhaps something for a banner that would let viewers know that there has been information posted. Linda suggested just a short summary of what is happening. Everyone knows that the minutes are posted, why duplicate what is already in the minutes. In talking with NCC about putting out the RFP did Michelle suggest putting this on the web site. Yes, she did. That being the case perhaps you could add something to the regulations and permit page. Linda suggested that on the bulletin page you could list where the bid package is located. Kevin said that in his opinion that when you start opening new pages you have to keep going into it to update all the time. He said that in looking at other web sites a lot of times a page like that gets neglected not intentionally. This is why as stated last week Kevin said that he does not think it is necessary to have anything except our minutes page simply because this is the page we are on all the time. The Select Board minute page is the page that is being watched all the time where the other pages aren't seen as much. Linda said that she would

suggest that if on the home page you could have a place that you could put an update notice. There is an place on the Town Government page, but if you don't go to that page you don't see it. Tom said that would be fine, then someone could go to to the appropriate page for additional information. When Kevin and Tom viewed the web site via their phones neither device came up with the same home page. Kevin determined that depending on what search query you use when looking up the web site what page comes up as the home page. Linda asked if it is possible to stream a banner that would show up on all pages. Kevin and Tom said that they believe this is doable. That being the case perhaps something like a banner would work because no matter what page you opened you would see the notice. Kevin said that he thinks that would be more effective than having a separate page.

Tom asked Linda she was the one who put in all the posting in for when the building is rented. Yes.

### **New Business:**

The Board reviewed an email from Dave Govatski asking if the Town would be able to grade the entrance to the Mud Pond Trail. US Fish and Wildlife will pay for the work. The Board said they did not have an issue doing this.

Linda said that the Board had asked for a letter to DOT asking for lighted stop signs at the Route 2 and 115 intersection and the Route 115 and 115A intersection. She presented the Board with a letter for their review and signature. The letter was reviewed and signed by the Chair.

Linda said that she had been given a suggestion that instead of installing a lite stop sign at the Israel River Road and 115 intersection that the Town contact Eversource to find out if the street light could be reinstalled and bill to the Town. The other thing that was brought up is the cost of replacing a lit stop sign if it is damaged should there be an accident. Kevin asked if the cost of a street light was known. Linda got a copy of the street light bill. Linda said that about 10 to 15 the Town upgraded the street lights to the metal halide. Tom asked if anyone remembered several years ago at Town Meeting there was talk of turning off some the street lights and what the cost was going to be. When the Town changed to the metal halide lights there was an agreement with Public Service for an additional monthly fee for a set number of years Public Service changed the lights out with no up front cost. Kevin said that in looking at the street light bill that the additional cost of one light wouldn't be that much. Maybe between 10 to 15 dollars per month a light depending on the size. Tom suggesting contacting Eversource and finding out what the cost would be to upgrade to the LED and connect an extra light. Kevin said that it may be more cost effective than a flashing stop sign. Linda will check with Eversource.

Linda asked the Board what they wanted to do with regards to the Colonial Insurance presentation. Kevin said from the sounds of things that it is more a user base. Kevin said that he thinks that the three full-time employees should look at what they have to offer and if they are interested then the Board can make a decision on the. Tom said that he would like to see the references before making a decision.

Linda said that she did look at the intersection of 115 and 115A and there is not a light there. There was no sign of where a light had been.

**Public Input:** None

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

**Any Other Business:**

Linda said that on May 6 she has a meeting in Berlin with the NH Department of Labor. The meeting is from 8:30 to 12:00. Linda said that she would check with Charlene to see if she could come in for coverage.

The other thing is the water at the school building. Tom asked if that was all flushed out. Linda said that John had call this morning saying that he has ran the water for 6-hours. There is still a chlorine smell to the water. He asked if this was enough before taking a sample. Tom said that the water will have to be run much more that that, it is more like three days. Tom and Kevin said that when the would chlorinate the water at the park they would run the water for 12-hours let it rest the run it again for another 12 hours. Tom asked how deep the well is. Kevin said that he didn't remembered but thought the well itself was deep. The pump is not set that deep within the well. Tom will contact John to discuss what is needed to get the chlorine out of the system.

The next meeting will be May 6, 2019.

**Adjournment:**

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

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,