

## **SB Minutes, 1/14/19**

**Present** - Moe Brigham, Lindley Brainard, Paul Vallee, Chris Jarvis, Dave Eddy, and Greg Maggard.

6:00 Call to Order -

Approval of Agenda - Add Executive Session to discuss legal matters. Mary Floyd is invited to participate in ES. Brigham, motion to approve agenda as amended. Brainard, second. All in favor.

Public Comment or Inquiry - none

### **Appointments**

6:15 Polly Hill - Water Abatement request for 23 River Street - not present.

6:30 Karen Bixler - F-35 and Fuel Emission - (6:45) not present. Given the lack of representation for two SB meetings, it will not be on the warning, but could be brought up under other business at Town Meeting.

6:45 Neal Fox - Health Officer Update - (6:50) - Fox provided an update on high priority issues in town. Nothing has been heard from the parties in either case.

- Church Street property still has trash and potentially rats on the property. Fox stated that according to the State definition the trash and rats are not a public health hazard. Fox notes that he will follow the instructions of the board.

- Lilliesville property, Fox stated that the woman that has the lease (not written) on the property, is not living there, but has dogs and chickens living there. Lease holder is prepared to bring litigation against the town for harassment. The property owner is unwilling to take any action. The Humane Society has been out to inspect the condition of the animals, and they seem to be fine.
- Discussion regarding a complaint about 27 Sergeant's Way. The State has contacted the town and is mandating an inspection by the Health Officer. Fox has had some contact with the tenant. The landlord has responded to some of Fox's requests.
- Discussion regarding required content of Health Officer follow-up.
- Fox will follow up and return to the SB meeting on 1/28 with an update.

### **Reports, Motions and Ordinances (6:02)**

Energy Commission - Appoint Scott Putney - Brigham, motion to appoint Scott Putney to the Energy Commission. Vallee, second. All in favor

Warning Approval - Approval - Rick Benson present for discussion

- discussion regarding removal of "town officer" item. Item is formality, but outdated.
- discussion regarding wording in item 16, "up to".
- discussion regarding election of "trustee of public funds", Benson explained that there are three trustees and their terms rotate.
- Benson emphasized that for the Human Services line item, it is important for folks to understand that there is a committee that reviews the specific requests.
- item 11, Jarvis will explain the change in the conservation fund status to the voters.
- Benson also suggested that someone point out that the general fund number includes the items 11-16.
- Jarvis pointed out that there could be the addition of a non-binding resolution.
- Vallee, motion to approve warning as amended. Brigham, second. All in favor.

#### Adopt Certificate of Resolution - Town of Bethel HRA Plan (MVP)

- Maggard explained that the HRA plan is identical to last year.
- Brigham, Motion to approve Maggard to sign document. Vallee, second. All in favor.

#### Annual Certificate of Highway Mileage - Review and Approve -

- Maggard, reviewed the certificate, which has no changes from last year.

- Vallee, Motion to accept and sign certificate. Brigham, second. All in favor.

#### Third Party Harassment Policy - Review and Approve -

- third, and final, version of document

- Eddy, motion to adopt Third Party Harassment Policy. Brainard, second. All in favor.

#### Draft Capital Improvement Budget - Review -

- Maggard prefaced discussion by explaining that the initial language around the fund was vague, and was interpreted by the voters as a “slush fund”.
- the new language clarifies the purpose of the fund, including town office, town garage, and town hall projects. Other infrastructure could also be included including the water system work.
- Maggard used the following projects as examples to demonstrate potential use of the fund (this is a very preliminary discussion, and not intended to happen as a part of town meeting)
- Maggard said the town garage project would come in at \$500,000. Explanation of the numbers, including putting a down payment of \$100,000 and taking out a 20yr loan for \$400,000.
- Maggard spoke with Water Dept. Director to establish priority projects such as replacement of curb stops, main line replacement, etc. Project would cost \$750,000. 30-year loan at 1% interest. Payment would be shared between the Water Department budget and Capital Improvement budget so that users don't bear the whole load of the improvements.
- Discussion regarding the water system, and master plan for improvements. (total cost would be around 4.5m, not including the tank)
- Maggard noted that the lines on Main Street need to be replaced, but it would be a 2m project, and it is not feasible right now.
- Jarvis suggested an informal handout that talks about the preliminary plans for the fund.
- Master Plan final comments have been submitted to the state.

#### Minutes and Communications

1. Select Board Minutes, 12/10 and 12/17. Motion to approve as written, Brigham. Lindley second. All in favor.
2. Town Manager's Report
  - Skate park grant has been submitted. A group will be going to speak to the board making the decision.
  - Signs for parking ordinance are in.
  - Master Plan final comments have been submitted to state.
  - Snow removal is going well downtown. The new position is working out as planned, and it is really making a difference. Brainard asked if there is system for moving cars in the lot that works well, that there is some sort of communication to the folks who are living/working in town. Maggard agreed that communication is key to getting the job done well, and that the system is new and people are doing their best to comply.
  - 459 Sugar Hill Rd, property purchased at tax sale. The town is trying to get the current tenant to leave. The intent is to sell the property.

- Discussion regarding the highway trucks. Break downs have become a never-ending battle, but the highway department staff is knowledgeable and can do some of the mechanical work which is saving the town money.
3. Constable's Report (included in packet) -
  4. Other Communications - Discussion regarding Recreation Committee minutes and Transfer Station updates.

Any other business necessary to come before the board. Chris Jarvis will be absent next meeting, Paul Vallee will lead the meeting.

Maggard asked if it was time for his review. Jarvis noted that it could get done prior to town meeting, and goal setting right afterwards.

Brigham, Motion to move to executive session. Brainard, second. All in favor. (7:55)

Brigham, Motion to exit executive session. Brainard, second. All in favor. (8:19)

Adjourn 8:20 pm

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Chris Jarvis

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Lindley Brainard

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Moe Brigham

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Paul Vallee

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Dave Eddy