

TOWN OF JAFFREY
Jaffrey, New Hampshire
Select Board Meeting Minutes
January 9, 2023

Chairman: Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.

Selectmen: John E. Belletete (via Zoom), Kevin Chamberlain

Town Manager: Jon Frederick

Staff: Administrative Assistant Zola

Others: Christine Pressman, Ruben Duncan, Daisy Hawlk, Jen Horne, John McCarthy

A. Call to Order - 5:00pm

B. Appointments - Jaffrey School Board Representatives - School District Budget

The BOS wanted a discussion with the Jaffrey Representatives to the School Board regarding the proposed increase in the school budget that would cause great financial difficulty for the residents of Jaffrey. It was explained to the BOS by McCarthy that the objective of the budget increase is to keep Special Education students in Jaffrey/Rindge Schools instead of sending them to outside placements. The cost for one outside placement can range from \$120,000 up to \$500,000 per student, depending on their needs. Duncan explained by “flattening” the trend and building a program that targets K-3, special needs may be addressed earlier and would equip students at a younger age to deal with inclusion with the total population. The services needed won’t change, however, being able to provide them in district would reduce outside placements. Initially, there will be a cost increase to set up the program and bring an out of district coordinator in, but once stabilized, outside placements would decrease saving money. Each student usually requires 1 teacher/1 aide and 1 psych/therapeutic staff. Presently one of the Vice-Principals, with a Special Ed. Background is helping with students during the week and doing his administrative work on the weekends due to the intense workload. Present enrollment is 1,250-1,300 students with more Jaffrey than Rindge students.

Sterling commented that for the Average Jaffrey homeowner, this proposed budget in addition to last year’s increases would impact their taxes approximately \$1,500, which is too much to ask. Although, the BOS understands the need, he’d like to see other sources of funding (i.e. State Grant Funds) to achieve what’s needed instead of taxation.

There was discussion regarding the aging facilities and the need to fund capital improvement projects in addition to the Special Education request.

The school budget will be finalized at Thursday night’s meeting. Sterling and Chamberlain will be in attendance.

C. Public Hearing - None

D. Approval of Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Public Minutes of December 12, 2022 were approved as amended. (3-0).

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Non-Public Minutes of December 12, 2022 were approved and sealed (3-0).

E. Consent Agenda

1. Payroll and Vendor Manifests
2. Abatements
 - a) #2023-1 - Richard Swanson/Wendy Bruneau - 52 Florence Avenue Rindge-\$204.55 Water
 - b) #2023-2 - James Hunt - 14 Prospect St. - \$120.77 - Sewer
3. Solar Exemptions
 - a) 219 GPR Trust
 - b) Richard & Gail Blair
 - c) Michael & Cathy George
 - d) Richard Hansberger III & Erica Klein-Hansberger
 - e) Paras Gosalia & Nancy Jun
 - f) Peter & Betsey Kaufhold
 - g) Jonathan Lang & Gail Beradino-Lang
 - h) Paul Robb Rev. Trust
 - i) Matthew Shea Rev. Trust 2017
 - j) Anne Stuart Rev.Trust 2001
 - k) James Webster Rev. Trust
 - l) Joel & Deborah Weissman
 - m) Jon & Sarah Vitello
4. Veterans Tax Credit
 - a) Donald Cramb, Jr. - 16 Erin Lane - All Veterans Tax Credit - \$500
 - b) Paul Fuller - 13 Colton Drive - Veterans Tax Credit - \$500
 - c) Thomas O'Hare - 65 Dublin Road #4 - Veterans Tax Credit - \$500
5. Acceptance of Donations - \$606.92 - Recreation Department
6. Tax Collector's Twelfth Cycle 2022 Water and Sewer Commitment Warrant
 - a) Water - \$114,862.71
 - b) Sewer - \$129,261.67
7. Authorization to Expend Funds - Bridges CRF
 - a) \$1,799.35-Quantum Construction - Final Design & Bidding - Nutting Road Bridge Project

8. Board/Committee Appointments

- a) Walter Batchelder - ZBA - Member - Term expires 2026
- b) Carl Jevne - ZBA - Member - Term Expires 2026
- c) Keith Dupuis - Planning Board - Member - Term Expires 2026
- d) Sue Sturges -Community Power Committee
- e) Peter Davis - Community Power Committee
- f) Elizabeth Webster - Community Power Committee
- g) Margaret Dillon - Community Power Committee

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Consent Agenda was approved as presented with item 2-A being denied (3-0).

F. Old Business - None

G. New Business - None

H. Reports to the Select Board

Selectmen's Reports

Sterling- Budcom met and the Town Office CRF was cut \$25,000 to move funds to the new Recreation Van fund. Department budgets were accepted as presented and the increase to overall taxes from the town was \$.30

Belletete-Did not attend any meetings.

Chamberlain - Attended the EDC meeting for Belletete. They reviewed the Downtown TIFD budget and discussed possible expansion to the downtown area. Budgets for all the TIFD's were approved.

Community Power Committee has been meeting every Wednesday from 10am to noon. They are working on a draft plan and will be having input sessions to draft the warrant article for Town Meeting. February 1st will be an input session and they will attend the February 13th BOS meeting. They have had many questions and have been working with a consultant. There is an online survey for residents to complete. The proposal will have to go to the PUC before Town Meeting. They plan to have 4 tiers, 2 "greener" plans, with the default being the current plan and one other option.

Concom - The December meeting was cancelled.

Cemetery - Doesn't meet until Spring.

Town Manager's Report

- Thursday 1/12 @ 7pm at the Jaffrey Civic Center is a presentation on past anniversaries. Belletete will be attending, so Sterling and Chamberlain can attend the School Budget meeting on the same evening.
- Saturday, January 14th is the Jubilee Ball at Hidden Hills.
- Bid opening for Nutting Road Bridge project happened on December 9th with the bid coming in at \$1.16 million, which was higher than expected \$1.1 million cost. The warrant article for Town Meeting will be updated to reflect the bid.
- Cold Stone Springs is making progress.

I. Other Business - None

- J. Non-Public** - On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, In Accordance with RSA 91-A:3, II (J) Roll Call Vote to Enter Non-Public Session at 6:17pm 3-0 (Roll call vote: Sterling-Yay, Belletete-Yay, Chamberlain-Yay)

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain to exit non-public at 6:27pm (3-0).

- K. Adjournment** -On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain to adjourn 6:27pm (3-0).

Submitted:

Attest:

Judith A. Zola
Administrative Assistant

Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.
Chairman

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