

TOWN OF JAFFREY
Jaffrey, New Hampshire
Select Board Meeting Minutes
January 25, 2021

Chairman: Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.

Selectmen: John E. Belletete, Kevin Chamberlain

Town Manager: Jon Frederick

Staff: Fire Chief David Chamberlain, Planning & Economic Development Director Jo Anne Carr (Zoom), Administrative Assistant Judy Zola

Guests: In Person: Mike & Kendra Shea, Logan Thorner, Dan McGuire, Moderator Marc Tieger
Via Zoom: Bethann Tatro, Peter Chamberlain, Tim Gordon, Amy Meyers, Doug Clayton, Jonathan Garhart

A. Call to Order - 6:02pm

B. Non – Public- None

C. Appointments – None

D. Public Hearings –

1. Second Presentation of Public Benefit Findings Pursuant to RSA 33:3 for Broadband Infrastructure Bonds.

Chairman Sterling opened the public hearing at 6:02pm.

Selectman Chamberlain read the summary of findings, which are attached to these minutes. The full document can be found on the Town of Jaffrey website on the Broadband Project Page. There has been a lot of work done by the Broadband Committee and the proposals from Comcast and Consolidated are being reviewed now.

Chairman Sterling closed the Summary of Findings Hearing at 6:11pm

2. Broadband Infrastructure Bond Public Hearing

Chairman Sterling opened the public hearing at 6:11pm.

Chamberlain stated there has been a lot of research and that the downtown area does have 25-3 speed. Outside of a mile of downtown the residents are underserved. In reference to the proposals received; one company is willing to fund the bond fully from user fees, but if they defaulted, the Town would be responsible for repayment of the bond. They would initiate a price for new subscribers with new services to pay for the bonding. The second company would not fund the bond at all leaving the Town responsible. This bond would only pay for underserved areas, i.e. households that have less than 25-3 speeds which accounts for 60% of Jaffrey. There was discussion regarding funding with residents asking how much of a tax burden the bond would create, the estimate would be 30 cents/\$1,000. This was seen as not a burden that non-subscribers should have to bear on their tax bill. A resident asked if there are any State funding available. Carr replies that there may be some CARES Act money available and that there are federal grants for broadband in rural areas.

Carr stated that the vendors will be holding public informational meetings prior to Town Meeting for residents. The process would then proceed with the Select Board choosing a vendor and then going to Town Meeting with the proposal.

There was no further public input.

Chairman Sterling closed the Bond Hearing at 6:33pm

E. Approval of Meeting Minutes

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Public Minutes of January 11, 2021 were approved (3-0)

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Non-Public Minutes of January 11, 2021 were approved (3-0).

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Public Minutes of January 20, 2021 were approved (3-0).

F. Consent Agenda

1. Payroll and Vendor Manifests
2. Abatements
 - a) #2021-2 – James DePaul – 0 Fitzwilliam Road – Tax Interest - \$20.58
 - b) #2021-3 – Vonn So – 88 Prospect Street – Sewer – \$789.11
3. Tax Exemptions
 - a) Kevin Canty – 105 Perry Road - Veteran's Tax Credit - \$500.00
 - b) Mark Yergeau – 81 Heath Road - Veteran's Tax Credit - \$500.00
 - c) Evelyn Mitchell – 60 Delta Drive – Elderly Exemption
4. Acceptance of Donations
 - a) William Graf - Conservation Commission - \$150
5. Notice of Intent
 - a) #20-233-03-E - Jeffrey Cutter – M235 L30.1 Woodbury Hill Road – Intent to Excavate
 - b) #20-233-12-T - John Peard – M212 L24.2 Mountain Road – Intent to Cut
6. Authorization to Withdraw from Bradley MS Estate Trust Fund
 - a) Katsura Landscaping - \$1,000
7. Tax Collector's 1st Cycle 2021 Septic Haulers Commitment Warrant - \$6,868.75

8. Tax Collector's 1st Cycle 2021 Water and Sewer Commitment Warrant
 - a) Water - \$96,300.37
 - b) Sewer - \$102,904.23

9. Meetinghouse Rental
 - a) John Sprague – Wedding – August 28, 2021

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the Consent Agenda was approved (3-0).

G. Old Business - None

H. New Business

Moderator Request to Schedule Town Meeting- Moderator Marc Tieger was present to discuss Town Elections and schedule changes for Town Meeting.

- Town Election will be Tuesday, March 9th 7am to 7pm at Pratt Auditorium.
- Town Meeting will be rescheduled from March 13th to Saturday, April 24th 9am at Hope Fellowship Church. In the case of inclement weather, 48 notice is required to reschedule.
- Candidates Night will be Thursday, February 25th via Zoom.

Chamberlain asked if any Covid funds would be available and as of yet, TM Frederick stated that none are available.

Resolution #2021-3- Ratify Police Union Contract – This was tabled due to the contract not being finalized yet.

Schedule Public Information Session for Class VI Road Conversions

- Carey Road to a Class B Trail
- Sherwin Hill Road to a Class A Trail

This Public Information Session to restrict vehicle access will be scheduled for the next BOS meeting on February 8, 2021 6pm at the Jaffrey Fire Station.

Request to Serve Alcohol at Monadnock Country Café- Bethann Tatro, owner of the Café, present via Zoom, explained that the staff has taken classes on serving alcohol and would appreciate the Board's approval as this would bring in more revenue being able to serve drinks with their brunch menu. All Selectmen were in favor of this request.

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the request to apply for a liquor license by the Monadnock Country Café was approved (3-0).

I. Reports to the Select Board

Selectmen's Reports

Sterling- Budcom meetings have concluded with tentative approvals. The Public Budget Hearing will be on February 6th via interactive Zoom

Belletete – There was a public hearing on the Land Use Changes and they were approved. Jo Anne Carr is working on the workforce housing proposal. Zoning changes were also approved.

Chamberlain- ConCom met and they completed the annual report and warrant request for Town Meeting. Carey Road reclassification was approved and letter was sent to BOS. Sherwin Hill Road has a walk-thru scheduled for Friday and another note will be sent to the BOS. Once these roads are reclassified, signage and barriers will be installed. They also agreed to plantings to be planted in the spring around Nora Bryant Barton's bench in front of the Library.

They looking into trail improvements due to the desire of the Conant High School Wellness classes wanting to use the trails for outdoor learning classes. Sterling suggested looking for an Eagle Scout needing a project.

They sent a report to the ZBA regarding the Woodbound Road property, which the ZBA upheld their decision.

No meetings were held for the Cemetery Committee.

Solar discussions are on-going. They are fact finding at this point, it will not be presented at Town Meeting.

Town Manager's Report

- A big Thank you to Chamberlain and Jo Anne Carr for all their work with Solar and Broadband.
- Tony Cavaliere was awarded a scholarship to Wastewater Management school...Congratulations!!
- Candidate's Night will be via Zoom on Thursday, February 25th at 7pm.

J. Other Business- None

K. Non-Public- None

L. Adjournment

On a motion by Belletete, seconded by Chamberlain, the meeting was adjourned at 7:01pm (3-0).

Submitted:

Attest:

Judith A. Zola
Administrative Assistant

Franklin W. Sterling, Jr.
Chairman

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