

**TOWN OF ALSTEAD, NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**Select Board**  
**Approved Minutes for Meeting of November 9, 2021 at 5:00 p.m.**  
**Town Hall, 9 Main Street, Alstead, NH 03602**

**SELECT BOARD PRESENT:** Mary Ann Wolf; Joe Levesque; Joel McCarty

**STAFF PRESENT:** Charlotte Comeau, Office Administrator; Kim Kercewich, Fire Chief; Jesse Moore Ambulance Chief; Steve Murrell, Police Chief; Steve Reynolds, EM Director; Prescott Trafton, Road Agent (in person)

**COMMUNITY MEMBERS:** Glenn Elsesser; Gordon Kemp; Mark Mastrocinque; Rich Nalevanko; Matt Saxton; Jude Willis (in person);

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Led by Mark Mastrocinque

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mary Ann called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ACTION ITEMS:** None

**Kim:** The Board acknowledged Kim Kercewich. Discussion took place on CIP. Engine 3 is due to be replaced 2030 and the tanker around 2038 or 2039. He requested to add \$75k to the capital reserve fund, same as last year. There was also some discussion on the two antique fire trucks stored at the East Station that we don't use for public safety but their presence is impeding on what is used for public safety.

**Steve:** The Board acknowledged Steve Murrell. Discussion took place on the CIP. He is looking to replace Corporal Rawling's car in 2022. The price he was given for the 2022 Tahoe base model was \$39,889.00 unequipped. It would be another \$10-11k if they are able to swap out the equipment, but they may not be able to as it may not fit. Ford is only making 11k of these vehicles for the entire country. We may have to get at a 2023 model but they won't be available for pricing until around July. Would like to keep Corporal Rawling's car as long as we can for a backup and/or for a part time person. Glenn said that the CIP has the next car to be purchased in 2023 and that the amount now in the capital reserve is approximately \$27,868. We could withdraw 25k and raise the rest in taxes and add \$19k back into capital reserve.

- He would like to purchase a radio even if we don't get the car next year because Motorola has a special discount going on now if you trade in an old radio. With the discount, just the radio is \$5k. If we wait until next year without the trade in program, he was told that the price could increase by thousands. He has enough in the budget to get the radio this year as well as paying half for the policy program he is doing. If he doesn't get the radio then he could pay all of the policy program this year. Steve will check into the warranty on the radio as to whether it begins when we first purchase it or when it is first installed and used.
- Steve reviewed the PD budget. There were some increases. He added an amount to hire a part-time officer. He is looking to possibly hire someone local and paying to put them through the academy. Joel asked how many hours the part-time person would work. Steve said 20 hours a week. Mary Ann asked about the wages and whether he wanted to discuss that. He stated he would prefer not to discuss in a public meeting.

**Prescott:** The Board acknowledged Prescott Trafton. Discussion took place on the CIP. He is looking to replace the 2012 5500 Dodge with and International CV that just came out last year. He has reached out to Scott Reed in Claremont as to availability, he will know by December. Right now, a cab and chassis is \$68k, roughly double that for equipment. About \$145k on the high side with extended warranties. Glenn's recommendation is to take 90k out of capital reserve as there is other equipment that will need replacing.

- Looking to do about two more sections of Gilsum Mine Rd. from Well Hill Co-op to the town line which is about 2.4 miles. Based on \$80/ton reclaiming ½ mile is about \$296k. Spoke with road agent in Langdon and their numbers using Arlington Paving is \$110/per ton. This would bring the amount \$371k. 2<sup>nd</sup> option would be to remove the milling process this would cost \$280k. 3<sup>rd</sup> option would be to go to Rose Apple Lane, roughly one mile, reclaim and pave, no grinding it would be around \$212k. Glen doesn't recommend cutting corners and/or getting behind on paving.

- There was discussion on Drewsville Bridge. Prescott said there is a lot more planning and process involved still. Need to have it surveyed. He talked to Randy Rhoades for test holes. Time is running out on the permit but it could be extended five more years. He recommends we look into hiring an engineering firm. Charlotte will send the contact person that Acworth is using.
- DPW drained Vilas Pool and removed the trees that were in the pool. There is more debris that has to be removed in front of the dam, will have to spend time to dislodge them. Contacted Russell Tree Service and they will remove the trees that the state wants removed around the dam for \$900/day. Hope to get this done by the December 1 deadline the state has imposed.

**Steve:** The Board acknowledged Steve Reynolds. He put together the emergency action plan flow chart the state is requiring. He is in the process of getting other required paperwork filled out as well so it can be submitted and a test can be performed.

**Charlotte:** The Board acknowledged Charlotte Comeau. She asked if they were okay with the draft audit. Joel has a call into Cory and will get back to Charlotte after he talks with him. Mary Ann hadn't reviewed it. Charlotte will resend.

- Asked if they reviewed the tax rate breakdown. She asked if they want to change the overlay amount which is currently \$25k or apply any of fund balance to reduce taxes, which is not something the board usually does. On a motion by Joe, seconded by Joel; ***the Board voted to keep the overlay amount as presented and not to apply any fund balance to reduce the tax rate.***
- Discussion took place on getting someone to come out to service the library furnace by changing vendors. This would increase oil prices going with another vendor. Glenn mentioned a provider that service furnaces that Charlotte will contact.
- Asked if the Board wanted to start the meetings at 5:00 going forward. All were in agreement during budget season
- Advised the Board that DRA adjusted the revenue (MS-434). The state is giving 45% more to the towns for Meals & Room increased from \$99,200 to 144,524.

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING:** Minutes of November 2, 2021: on a motion by Mary Ann, seconded by Joel; ***the Board voted to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.***

**INFORMATIONAL:** Town Offices closed Thursday, November 11<sup>th</sup> for Veteran's Day

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

**NON-PUBLIC SESSION:** On a motion by Mary Ann, seconded by Joe; ***the Board voted by roll call vote to enter into NPS pursuant to RSA 91-A:3 II (a) at 6:57 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

On a motion by Mary Ann, seconded by Joe; ***the Board voted to exit NPS and reconvene public meeting at 7:23 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

On a motion by Mary Ann, seconded by Joel; ***the Board voted to adjourn at 7:24 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,



Charlotte Comeau, Office Administrator

**The next Select Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 5:00 p.m. at the Town Hall**