

TOWN OF KENSINGTON
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

Kensington Town Hall
95 Amesbury Road
Kensington, NH 03833

MONDAY

NOVEMBER 6, 2017

Meeting Minutes- Draft

5:30pm

In Attendance: John Valvanis, Linda Blood, Robert Wadleigh, Norman DeBoisbriand, Fred Bloomberg, Fred Feldman, Chief Scott Sanders, Dawn Frost, Carlene Wiggin

Budget Meeting-

Norman called the meeting to order at 5:31pm.

Starting with the following departments Assessing, Town Clerk, Tax Collector, Police Department, Fire Department. The amounts were reviewed and compared to the 5-year trending. There were specific questions on the Assessing Services that the town currently has with Avitar, as well as the cruiser leases. The board made some changes to the budget line items in Assessing, Selectmen, Police, and Fire. The attendees will be meeting again on November 13th at 5:30pm to discuss further.

There was a brief recess before the board continued with the regular meeting.

DEPARTMENT HEADS:

- Fire Department – Fire Department Members-not in attendance
- Road Manager – David Buxton-

David approached the board and discussed the following:

- Ability to approve driveway permits if cut and dry, given by the planning board
- Chris Batchelder will be delivering the sand this week
- Moulton Ridge Road is getting bad, and he discussed the culvert work with the abutters where the culvert will be going under Moulton Ridge Road
- Got quote from Cheeza's for \$1500 to clean up all the debris around town, and he is available to do the work now. Bob made a motion to have Cheeza's do the tree work around town, Norman seconded, all in favor.
- R&D has not contacted him on the road reconstruction, but he knows we are on the schedule for the week before Thanksgiving or the week after. There will be 1700 square feet on Moulton Ridge Road repaired along with the other roads scheduled.
- Matrix has replaced the culverts with plastic that should last for years on Moulton Ridge Road
- He has the contractor ready to do the fire pond behind the town hall sometime in December or January when the ground is frozen.
- David signed off on the Matrix billing and the Civil Engineering bill for the surveying. Both came in under the quoted amount.

•Police Department –Chief Scott Sanders -Chief Sanders introduced Sean Wlasuk, the new full-time police officer, to the board and all those present, he informed the public that they had a full-time position open since January 2017 and went on to explain what they envisioned for in a candidate to fill

the full-time position. After interviewing Sean they knew he was right for Kensington. Sean is from Peabody and understands what it takes to be part of a team. Chief Sanders expressed that the department is very excited to have him here. Town Clerk Dawn Frost was present to swear in Sean Wlasuk in front of his family and friends present. All in attendance congratulated him. Sean's father Mr. Wlasuk, an officer from Massachusetts, was called to the front of the room to pin his son. Chief Sanders thanked the board for allowing them the time during the meeting to swear in Sean and welcome him to the department.

- Emergency Management- Chief Scott Sanders- Chief Sanders returned later in the evening and explained that during the recent wind storm there was no major issues to report. The State Emergency Management had sent out a request to see what the area towns had for expenses during the storm, and Chief Sanders reported and he responded as zero for Kensington, as there were no major issues in town.

Mr. Feldman expressed that there is an issue with the driveway to the town hall and it being hard to see. The board was not aware that the lower driveway was hard to see at night, they will see about putting in markers of some sort. Mr. Feldman also commented that it is extremely hard to hear what is going on during the meetings due to the echo. The board informed him that they have approved to install a new system for the meeting hall that will help with the hearing and echo issues during meetings. The company selected deals with these types of issues in meeting halls.

- Tax Collector- Carlene Wiggin- The board reviewed the tax rate and Linda motioned to accept it at \$22.39 down from \$23.51, Bob Seconded all in favor. This is a decrease of \$1.12, the town's overall commitment was down this year as well as the schools. The board has been trying to keep the budget below the default and has been diligent about keeping the costs down. Mr. Feldman asked a few questions about the rate and how it is figured. It was explained that if there was not as much money given back to the town, the rate would have been higher. Norman pointed out that the percentage for the town portion of the rate, was a bigger reduction then what the school's percentage was due to the amounts and size of the commitments.

Carlene informed the board that the bills will be printed tomorrow and will be due on December 11, 2017. It was also explained that the trash stickers for 2018 are available for pick up at any Office upstairs.

- Recreation Department- Norman informed the public that the Selectmen just recently adopted new bylaws for the Recreation Department, with the consent of the Recreation Department. The recreation department would like to start soliciting groups that were mentioned in the bylaws, and the board discussed that since the Selectmen have already acknowledged them they are able to start looking for new members. The Recreation Committee will be meeting this week to discuss.

- Town Clerk – Dawn Frost-SB3-Dawn informed the board that due to the new SB3 implementation there are new forms for voter registrations, they contain a form A and form B. Not everything is official, but the new forms will have to be used for the March Election. You need to provide more proof for residency and a longer form for the domicile. Dawn also informed the board that Carol will be going to the state for training on the week of November 14th.

NEW BUSINESS:

•Crosswalk Agreement for Eastman's Farm-review and sign- Norman explained that the farm is having a crosswalk installed, and has already been approved by the state and the Board of Selectmen. The state has required that the town maintain it, but the town has an agreement with the farm to maintain and cover costs. Mr. Cilley has already signed the contract on behalf of the Farm.

Norman made a motion to sign the traffic signal maintenance agreement with the Farm at Eastman's Corner, Bob seconded, all in favor.

The board is looking into the engineering for a crosswalk in front of the Town Hall, they have already received state approval and will be moving forward with the project.

Kathy presented the following:

•Mapping and Assessing Agreement with Avitar- the board will wait on this, due to the fact that they want to research other assessing companies.

OLD BUSINESS:

Town and Kensington Sawyer Trust Agreement Review-There has been nothing sent to the town at this time. Norman explained to those present that the financial arrangement terminates next year with the trust. The board has asked the Trust to give the Selectmen their idea on what they view the agreement should contain, and both entities will work together in the coming months.

OTHER BUSINESS:

• Assessing Office – Kathleen Felch-

- Veteran's Credits- Bob motioned to sign the two Veteran's Credit applications presented. Norman seconded, all in favor.
- Norman asked how someone would prove an exempt status, Kathy explained that the churches and the fire department association are the only charitable exemptions that the town has right now, but applicants would have to bring in their 501c paperwork to prove that they qualify for the exempt status.
- The Fire Department water test came back good, Kathy will forward to the state.
- Kathy explained that the computer for the assistant has been installed and there is a need to update the QuickBooks program from 2012. The board approved for Kathy to purchase a new QuickBooks program for the office computers.

• Bills- the board reviewed the bills and signed off on the presented bills.

• Non Public Session- RSA91A:3, II (b,c,l)-

Norman motioned to go into nonpublic session at 7:05pm, Bob seconded, all in favor.

Norman motioned to close the non-public session and seal the minutes permanently, Bob seconded, all in favor.

• Next Meeting Date – November 13, 2017 5:30pm Budget Committee

Norman made a motion to adjourn at 7:19pm, Bob seconded, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen T Felch