

**Charlestown Board of Selectmen
Public Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2020 @ 3:00pm Zoom Meeting**

Select board present and location Community room: Chairman Albert St. Pierre, John Streeter, Jeff Lessels, William Rescsanski, Scott Wade.

Staff Present: Jessica Dennis- Administrator
Kelly Wright- Administrative Assistant

Public Present: Justin Shaw

Chairman St. Pierre called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm. Chairman St. Pierre recited the protocol for holding public zoom meetings due to the Covid- 19 executive order per Governor Christopher Sununu.

Chairman St. Pierre reported Mr. David Duquette resigned effective immediately last week.

Mr. Lessels made a motion to enter nonpublic RSA 91-A:3 II (a-compensation) at 3:04pm, Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Mr. Wade made a motion to seal the minutes until January 1, 2021, Mr. Streeter seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Mr. Wade made a motion to enter nonpublic RSA 91-A:3 II (l-Legal) at 3:55pm, Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Mr. Wade made a motion to seal the minutes for six months, Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

2020 Tax Rate:

Ms. Dennis reported the new rate would be \$40.38 an increase of \$1.27. The board of selectmen and Ms. Dennis discussed how unassigned fund balance works and should the board choose to buy down the tax rate Ms. Dennis had prepared different options. Ms. Dennis reported she had consulted with the assessors regarding the amount the Town should have in overlay for 2021. \$150,000 was the recommended amount because of the 2021 revaluation.

After a lengthy discussion, a decision was made. Mr. Lessels made a motion to buy down the tax rate by reducing the unassigned fund balance by \$482,658 and retaining \$651,635 in assigned fund balance for a 2020 tax rate of \$38.65, Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion

passed. Mr. St. Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (no), Mr. Rescsanski (no).

Notice to Vacate:

The Board reviewed and signed the 30-day notices to vacate on the Tax deeded properties. Ms. Dennis reported some have already asked for repurchase amounts and she has called some of the mobile home park owners to see if they are willing to work with the Town on the tax deeded mobile homes. Chief Connors will be hand delivering the notices.

Ms. Dennis asked if the Selectboard would like her to proceed with sending out the 90-day notices and set up an auction date. There was discussion if the planning board can request mobile homes park put in newer mobile when replacing the older ones.

Mr. Streeter made a motion to move forward with the 90-day notice to repurchase, Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St, Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Upcoming Agenda Items:

1. Ambulance bids due on November 5, 2020
2. Workshop on November 9, 2020 at 4:30 will replace the workshop scheduled on November 11, 2020 because the office is closed for Veterans' Day.
3. November 25, 2020 workshop will remain from 8am-10am.
4. December 9, 2020 workshop will be from 4pm-6pm.

Ms. Dennis requested the selectmen's office close to the public on election day. The staff will be in to answer phones and work. The board agreed.

The board discussed the 2016 NH Interlocal Trust refund check in the amount of \$11, 675.77. Ms. Dennis provided a list of employees and former employees that are affected. Mr. Streeter made a motion to refund the NH Interlocal refund of \$11,675.77 as presented by the list, Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St, Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (abstain), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

2020 Health Trust Rates:

Ms. Dennis gave the board the 2021 HealthTrust rates. They have increased by 6.4%. Ms. Dennis would like to investigate other plans for 2022.

Mr. Streeter made a motion to accept the 2021 HealthTrust rates, Mr. Wade seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St, Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Mr. Streeter made a motion to direct Ms. Dennis to investigate a new health proposal by June 2021, Mr. Lessels seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St, Pierre (abstain), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

The board signed the forth quarter water/wastewater warrant in the amount of \$282,943.81, and a \$5,000 Election Grant Application for Ms. Chaffee.

2021 Revaluation Bids:

Ms. Dennis has reviewed the bids. Ms. Dennis is inquiring if the Selectboard has any intent to pursue a software change in 2021. After reviewing the 2021 Revaluation Bids, she will be recommending the Town award the bid to Municipal Resources (MRI), unless there is interest in a software change. After a lengthy discussion, the Board is not interested in the added cost for such a migration in 2021 and agreed to accept the recommendation.

The Selectboard discussed the contract from George Sansoucy regarding the 2021 Utility Appraisals. Ms. Dennis stated Mr. Brian Fogg will also be presenting a proposal and she recommends the board await this proposal before making a decision. The Selectboard agreed to this.

Recreational Department:

The board discussed the department's request for a full-time recreation director with a salary of \$60,000. After discussion, the board would like to see a proposal from the committee before committing to this. The board would a clear direction from the committee of the programs and hopes there will be more coordination and cooperation to include all ages. Mr. Streeter will pass this information along to the committee.

Mr. Streeter made a motion to adjourn at 6:00 pm, Mr. Rescsanski seconded the motion and on a roll call; motion passed. Mr. St, Pierre (yes), Mr. Lessels (yes), Mr. Wade (yes), Mr. Streeter (yes), Mr. Rescsanski (yes).

Respectfully Submitted,
Kelly N Wright

Albert St. Pierre

Jeff Lessels

Scott Wade

John Streeter

William Rescsanski

(Note: these are unapproved meeting minutes. Any corrections will be made at the next Selectboard meeting on November 4, 2020)