

Minutes

Albany NH Selectmen's Meeting

September 19, 2012

At 3:30 p.m., the Selectmen's meeting was called to order. In attendance were Joe Ferris, Sara Young-Knox and Jack Rose. The following business was conducted.

Regular Business:

- Reviewed & approved September 12 minutes-Jack made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted, Joe seconded the motion and all were in favor.
- Signed checks totaling \$46,439.86-Jack asked what had been done by All State Asphalt. The AA will contact Curtis for the details.
- Reviewed & signed pistol suspension notice.
- Discussed commercial & residential uses-the AA showed the Board the deed and DRA property transfer form showing that "Our Favorite Things" was classified as commercial only. Sara noted if the owner wanted to live there she would have to go before the Zoning Board of Adjustment.
- Discussed property cleanup on Bald Hill Rd.-Jon Munro Jr. told the AA the cleanup will continue but he has had problems with bees and is waiting for the temperatures to cool before proceeding.
- NonPublic Session RSA 91-A:3 (c)

DeAnn LeBlanc (Deputy Town Clerk/Tax Collector):

DeAnn joined the meeting to ask the Board for an explanation as to why they would not sign her travel reimbursement check last week. Joe replied because she did not come before the Board to ask if the town would pay for it or the course. DeAnn said the town has paid two years of the four year course and this was her third year she just completed. Joe told DeAnn he was not aware the town was paying for the certification course. DeAnn replied you didn't know? It's in the town report. A town report was produced and it was mentioned in the Clerk Tax collector report that DeAnn was attending the state course to attain a certification. Joe said he felt it is continuing education because a certain amount of time had to be acquired before receiving the certificate and the board was not approached for approval.

Joe asked DeAnn how many hours she works for the town of Conway. DeAnn replied it has no relevance. Joe asked if Conway was paying. DeAnn said no and it's irrelevant. This class is for Town Clerks and Deputies. She added it has been in the budget already for two years. Joe said that it had not been budgeted for as there is no line item for tuition reimbursement in the budget. Kathy said it falls under conferences.

Sara told DeAnn she had been in negotiations with teacher contracts and their contract would include a course for further education but they would not be reimbursed for their travel. DeAnn replied it was not relevant and she has always been reimbursed. Kathy Vizard told the board, the certification course was not the issue at hand. It has nothing to do with being reimbursed for travel. Everyone who attends classes on behalf of Albany has always been reimbursed with no questions. DeAnn traveled on behalf of Albany and should be reimbursed. Joe said it had not been approved by the Board of Selectmen.

DeAnn asked why this issue is being raised now. Sara replied these things are just being noticed more. DeAnn said if there is not a policy, then she should be reimbursed. It is money she has spent on travel.

Sara said it's like Kathy not being allowed to stay at conferences that are held close by. This is a small town and small savings mean a lot to people who are struggling. DeAnn told Sara everyone is struggling and she hasn't had a raise in a couple of years as well as Kathy and Mary Leavitt yet at town meeting \$2000 was raised for the picnic and Christmas party. Sara said she was not changing her vote. DeAnn said precedence was set by paying for travel reimbursement and asked now it is going to change? DeAnn added it is part of our budget. Joe said that DeAnn is working under Kathy's Certification and the State of NH does not require either DeAnn or Kathy to be certified although it is a benefit the town to have Kathy certified.

Joe said it will all be broken out for this year's budget.

Jack said he agreed with DeAnn. A precedent has been set. He asked Kathy if it was in the budget. Kathy replied yes. Jack asked Kathy if she has the authority to hire and fire. Kathy replied yes. Jack told the Board if Kathy made the decision to send DeAnn to this class and submitted the amount in her budget then we should question Kathy to validate the issue, not DeAnn. Jack said he would pay the reimbursement. Joe said he didn't think the travel should be reimbursed. It was Joe's opinion to withhold the reimbursement because he does not agree with the certification class. Sara agreed to sign the check and to discuss this issue at budget season. Kathy

agreed wholeheartedly that was the time to discuss these issues. DeAnn left the meeting.

Susan Ticehearst & Ed Butler (Candidates for State Representative):

Susan and Ed introduced themselves to the Board. Susan is running for Representative of District 4 and Ed is running for Representative of District 7. They discussed the many districting changes that have occurred.

Susan told the Board how she became interested in state government many years ago while home schooling her children. While teaching them Civics, they would attend meetings and she found out it wasn't what she thought so she became a citizens' advocate. She has learned more about the law making process, how decisions are being made and why people feel so strongly about issues. People have fought to make the process the way it is and Susan feels we need to do a better job of practicing the process.

Ed feels the process has been undemocratic in some respects and the leadership of the majority has been bullying. Ed gave a few examples of what has gone on to support his statement. It is important to bring back some center to the process. We're here to help do that. He served as Representative from 2006-2010. The last two years of his service, he served as the chair to the Commerce Committee. He has a nurse administrative license and healthcare is a very important issue to him. He would like to continue to pursue providing access to affordable care to everyone. Ed discussed his ideas regarding lowering insurance costs and the drivers of such costs. Susan and Ed thanked the Board for their time and left the meeting.

NonPublic Session 91-A:3 (c):

At 4:45 p.m. Sara made a motion to move into nonpublic session citing RSA 91-A:3 II (c). Joe seconded the motion and all were in favor. Roll call was unanimous in the affirmative.

At 5:53 p.m., Sara motioned to move into public session, seconded by Jack and all were in favor.

At 5:54 p.m. it was determined that the minutes shall not be publicly disclosed. Sara motioned to seal the minutes, to not publicly disclose the minutes because it is determined that divulgence of the information will likely affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of the Board. Joe seconded the motion and all were in favor.

JF____
JR____
SYK____

At 5:55 p.m., Joe motioned to adjourn, Sara seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathleen Vizard
Administrative Assistant

DRAFT