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Albany Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

Albany, New Hampshire
August 11, 2021 at 5:30 P.M.



This meeting may be streamed at www.TownHallStreams.com

- 1. Call to Order:** Vice Chair R. Nadler called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance:** Vice Chair R. Nadler led the meeting in The Pledge.

In Attendance: Vice Chair R. Nadler, Selectperson J. Spofford, Town Administrator K. Collins and resident and Chapel Committee member D. Solomon (Chairperson K. Golding is out of town)

3. New Business:

A. Approval of July 28, 2021 Selectmen's Meeting minutes, including (4) sets of sealed Non Public minutes (A, B, C and D)

Vice Chair R. Nadler made a motion to accept the minutes of the July 28, 2021 Selectmen's Meeting, including (4) sets of sealed Non Public minutes, as presented. Selectperson Spofford seconded. Motion passed: 2-0-0.

B. Approval of August 11, 2021 consent file

__Review & Sign manifest(s) in the amount of \$ 2,432.35 and \$6,728.08, this includes payroll and accounts payable for 8/4/2021 and 8/11/2021.

__Review, approve/deny and sign Intent to Cut for M6, L87 on Route 16

Vice Chair R. Nadler made a motion to accept the August 11, 2021 consent file, as presented. Selectperson Spofford seconded. Motion passed: 2-0-0.

C. Review, discuss and approve/deny request for appeal of Ticket #2097 and #2098 for camping

Vice Chair R. Nadler made a motion to deny the request for appeal of Ticket #2097 and #2098. Selectperson J. Spofford seconded. Motion passed: 2-0-0.

D. Review, discuss and approve prorated 2020 property taxes due to fire in accordance with RSA 76:21 for M6, L166

The Board reviewed the recommendation of the Town Assessor with regard to a refund for a portion of 2020 taxes based on RSA 76:21 and the pro-ration of taxes.

Vice Chair Nadler made the motion to refund \$554 of pro-rated taxes plus interest, based on the proration of 2020 property taxes due to a residential fire. Selectperson Spofford seconded. Motion passed: 2-0-0.

E. Review and sign MS 535, as prepared by Town's auditor

The Board reviewed and signed the MS535 as prepared by Tim Greene, the Town's Auditor. The Town Administrator will load it up to the DRA portal.

4. Town Administrators Report:

A. Review and discuss using Joanne Gayer as ACO on an hourly basis vs. monthly on-call basis

Joanne Gayer verbally tendered her resignation from the position of Animal Control Officer, effective the end of August 2021. She contacted the Town Administrator last week and mentioned that she is working out an hourly position with Ossipee and wondered if Albany might be interested. She does not want to be on-call 24/7 anymore but is willing to provide ACO services from 9 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. at a rate of \$25/hour to be billed monthly via timesheet. She did note if there is an emergency (i.e. a fire with pets, a DUI with pets in the car), she would be willing to assist on an emergency basis. She notes that many of the situations she deals with should have a police/sheriff's response to document the situation, for example dog bites.

Vice Chair R. Nadler made a motion to hire Joanne Gayer on an hourly basis at \$25/hour with a timesheet to be submitted monthly to provide Animal Control Officer services, as needed between 9:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Selectperson Spofford seconded. Motion passed: 2-0-0.

B. The Town Administrator started the paperwork to file for an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) grant on 8/10/2021

C. There is a new building on Map 7, L112 that had no building permit. This structure appears to be a yurt with no septic and no electricity but it does appear to have a handpump for water. The property is 130+ acres that is all in current use so this building/structure does constitute a change in use. The Board reviewed and signed a certified letter for the owners, requesting that if there is indeed a structure on the property they fill out a Change of Use form and an after-the-fact building permit.

D. Reports from Steve and Sara Knox. Mrs. Knox called today and they intended to file written reports on the entities that they are representatives to, but Mrs. Knox's sister Johanna Young passed away recently. They will have them for the next meeting.

5. APPOINTMENTS: none

6. Old Business:

A. Chapel Committee/Historical Society – Peter DonKonics and Dorothy Solomon have asked to be on the next agenda (8/25/2021) to deliver a report on the Chapel. The TA will distribute the report to the Selectmen.

B. Federal Land Access Program (FLAP) – Josh McAllister from HEB has emailed Jacinda Russell/Program Manager for US DOT with concerns on options for Passaconaway project. Ms. Russell emailed to let Mr. McAllister know that she is passing his email on to the GeoTech team that did the original borings.

7. Other Business (and Board reports):

A. Planning Board – Chairperson Golding – (see draft minutes of 8/12/21 meeting)

B. Other:

8. Correspondence:

A. Review and discuss email from resident of Passaconaway Road regarding discharge of fire works and the condition of the “Welcome to Albany” sign on Route 16.

Although we are listed on the State Fire Marshall’s database as “not allowing” fireworks, the TA can find no formal policy or ordinance addressing fireworks. Therefore, the TA is not sure how much enforcement the Sheriff’s Department can do. The TA asked the Board if they are interested in sending a letter to every resident regarding use of fireworks?

No on a letter to all residents, due to cost and the fact that not all land owners are residents. The Board is ok with a reminder in the Town Report, in the Town Column in the Daily Sun and on the Town’s website.

The Town Administrator will contact a sign company to look at, and give a price on refreshing the “Welcome to Albany” sign on Route 16.

B. Review email from Mount Washington Valley Chamber of Commerce

The Board reviewed the email.

9. Public Comment: D. Solomon heard on the news today and cases of Covid have increased dramatically.

Rob Nadler would like to be the Selectmen’s Rep to the Conservation Commission, and asked that this be on the agenda for the next meeting.

10. Next Meeting: August 25, 2021 at 5:30 PM at Albany Town Hall

11. Non-Public Sessions:

A. Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) "The hiring of any person as a public employee".

Vice Chair R. Nadler made a motion to go into Non Public Session under RSA 91-A:3, II (b) "The hiring of any person as a public employee", at 6:08 p.m. Selectperson Spofford seconded. Roll Call Vote: Vice Chair R. Nadler – aye; Selectperson Spofford – aye.

The Board generally discussed how to staff the Town Clerk/Tax Collector's Office after September 1 when the current TC/TX's resignation takes effect.

Vice Chair R. Nadler made a motion to leave Non Public Session at 6:39 p.m. Selectperson Spofford seconded. Roll Call Vote: Vice Chair R. Nadler – aye; Selectperson Spofford – aye.

Vice Chair R. Nadler made a motion to advertise for a Town Clerk/Tax Collector in the Saturday, Tuesday and Thursday, Conway Daily Sun, also to post it at Town Hall and on the Town's website and to have the Town Administrator contact NH Job Works to see if they have any applicants that may fit our needs and to contact NHMA Legal Inquiries to ask if it would be permissible to hire a member of the Board of Selectmen as a consultant/trainer in the TC/TX office. Selectperson Spofford seconded. Motion passed: 2-0-0.

12. Adjournment: Vice Chair R. Nadler adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Submitted by:
Kelley A. Collins
Town Administrator