

**Town of Chelsea
Board of Selectmen Minutes
Wednesday January 25, 2017
6:30PM, Chelsea Town Office**

I. Call regular meeting to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM by Chairman Danforth.

Selectmen present were Richard Danforth and Michael Pushard. Benjamin Smith was absent and excused

Others present included Scott Tilton, Shirley Bartlett, Renee Rogers, Dennis Kinney, Shawn Ramage, Gerry Rodrique, CJ Rideout, Amanda Rideout, Jon Doty, Brian Stiles and Melissa Morrill

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Public Comment on items not part of the agenda:

Mrs. Chelsea, Renee Rogers, was in attendance to introduce her and request the Town's support while she participates in the Mrs. Maine Pageant.

III. Adjustments to the agenda:

Move Item –

V. B Old Business – Item 4b to after V. A New Business – Item 1

V. B Old Business –Item 5 to before V. New Business – Item 2

IV. Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant # 31 in the amount of \$ 48,770.47
- B. Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant # 32 in the amount of \$ 5,823.43
- C. Approval of Board of Selectmen January 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Pushard that was seconded by Mr. Danforth to approve Consent Agenda Items A, B and C as presented. The vote was unanimous.

V. Scheduled Items:

A. New Business:

1. Vehicle Accident Scene Remediation Proposal – Statewide Towing

The Manager introduced a proposal presented to him by Statewide Towing to provide a vehicle accident remediation service. The premise is that Chelsea Fire Department would provide traffic control at the scene of a vehicle accident scene and in return Chelsea would receive a payment for the service. The Fire Chief and Selectmen has questions or were not interested at this time. Mr. Watson, owner of Statewide, was not in attendance to answer question. The Item was tabled to a future meeting.

B. Old Business:

4. Assessing Issues

b. Cabins in the Woods Tax Exemption Request

Representatives of the Cabin in the Woods were in attendance to answer question and further clarify their pending request that the Cabins in the Woods to be exempt from taxation. The Selectmen and the Assessors Agent have asked the Manager to request and opinion from the Chelsea's attorney regarding the issue before the meeting February 8, 2017. No action was taken.

5. Wood Harvesting at Chelsea's Kennebec River Property – Update from Two Trees Forestry

Jon Doty, the Forester hired by Chelsea, explained some of the issues that he was having in justifying the planned tree harvesting of Chelsea's Kennebec River Property. The terrain is very rough and the amount of harvestable acres may be too low to make it profitable for Chelsea. It was determined by the Selectmen that the Forester would present Chelsea with a price to create a harvesting plan that would attempt to meet Chelsea's needs. In the meantime someone from Chelsea would attend the February 28 Hallowell Water District Meeting to explain to them the plan. No Action was taken.

2. Boston Post Cane recipient and process discussion

The Manager presented the Selectmen with a policy he felt could be used as a guide in the selection Chelsea's Boston Post Cane recipient. The latest recipient has passed away and someone needs to be honored with the award. No formal action was taken.

B. Old Business:

1. LED Street Lighting Proposal

The Manager explained that he was going to present the idea of converting street lights to LED to other area towns before asking the Selectmen to move forward in Chelsea. The price to convert would be less if other towns decided to participate. No formal action was taken.

2. Review Stream Crossing Grant

The Selectmen were presented with a copy of a completed Stream Crossing Grant. The grant was completed by Coffin Engineering on behalf of Chelsea. The grant requests funds to assist Chelsea in replacing the big culvert on the Nelson Road. No formal action was taken.

3. Senior Citizens Building Acceptance Request

The Manager informed the Selectmen that the Senior Citizens Building was not determined to be historically significant by the Historical Preservation Commission. The lack of a designation means that the building is not eligible for grant funds to pay for building improvements. No formal action was taken.

4. Assessing Issues

a. Raymond and Katherine Brann Abatement Request M 7 L 103

A motion was made by Mr. Pushard that was seconded by Mr. Danforth to deny the request for a tax abatement from Raymond and Katherine Brann on the grounds that they failed to present evidence that the assessment is incorrect. The vote was unanimous.

c. Chelsea's State of Maine Valuation and History

The Manager presented the Selectmen with a 15 year history of Chelsea's State Valuation. The TIF sheltered value will be part of the Chelsea's 2017 State Valuation which would have been \$6 million higher without the TIF. No formal action was taken.

6. Establish a prize amount and the method of rewarding the winner of the Town Office design project sponsored by UMA.

The Manager proposed providing a prize to the winning team in the Town Office Design Competition. No formal action was taken.

VI. Legal:

A. Resignation of Paula Hutton from Budget Committee

A motion was made by Mr. Danforth that was seconded by Mr. Pushard to accept the resignation of Paula Hutton from the Budget Committee with regret. The vote was unanimous.

B. Resignation of Lee Burns from Cemetery Committee

The Selectmen discussed the resignation of Lee Burns and took no formal action.

VII. Written Communication

- A. The Selectmen reviewed the Kennebec County Sheriff Report for 2016
- B. The Selectmen reviewed the CEO Report for December 2016
- C. The Selectmen reviewed a letter from the President of MMA
- D. The Selectmen reviewed the report from Senior Spectrum dated October 4, 2016

VIII. Verbal Communication:

- A. **Town Manager - None**
- B. **Chelsea's RSU #12 Representative - None**
- C. **Boards and Committee - None**
- D. **Board of Selectmen/Assessors**

Mike Pushard - wanted a timetable in place for the tearing down of a building on the Hallowell Road. A newer structure next door was being occupied. He wanted to make sure that the Manager and the Fire Chief were working toward replacing signs that have been stolen and buying new signs that are needed.

Richard Danforth - None

IX. Executive Session: None

X. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Pushard and seconded by Mr. Danforth to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Danforth declared the meeting adjourned at 8:18PM.

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on February 22, 2017.

Richard Danforth

Michael Pushard

Absent
Benjamin Smith