

**Town of Chelsea
Board of Selectmen Minutes
January 27, 2016
6:30PM, Chelsea Town Office**

I. Call regular meeting to order:

The meeting was called to order at 6:31PM by Chairman Danforth.

Selectmen present: Richard Danforth and Michael Pushard. Mr. Smith was absent and excused.

Others present: Scott, Tilton, Mark Blythe, Linda Gilson, Susan Sargent, Scott Arnold, Dick Condon, Ed Tobias, Dick Strout, Palmer Sargent and Aaron Cooper

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

II. Consent Agenda:

- A. Approval of Payroll Warrant # 33 in the amount of \$ 5,647.19
- B. Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant # 34 in the amount of \$ 38,785.26
- C. Approval of Board of Selectmen January 13, 2016 Meeting Minutes.

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

No action was taken to approve of the January 13, 2016 Board of Selectmen Minutes.

III. Public Comment: NONE

IV. Scheduled Items:

A. New Business:

1. Discussion with Hubbard Free Library Board

Mark Blythe, Linda Gilson and Susan Sargent were present from the Hubbard Free Library to inquire how the library might go about getting an appropriation from Chelsea. Trustee Gilson spoke about the number of Chelsea residents who have used the library as members in the past. She explained that those residents had to deny library membership and therefore left out of the summer reading program. Trustee Sargent explained that many younger Chelsea residents rely on the library to obtain free reading material. She also explained that the Chelsea Elementary Library was not successful in obtaining funds to operate a summer reading program in the form of a book mobile. All three Trustees requested that the funding be placed on the warrant for consideration and vote by residents at the Town Meeting. The Selectmen explained that the funding request would be reviewed at a budget workshop and that the Trustees would be informed of that date. No formal action was taken by the Selectmen.

3. Determine the need to repair the deep ditches on Hallowell and Cony Roads.

There are currently at least four areas in Chelsea in which the ditching performed many years ago has created deep ditch gullies. Though not unsafe or dangerous they are unsightly and create safety concerns should a vehicle go off the road in these areas. The Selectmen requested the Town Manager put the cost to make repairs in the 2016-17 budget and present it when the summer roads budget is discussed. No formal action was taken by the Selectmen.

IV. Scheduled Items:

B. Old Business:

1. Replacement of Town Office Building

There has been discussion by the Board in the past about replacing the Town Office. During the last meeting there was similar discussion but Mr. Pushard was not present to provide his input. Based upon the positive comments regarding replacement the Selectmen want the process to continue forward and help from the UMA Architecture Department be obtained. No formal action was taken by the Selectmen.

2. Traffic Control Ordinance discussion

Members of the public in attendance were concerned that restricting weights on posted roads was hurting businesses on the road and creating a roadblock to new businesses locating there. The best option discussed was the placement of a sign that would limit the weight of trucks using the road as a through way. The Manager will work on some wording for the signs and the amount of weight that would be allowed to use the posted roads as through ways. A public hearing will be scheduled for a later date. No formal action was taken by the Selectmen.

3. Discussion on the Ordinance Restricting Vehicle Weights on Posted Ways

This wording of this particular ordinance is used primarily as a means for Chelsea to post the roads during times of spring thaw. Members of the public in attendance were concerned that restricting weights on posted roads was hurting businesses on the road and creating a roadblock to new businesses locating there. The best option discussed was the placement of a sign that would limit the weight of trucks using the road as a through way. The Manager will work on some wording for the signs and the amount of weight that would be allowed to use the posted roads as through ways. A public hearing will be scheduled for a later date. No formal action was taken by the Selectmen.

IV. Scheduled Items:

A. New Business:

2. Discussion with Chelsea's Representatives to the RSU #12 School Board

Aaron Cooper, a Chelsea representative of the RSU #12 School Board, was present as a Chelsea at the meeting to discuss with the Selectmen some of their concerns heading into the upcoming School Budget deliberations. The Selectmen would like to see additional cuts made to the school budget for 2016-17. Mr. Cooper acknowledged the Selectmen's concerns and would work to control RSU #12 expenditures. No formal action was taken by the Selectmen.

IV. Scheduled Items:

B. Old Business:

4. Set a date for 1st Economic Development Plan Meeting – Feb. 2, 9, 16 or another night with Joel Greenwood

By consensus of the Board, the date selected to begin meeting to create an Economic Development Plan for Chelsea will be February 9, 2016 at 6:30PM.

5. 2016 -2019 Chelsea Road Improvement Plan

The Manager presented the Selectmen with the 2016-17 Summer Roads Improvement Plan. Total of improvements to be budgeted is \$391,062 and included shim, overlay, seal coating and gravel. The plan will be used in preparing the road budget for 2016-17.

No formal action was taken by the Selectmen.

V. Legal:

1. Appointment of Alfred Tobias to the Cemetery Committee

A motion was made by Mr. Danforth that was seconded by Mr. Pushard to appoint Alfred Tobias to a three year term on the Cemetery Committee. Term shall expire June 30, 2018. Vote was unanimous.

2. Real Estate Tax abatement - Alfred Plante for 2015-16 taxes – M 9 L 10

A motion was made by Mr. Danforth that was seconded by Mr. Pushard to abate \$2,597 in taxable value for 2015-16 taxes on Map 9 Lot 10. Vote was unanimous.

3. Personal Property Tax Abatements (List Attached)

The Manager provided the Board with a list of 2013 Personal Property tax accounts which he has determined is no longer collectible by any method. He will request that the Assessing Agent prepare the proper abatement forms for the Selectmen to sign at the next meeting.

No formal action was taken by the Selectmen

4. Win Ro Junkyard Permit Renewal

Following a review of the inspection performed by the Code Enforcement Officer, a motion was made by Mr. Danforth that was seconded by Mr. Pushard to issue an annual Automobile Graveyard Junkyard Permit for Win Ro Auto Salvage for 2016. The vote was unanimous.

VI. Written Communication:

1. The Board reviewed a letter from TWC dated January 20, 2016
2. The Board reviewed letter from Maine Municipal Association dated December 28, 2015
3. The Board reviewed the Sheepscot Valley RSU #12 January 2016 Superintendent's Report
4. The Board reviewed the Planning Board December 14, 2015 Minutes
5. The Board reviewed the letter from Central Maine Power dated December 15, 2015
6. The Board reviewed the Budget Committee January 5, 2016 Minutes
7. The Board reviewed the Cemetery Committee January 12, 2016 Minutes

VII. Verbal Communication:

Town Manager – NONE

RSU # 12 Report – NONE

Committees and Boards – NONE

Board of Selectmen –

Mr. Pushard requested the Manager confirm the street address for the Salt Sand Shed. He also stated that he received complaints that the ACO had not responded to calls from a resident.

Mr. Danforth wanted to make sure that Randy Magee was thanked for his recent help in delivering buckets of sand to seniors.

VIII. Executive Session Action: NONE

IX. Adjournment:

A motion was made by Mr. Pushard and seconded by Mr. Danforth to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Danforth declared the meeting adjourned at 8:30PM.

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on February 10, 2016.

Richard Danforth

Mike Pushard

Absent
Benjamin Smith