

**Town of Chelsea  
Board of Selectmen Minutes  
Wednesday December 28, 2016  
6:30PM, Chelsea Town Office**

**I. Call regular meeting to order:**

The meeting was called to order at 6:37PM by Richard Danforth.

Selectmen present were Benjamin Smith, Richard Danforth and Michael Pushard

Others present included Palmer Sargent, Molly Alexander, Scott Tilton and Andrea Smith

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**II. Public Comment on items not part of the agenda: NONE**

**III. Adjustments to the agenda: NONE**

**IV. Consent Agenda:**

- A. Approval of Accounts Payable Warrant #25 in the amount of \$ 22,809.40
- B. Approval of Payroll Warrant #26 in the amount of \$ 5,723.78

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

**V. Scheduled Items:**

**A. New Business:**

**1. Discussion with the Chair of Planning Board**

Andrea Smith, Planning Board Chair, reported on the Planning Board's yearlong activities creating and amending ordinances as they have been instructed by the Selectmen. She expressed concern that the communication between the two groups was lacking and wanted to make sure that the work the Planning Board was doing was what the Selectmen felt was the priority. No formal action was taken.

## **2. Review Draft of 2015-16 Financial Audit**

The Manager provided the Selectmen with the draft Audit for the year ending June 30, 2016. No formal action was taken.

## **3. Review Ordinance Public Hearing and Certification Schedule**

The Manager provided the Selectmen with a list partial list of new and amended ordinances that needed to have a public hearing conducted prior to being voted on by residents. The Board discussed conducting hearing on all the ordinances on one night prior to a regular meeting. No formal action was taken.

## **4. Set date and time of meeting with Abutters regarding discontinuing certain roads**

The Manager will send out letter to owners of property abutting Spruce Lane, Old Thomaston Road, Allen Ave. and Goodwill Drive. The letters will invite them to a meeting February 8, 2017 to discuss with them the discontinuance of the road they abut and the possible procedure that will follow. No formal action was taken.

### **B. Old Business:**

#### **1. Town Building Solar Power Conversion Discussion**

The Manager introduced to the Selectmen an idea of having solar panels placed on the roof of Togus Fire Station to generate electricity. The electricity generated would cover Chelsea's current electrical needs and also provide energy back into the electricity grid. The Selectmen requested the Manager invite Rich Simon from the business Power Company to a meeting to further explain the pros and cons of converting. No formal action was taken.

#### **2. Restoration of old Chelsea Land Layout Plan**

A plan containing the lots of property owners dating back to mid 1800's has been located. The plan is drawn on cloth is in poor condition and will require about \$2K to \$3K to properly restore. The Selectmen understand the historical significance of the plan and instructed the Manager to pursue donations and grants to pay for restoration. No formal action was taken.

### **3. Selectmen 2017-18 Budget Review Schedule**

A Budget Review schedule was presented to the Selectmen. The schedule as proposed was approved. It will now be finalized and distributed. No formal action was taken.

### **4. Repeal Town Donation Policy**

The Manager expressed a concern about the amount of time he was spending to collect the information required by the policy. The time in his judgement was being wasted because the Selectmen and Budget Committee have approved funding only three non-profits over the course of 3 years. The policy would be reviewed and possible changes made at the next Selectmen meeting. No formal action was taken.

## **VI. Legal:**

### **A. Animal Control Ordinance Review**

A more formal review of the proposed Animal Control Officer was scheduled for the next meeting.

### **B. Release Mortgage - Carrie Cavazos (Fish) Tax Acquired Property**

The Manager explained to the Selectmen that the terms of the Payment Agreement written in to allow the owner to buy back tax acquired property previously belonging to them had been fulfilled. He explained to the Selectmen that the Mortgage held by Chelsea needed to be released. The Selectmen requested the Manager prepare a Release Mortgage for them sign. No formal action was taken.

### **C. Summer 2017 Mowing Bid Results**

The Manager reviewed with the Selectmen the Parks and Cemetery Mowing bid results. Only one contractor submitted a bid. The Manager will follow up with the bidder and make a decision. No formal action was taken.

**VII. Written Communication:**

- A. The Board reviewed a letter from District Attorney Maloney
- B. The Board reviewed a letter from CMP
- C. The Board reviewed the Small Community Committee December 8, 2016 Meeting Minutes
- D. The Board reviewed a letter from the USDA regarding the need to report Feral Swine.

**VIII. Verbal Communication:**

**Town Manager** – Items from the Managers written report were highlighted

**RSU # 12 Report – None**

**Committees and Boards – None**

**Board of Selectmen –**

**Mr. Pushard** – asked about the settlement with the Vaillencourts outlined in the Manager’s report. He expressed concern about the amount of salt and sand being used this winter.

**Mr. Smith** – asked about the status of determining the VOA’s tax exemption. He requested that an Item for Assessing be included as part of the regular Selectmen meeting agenda. A concern about placing a limit on the number buckets of sand a resident could have during the free sand events was voiced.

**Mr. Danforth** – Explained to that Shirley Bartlett had accepted the position of Assessor’s Agent. He expressed concern about the damage being done to mailboxes by the plowing contractor.

**IX. Executive Session: NONE**

**X. Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Mr. Pushard and seconded by Mr. Smith to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Danforth declared the meeting adjourned at 8:47PM.

Approved by the Board of Selectmen on January 11, 2017.

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Richard Danforth

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Michael Pushard

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Benjamin Smith