

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 15, 2024
Selectmen's Chambers
356 Main Street-Farmington, NH 03835

Board Members Present:

Gerry Vachon, Chairman
Penny Morin, Vice Chairman
Ann Titus
Doug Staples
Charlie King

Others Present:

Ken Dickie, Town Administrator
John Heimann, Heimann Software
John Deering, resident

1). Call to Order:

Chairman Vachon called the meeting to order at 5 p.m.

2). Non-Public Session A:

Motion: (Vachon, second Titus) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) Dismissal of an Employee passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Morin, Titus, Staples, King-aye) at 5 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 5:06 p.m.

3). Non-Public Session B:

Motion: (Vachon, second Morin) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Morin, Titus, Staples, King-aye) at 5:06 p.m.

Motion: (Morin, second Vachon) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 5:14 p.m.

4). Non-Public Session C:

Motion: (King, second Staples) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Morin, Titus, Staples, King-aye) at 5:14 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Titus) to come out of non-public passed 5-0 at 5:28 p.m.

5). Non-Public Session D:

Motion: (King, second Staples) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (c) Reputation passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Morin, Titus, Staples, King-aye) at 5:28 p.m.

Motion: (Vachon, second Staples) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 5:48 p.m.

6). Reconvene Public Session:

Chairman Vachon reconvened the public session at 6 p.m.

7). Pledge of Allegiance:

All present stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

8). Public Input: None

9). Review of Minutes:

April 1, 2024-Public Session Minutes- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Morin, second Titus) to accept the minutes as written passed 5-0.

April 8, 2024 Non-Public Session Minutes A & B- No errors or omissions

Motion: (Titus, second Staples) to accept the minutes as written passed 5-0.

10). Old Business:

Municipal Televising Equipment Update- Mr. Heimann said he provided a proposal to outfit this facility, this office plus the conference room in the back. He said the proposal encompasses upgrading the audio and video systems here in this facility with a much better speaker system that gets rid of all the desktop microphones, handheld microphones in favor of a ceiling mounted array that will cover the entire room with much better audio quality and rustling of papers and things like that actually get weeded out by the digital sound processing system that's built into the array.

Mr. Vachon asked if people are having a conversation in the back if it will still pick that up.

Mr. Heimann said it will, they can adjust that because it's got adjustable lobes and they can put dead zones into this facility so they can have areas blacked out so you don't hear anything going there if you would like. He said it's fully adjustable and customizable which is the great part about this array it's a Shure MXA920W-S array that's superior quality and very adjustable.

He said he broke the proposal down into 3 components- the audio equipment, the microphone and related gear, the video equipment to upgrade from standard definition to high definition cameras a much better easier to operate system for panning, zooming and with presets you don't have to worry about having someone panning and zooming there's a preset and it automatically goes to different preset positions so it's easier to operate and also upgrading to make sure that we're streaming in HD.

He said and then a projector screen and projector for behind the Chairman so that people can see presentations.

Mr. King asked if they will be able to set scenes like if somebody speaks from the back the camera will pick that up and show the resident speaking.

Mr. Heimann said that's correct you have a preset so you hit it and scene 1 will be pointing back there, scene 2 will be pointing here and it's a simple 1,2, 3.

Mr. King asked if you choose the projector the camera would be looking at the screen or we're going to be projecting the data.

Mr. Heimann said they'll be projecting so there would be a little adapter here and somebody would bring a laptop, plug in HDMI and project to the projector and whatever they project will be streamed as well direct. We don't have a camera facing the screen we'll actually project what's coming out of the HDMI port. Usually when you have a camera pointing to a projector screen the quality isn't very good so we're actually going to be streaming the content that's going to be displayed to the projector directly from the computer he said.

Mr. Vachon said it would be like sharing a screen on a Zoom call how it would be the entire...

Mr. Heimann said that's correct. He said the audio equipment is just upgrading the microphone system here, the video equipment would be upgrading the cameras and the equipment to run that and make that much better and then projector and screen separately.

Mr. King asked on the speaker, originally, he had said that it's going to bring down the loud voices and bring up the soft voices.

Mr. Heimann said it has built in sound processing that they call the compressor and it will the whisper sound louder and the scream sound softer. He said it takes an audio range, low or high and it makes that range much smaller so the whispers become louder and the screams become softer.

Mrs. Morin said it's just kind of leveling it out.

Mr. Heimann said yes, it's auto leveling. So if someone had a screaming match, it will attenuate that screaming match so everyone can understand what you're saying even though you're screaming and if someone is whispering into a mike it will probably pick that up too he said.

Mr. Vachon said the total cost for the equipment is \$15,143 and approx. \$4,800 for labor to install it and train bringing the grand total to \$19,943 approx. due to labor.

Mrs. Morin asked if they have these funds in the Technology line.

Mr. Dickie said they have it in the TV account.

Mrs. Morin asked if they are waiving the bid process and just going with this or are they going to look for 3 bids which is the policy.

Mr. Vachon said it is and that Mr. Dickie reached out to another company and asked him if he has gotten a proposal from them yet.

Mr. Dickie said he hasn't gotten anything from the other company at all. He said he came out once and just looked at everything for us but never put anything together at all.

Mr. King said Mrs. Morin is right that if they are going to go with this proposal, they would have to waive bids.

Mrs. Morin asked if they didn't put out a Request for Proposals.

Mr. Dickie said they had one resident of town that was part of it and he came out and did the internet, what the strength was up there and here. He said he was thinking to just have 1 camera and make it very simple similar to what they did in Milton but it wouldn't automatically change direction or anything it would just be 1 camera focused on the board would be what he was going to propose.

Mrs. Morin said she knew that they had them come look at it but she thought from there the next step was an RFP and they didn't do that.

Mr. Dickie said no because the board voted to authorize him to come in and do his study and make a proposal to the board.

Mr. Staples said this covers their weekly meetings which seem to be getting broadcasted fine anyway and asked how this is going to help ensure that the disaster at the last 2 Town Meetings doesn't happen again.

Mr. Heimann said the Town Meeting, given the scope of complexity of the meeting, having 1

person trying to run the sound as well as the video at the same time is a recipe for disaster. He said it's very difficult for 1 person to handle both simultaneously and do a good job with both. He said his recommendation for that and it's is going to be a separate proposal, is if you can, upgrade that equipment because of the echo in the room and the fact that in here there's no sound reinforcement. He said in that room there's sound reinforcements you have loud speakers projecting voices, the possibility of feedback is much higher, it's much more difficult to control because of the echo so you really need really good equipment.

He said for the amount of times you actually run a meeting there, once a year, there are companies that will come in with their own A/V gear and people with cameras and run the back end microphone system that can do that meeting for you more professionally and all we'll do is pick up at the streaming point so we will take their stream output and stream it to our website and to Channel 26 at an agreed upon contracted endpoint. That might be a cheaper solution longer term for you as a town because of the cost of getting the right equipment to handle that echoey facility he said.

Mr. King said he thought they were still addressing the deficiencies on the connection up there. Mr. Heimann said they have already upgraded the connection over there which was 5-megabit upload and they now have 15-megabit upload from Breezeline so it's been addressed.

Mr. King asked how those are going to be live streamed in the future even if they continued with the way they're doing it now and is that going to prevent some of the complications of that system to simplify it so we have less potential downfalls.

Mr. Heimann said his proposal for the Town Office is designed such that when we go live there the complexities of having to carry the audio video stream thru here through the little device we have we want to get rid of all of that so we'll stream live right from that facility to a website and to our hypercaster for Channel 26. So, we're simplifying and making it more robust with this proposal because we're going to upgrade the equipment to do that he said.

Mr. King said the second part will be figuring out whether the board wants to invest in additional infrastructure and equipment up there for broadcasting or to subcontract out. He said they're going to improve the signal for broadcasting from there but he didn't know what other options they can do for improving that and asked if that would be in the next proposal.

Mr. Heimann said the infrastructure necessary to make sure the streaming from that study works is for here and has already been done with the upgrade to that circuit. He said the audio video equipment necessary to make the sound sound good in that room and control the echo and the feedback is not in this proposal and that equipment because of the way the room is constructed and the amount of sound reinforcement you need can be expensive.

He said handheld microphones, someone is speaking and turning their head away from the mike and not talking into the mike the way that they should you're going to get very low pickup and then you have to turn the gains up and when you turn the gains up you get echo and feedback so it's very hard to control. He said anyone talking like board members at the Town Meeting should have over the ears microphones with the microphone preset to the distance so

we can always hear you well or at least a lapel mike so the sound person can control the distance and the gain on the mikes.

He said for the townspeople speaking it becomes even more difficult you want to gear the people up who are scheduled to speak with microphones ahead of time so they're "miked up". Mr. King said or have specific directions provided for them to speak into the mike and make sure you're a certain distance. But that's not going to fix it all he said.

Mr. Heimann said that's not going to fix it all but if they had someone contracted, they would have a person at the mike stand coaching the public speaking to speak into the microphone.

Mr. King said when they get to that proposal, they should have some estimates for the board of what that would cost as an outside service and if they were to improve the equipment what that would cost. He said the board would have to decide if we want to do it ourselves and we want better equipment or we're going to subcontract it but without knowing the costs are they can't make a decision on what to finalize the proposal.

He said the next proposal should say here's the broad strokes, options A & B and what does the board want to do and then finalize it because that's a big shift if they were going to bring somebody in and the Farmington Players are not active right now but at times there are events there that want audio and visual so the board would have to make a decision on how it wants to proceed.

Mr. Heimann said because of that complexity this proposal only covers these Town offices because that's a larger issue. He said he can provide what it would take for equipment to build that out over there to have a good professionally run Town Meeting.

Mr. King said this proposal addresses the connection failures that we've had from there to here, the speed problems and the upload problems.

Mr. Heimann said that's correct.

Mrs. Morin said she thought that was what Breezeline did.

Mr. Heimann said Breezeline fixed 1 component of it the second component is the way we're transferring data, the audio and video from here to there is one point of failure so if that connection fails between here and there or something happens over here and it fails you're completely offline. He said he would stream directly from there and eliminate this facility for all of our web streaming the only thing that has to come to this facility would be Channel 26.

He said but if something catastrophic happened here you'd still be live internet, still be recorded and still be available to your viewers you just wouldn't be on Channel 26. He said they're eliminating a single point of failure with this proposal by having you go to streaming directly there and only handle Channel 26 here. Everything was up over there and the failure point was here that caused everything that happened he said.

Mr. Vachon asked if this is eliminating everything over there that one desktop or does that all have to stay as well.

Mr. Heiman pointed towards the broadcast equipment at the back of the room and said all of that equipment would go and there would be one desktop (i9 Desktop PC) over there.

Mr. King asked about the hypercaster.

Mr. Heimann said the hypercaster would continue to be in use and is the same manufacturer. He said he looked at alternatives for the hypercaster and there are several out there but none of them had the features that we would want or that would be compelling enough to switch from hypercaster at this time and the hypercaster is already paid for.

He said if you looked in that box there's 3 blue boxes, the hypercaster, the telecast 2 and the info view those would stay. He said the info view is what produces the Channel 26 scroller and whatever goes on Channel 26 when you're not live or playing a pre-recorded meeting. He said telecaster is what gets out to our public website and our video on demand content library and the hypercaster puts out to Channel 26. He said the hypercaster would stay, the telecast actually may go away because Tel View gave us a direct link to RTMP directly to our VOD content without having to use the telecast if we don't want to so you could simplify that by removing that piece of equipment.

Mrs. Morin said she would like to see more proposals.

Mrs. Titus said she thought it was a good proposal she just wanted to make sure it works and make sure when they're having a Town Meeting it's going out there to the public that's their main concern.

Mr. Heimann said the proposal as he has written it gives them a reliable robust connection that's easy to operate that won't fail.

Mr. Vachon asked if the board wanted to move on this proposal or if they want to have an RFP written.

Mr. Staples said if they go with the RFP these prices could dramatically change.

Mrs. Morin said they could go down.

Mrs. Titus asked Mr. Heimann if he thought his proposal was fair or if he thought he was on the lower end.

Mr. Heimann said he thought his proposal was fair and if they want, he could give them the complete breakdown of all the equipment costs you could buy it yourself and see what they cost.

Mrs. Titus said she didn't think they need another proposal and she thought this guy seems fair. Let's get it fixed-let's fix the problem she said.

Mr. Vachon said Mr. Staples mentioned we don't have a problem broadcasting from here but we do. He said he gets people contacting him about certain individuals either not talking loud enough, picking up different noises, not hearing any of us, the streaming skipping and he gets quite a few complaints about that part of it when we're live even on Mondays.

Mr. King said the sound has always been a problem at these meetings, they're always getting complaints on it. He said the sound is the biggest irritation from anybody watching this and if this is going to fix the problem then that's what they need to do even if they're not going to consider everything else. That's the biggest complaint we've always had with these meetings whether it's the clicking pens, the rustling paper or somebody not speaking loud enough he

said.

He said when we go to do a presentation that's also a problem depending on what somebody has. He said the audience would be able to see the presentation clearly, the taxpayers would be able to see the presentation clearly, they have their computers and they can turn the presentation isn't for them it's for everyone else. He said where the screen is now makes for a poor presentation especially depending on where you're sitting in the audience.

Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Dickie if he said they have the money in the cable fund that they're agents to expend from.

Mr. Dickie said yes.

Mr. King asked how much is in that account.

Mr. Dickie said about \$156,000.

Mr. Vachon asked didn't they take \$60,000 out of it at Town Meeting.

Mr. Dickie said yes so it's probably down around \$100,000.

Mr. King said that's over through the year.

Mr. Vachon said \$60,000 is coming out of that so the \$150,000 is actually \$90,000 it will be replenished somewhat throughout the year but he didn't know what the actual revenue is coming into that.

Mr. Dickie said there is another separate account as well and the total is around \$200,000 that's in that TV account.

Mr. Vachon said he was alright with moving forward with this and he didn't know how many companies are out there that do this. He said Cable TV Coordinator Robert Hall was trying to get ahold of one company and we could never even get them in here to upgrade stuff. He said he didn't know how many people are in this field it's not like paving where there's 800 companies in NH. So, this just simplifies it and its better quality.

Mr. Hall said he thinks it's really good price and everything they talked about. He said it's a lot less than this one was here in 2013 and he knew everything he was talking about and he thought it was all good to go.

Mr. Vachon said he was the one who will be running it so he would take his input.

Mr. Hall said he did hear from those other guys but they're just falling apart it seems, they're on a skeleton crew and one of the guys is gone and it seems they just don't have the time.

Motion: (Vachon, second Staples) to waive the bid policy passed 3-1-1 (Titus, Staples, Vachon-aye; Morin-opposed; King-abstained).

Motion: (Vachon, second Staples) to authorize Heimann Software LLC to proceed with upgrading the audio/visual equipment here in the Municipal Offices for \$20,000 to come from the FCTV Fund and to authorize the Town Administrator to sign any documents that need to be signed for this upgrade passed 3-1-1 (Titus, Staples, Vachon-aye; Morin-opposed; King-abstained).

Highway Update- Mr. Dickie said they have been going out and chipping on some of the back roads and they were up on Meetinghouse Hill Rd. headed to Ten Rod Rd. to try to clean up the

roadside brush they know they have up there. He said they have significant damage up on Reservoir Rd., Sheepboro Rd, some on Poor Farm Rd. not bad, some on Hornetown Rd. and a lot of areas that need to be cleaned up so Mr. Brannan has been splitting the crews up.

He said today they had flaggers so he sent 3 out and they've been having to have 4 so 2 can flag and 2 could actually do the work. He said the main thing was to get the flaggers out for Meetinghouse Hill Rd. because there are some blind corners and traffic flies down that road. He said Joey also went out on the grader today to start hitting a few more roads and they did the upper Ten Rod Rd. last week and he thought they were hitting the lower Ten Rod Rd. today and will continue doing that the remainder of the week to try to get these roads smoothed out and get the potholes taken care of. He said and he's also going to start cold patching in town to get some of these potholes fixed in-town.

Mr. Staples asked if they were cold patching or paving.

Mr. Dickie said he thought he said cold patching and he didn't know if the paving companies have opened up yet.

Mr. Staples said they have a hot box and it's all fixed.

Mr. Dickie said he believes that was made for the hot top.

Mr. Vachon said which they could get at Brock's because they opened the 1st.

Mr. Dickie said he would ask Mr. Brannan in the morning if they were doing hot patch or cold patch. He said the main thing was to get out there and try to fill those potholes up and try to take care of some of these things that are going on in town.

He said Mr. Brannan has the pedestrian crossing signs and he told him let's get them out there. He said he told him to put them ahead and behind the intersections because some of these trucks are swinging into Cumberland Farms and he didn't need them destroying them. He said he didn't know what the regulations are with the DOT but he will tell him to move them ahead or behind because he doesn't want them destroyed and he didn't know who is going to be coming through to try to enforce it anyways. Get them out there so it alerts traffic that we do have road crossings and not hesitate. We'll be putting them out soon he said.

Mr. Dickie said those are the spring-loaded signs they're not the flashing and he didn't want to mislead the public about what they're going to be putting out there. He said these are the ones that will be right on the yellow line in the middle to alert people that we do have road crossings. He said they are sending in some information to finalize the grant to get those trucks. He said they're ordered but they had to get the state to approve it and move forward. They want to know what the fuel mileage is, total hours, idle hours that type of stuff so we're getting them that data so they'll get that through the government body he said.

Mrs. Titus said Mechanic St. at Gray St. there are some trees down but she didn't know if it's on private or public property. She said no one is taking care of them and they're coming into the road.

Mr. Dickie said they can do what's in the Town's right-of-way as far as going back on to a private property they can't touch them.

Mrs. Titus asked if Mr. Brannan knows all the trees that are down and if he did an overview. Mr. Dickie said the radio talk that was happening during the storm and the amount of times he had to call into Eversource to alert them of what wires were down and everything he's well aware.

Mrs. Titus said she didn't know if it was a phone or cable wire but on Elm St. there was a wire down there the other day.

Mr. Dickie said he thought those were telecommunication wires or cable wires.

Mrs. Titus said she it was down and she saw it this weekend.

Mr. Vachon said there's fiber wire on the front desk from Breezeline for Mr. Heimann.

Mr. Dickie briefly left the meeting to assist Mr. Heimann.

Levee Inspection 05/07/24 @1:30 P.M.- Mr. Vachon said the board had asked for a time for the levee inspection and asked if 1:30 p.m. was doable for everyone.

Mrs. Morin said not on a Tuesday.

Mr. Dickie returned and said he had the inspection set for May 7 at 1:30 p.m.

Mrs. Titus said she could not make it.

Mr. Vachon said there be 3 board members at the inspection so it would have to posted.

Mr. Dickie said now that this is going to happen he will have Ms. Skidds send out notice to the person on Central St. that they usually come out on his property.

Mr. King asked him to notice all the abutters.

Road Postings- Mrs. Morin asked if all the road postings have been removed.

Mr. Dickie said he believes he removed them that Monday if not the day after.

Joint School Resource Officer Meetings- Mrs. Morin said they haven't had a joint SRO meeting between the School Board and the Select Board since its inception so she was going to reach out to Chief Orlando and see about moving that forward and find out from School Board Chair Joel Chagnon who their representative is.

Auction Date- Mr. King asked if they have a date for some of the auction property yet from the auctioneer.

Mr. Dickie said he just came in and got all the information last week and he sat with him in the conference room and he's taking that all back. He said they had a date of some time in July he was thinking so they can try to clear some of the 90-day things that Mrs. Dickie is working on clearing.

Mr. King asked him to get back to the board on when those dates are.

Mr. Dickie said he gave him the finalized list of what they went over and what they wanted to do with some of the properties so he's taken off the old fire dept. because they talked about an RFP going out through the Strafford County Regional Planning Commission. He said he had the amended list they went over on the finalized list so he's looking at a July time frame.

Mr. King said he had a thought about the 2 lots at the end of Hancock St. that they were going to talk about merging. He said the rear one has a protective well radius on it when he looked at it again there's a line thru the rear lot so if they choose to merge them that needs to be part of

that deed and based upon that rear parcel it's pretty much in that well radius and asked if it makes sense to even sell it.

Mr. Staples asked what it's from because if it's part of the parcel from well #4 they're shutting that down to put in the new one.

Mr. King said it may be but that line on the plan was a protective well radius and he just wanted to bring it to their attention for them to look at it. He said if they're not going to need it then they can merge the properties and sell them but most of that rear lot is in that radius and if they need to preserve that they can just sell that other lot.

Mr. Staples asked if they looked to see if the owners of both lots were the same and if they can legally merge them with the new law about having to give back any extra proceeds.

Mr. Dickie said he reviewed it with Att. Roman and she recommended the same thing that they did with the Bradsheer properties-group the Hancock lots together and not merge them from the Town's perspective, let the buyer merge them if they want to merge them and then take the proceeds based on what their valuation is. They can handle it however they want but that will be on the owner he said.

Mr. King said depending on what they want done down there they may want to put covenants on the rear lot for no residential structures so it doesn't get built out as 2 lots because it's in that protective well radius so they might want to look at if they sell them together what conditions they would put on the sale and whether they want to put conditions on the rear lot to restrict it. I'm not opposed to doing it that way but we have to make sure that we are looking out for what interests we have in that well radius he said.

Mr. Dickie said okay but what they're going to do here is to look at how they split the proceeds. He said they look at the assessment value to come up with a ratio, say one is worth \$50,000 and the other is worth \$5,000 so they establish that ratio based on what you get from the auction if there are any previous owners and if it hasn't been deeded clearly to the Town then we have to split anything above and beyond what they owe us in legal fees...

Mr. Staples said if it's a tax deeded property no matter how long we've owned it now the extra proceeds go back to the previous owner.

Mr. Dickie said that's true but there are some properties that have just been given to the Town.

Mr. Staples said that front lot is biddable property and he would bid a lot more on the front lot than he would on the back lot because if you don't have the front lot you don't have the access and nobody wants that. Even though that back lot is bigger nobody wants it he said.

Well #6 Signs-Mr. Vachon asked if they ever got the signs installed down at well #6. He said Mr. Tiffany sent him a picture of the new signs that came in and asked if they ever got the new signs installed.

Mr. Dickie said on the gateway and on that area but they were going to go up and do the 400 ft. radius around there and put those signs up that they got from the sign company.

Mr. Vachon asked if they are the ones that say no target practice in the pit and they will post that whole pit for no target practice.

Mr. Dickie said yes and the storm kind of pushed them back.

Mr. Staples asked if they put the "Authorized Personnel" on the gate.

Mr. Dickie said he believes they did. He said he hasn't been down there since the storm and when he was there, he was on his phone dealing with other issues not looking for signs.

Mr. Staples asked how that bridge, technically the culverts are holding up in there.

Mr. Dickie said so far, they're okay.

Mr. Staples said because they're getting a lot of water in them right now. He said one problem is on the north end of that culvert it dams right up.

Mr. Dickie said there's a lot of debris that comes down thru there, plugs it up and forces the water (elsewhere).

Mr. Staples said nobody ever removes it and it gets storm after storm.

Mr. Dickie said they've been down there with the backhoe and the excavator and taking that stuff out of there, cutting trees down around there and pulling back the dead ones that have fallen in and plugged things up.

Mr. Staples said he saw that they pre-emptively took down that huge pine.

11). New Business:

Fire Chief Contract- Motion: (Vachon, second Morin) to table the Fire Chief contract to a non-public session discussion over negotiations passed 5-0. Mr. Vachon said they would take that up after the meeting in non-public session.

Budget Committee Training- Mr. Staples said John Scruton mentioned a class that they could send the newer members of the Bud Com to take and there is a fee for it and they were wondering if the Town would cover that fee.

Mr. Vachon asked if there is a fee and that he got an e-mail and he thought it was free.

Mr. King asked what that fee is.

Mrs. Morin said she thought it was \$50 through the NH Municipal Assoc.

Motion: (King, second Staples) to authorize the expenditure for the training for the Budget Committee;

Discussion: Mrs. Titus asked how many new people are on the Bud Com.

Mr. Staples said they have a full board finally and even some of the other members are still learning so it would probably be useful a tool for them too. He said he was not quite sure how many wanted to take the class.

Mr. Dickie said he thought it would be beneficial to let them all go, a lot of it's the same but there are some regulations that have changed and get them up to speed on what they need to be trained on. He said he went to one last year that was for the Bud Com and he gained a lot out of it.

Mrs. Morin asked Mr. Staples if he knew when the class was scheduled.

Mr. Staples said he was not sure and that Mr. Scruton just brought it up at the last meeting.

Mr. Dickie said usually the NHMA puts it on and now that the board has approved it, he will send it out to Bud Com Chair Manny Krasner.

Mrs. Morin said she looked thru June and she didn't see anything there.

Mr. Vachon said he got that e-mail as well if it's the one he was thinking of budgeting for elected officials.

Mr. Dickie said he got that e-mail too and it's Budgeting for Municipalities for Budget Committees, Finance Advisors and Town Administrators and he went to the one last year.

Mrs. Morin said she looked for the cost but she didn't see it.

Vote: the motion passed 5-0.

Bud Com Meeting Dates- Mr. Staples said they are trying to change the date of the Bud Com meetings.

Mr. Dickie said Mr. Scruton can't make it on Wednesday so they were looking for alternative nights they could potentially hold it and Tuesday was the only other open night we have for a meeting. He said Ms. Skidds sent the list to Mr. Krasner and to Mr. Scruton.

12). Town Administrator's Business:

Vacation from 04/18/24 to 04/25/24- Mr. Dickie said he talked to Mr. Vachon about this and he said he was okay with it but it should be put on the agenda and get it before the board. He said he was looking for permission to take vacation from (he would be here this Thursday) so it's actually Friday to the following Thursday.

Mr. Staples asked if they always wait until the last minute to ask for a week off.

Mr. Dickie said typically yes.

Mr. Vachon said he asked him last week and he told him to put it on the agenda for this week so the whole board is aware.

Mr. King said he had no problem with him taking a vacation and asked if they have a backup or a directive going to dept. heads of who to call regarding what and when.

Mr. Dickie said in this house here it probably would be (Bldg. Insp./CEO) Ron LeMere and outside it would be (Police Chief) Scott Orlando that would be the backup for him.

Mr. King asked if he would be handling the DPW concerns, the Fire Dept. and Water and Sewer.

Mr. Dickie said yes and he would be in his shoes in his absence.

Mr. King said in some ways he would probably have to work with Mr. LeMere.

Mr. Dickie said yes Ron and Scott would be working together. He then said he would leave it to the board whether or not they would have a meeting next week. He said he would establish an agenda for 04/22/24 and Chief Orlando volunteered to sit here in his place of they wanted to have the meeting.

Mr. Staples said let's give Scott a try and joked they can pound on him a little bit.

Mr. Vachon said he allegedly will not be here next week because it's school vacation week.

Mrs. Morin said she will be here next week.

Mr. King said they need to get some seat time on a couple of people.

Mr. Vachon said he was fine with them holding a meeting and he would get a copy of the agenda and he would reach out to Mrs. Morin if he has any questions.

Consensus of the board was to plan on meeting on 04/22 and Mr. Vachon asked Mr. Dickie to let

Chief Orlando know.

Mr. Dickie said he already talked to him.

Consensus of the board was approve Mr. Dickie's request for vacation.

Mr. Dickie said his phone is always with him and he is always answering it so if there are any issues they can call him.

Anonymous Complaint Letter-Mr. King said he received an unsigned letter from a person regarding concerns at the Fire Dept. and based upon everyone on the board got that that's a public document and the board is looking into what might be allegations or concerns expressed in that letter but he was letting the public know that they did receive a complaint and the board is looking into it. That document is available to the public he said.

Community Cleanup- Mrs. Morin said April 27 is Community Cleanup Day and they are meeting here at the Town Offices at 8 a.m.

Mr. Vachon said it would run until 2:30-ish so they have time to collect everything and get it to the Transfer Station before they close at 3:45 p.m.

Mr. Staples said at the last Conservation Commission meeting they said 2 p.m. and he would not be attending the cleanup because he will be home with his son but he plans to meet up with the Chair after noon time and go pick up stuff.

Town Clerk Complaint-Mr. Vachon read the following statement aloud: "It has come to the attention of this board that a member of the public has made a complaint on social media about the refusal of our Town Clerk to register a motor vehicle. We want to make clear that this board stands by our Town Clerk and her actions on this matter. It is our understanding that she applied the applicable laws regarding vehicle registrations and resident requirements and that the state DMV supports her decision. Further, the Town Clerk is an elected position, it is not within the purview of the Selectmen to tell the Town Clerk how to do her job. Finally, we encourage the public not to rush to judgement when they do not have the full story on this matter particularly where a Town official is merely following the law".

13). Next Meeting: Monday, April 22, 2024

14). Non-Public Session E:

Motion: (Vachon, second Staples) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (a) Compensation of a Public Employee passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Morin, Titus, Staples, King-aye) at 6:52 p.m.

Motion: (Staples, second Titus) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 7:31 p.m.

15). Non-Public Session F:

Motion: (Vachon, second Morin) to enter non-public session under RSA 91-A: 3 II (L) Consideration of Legal Advice passed 5-0 by a roll call vote (Vachon, Morin, Titus, Staples, King-aye) at 7:31 p.m.

Motion: (Vachon, second Morin) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 at 7:35 p.m.

16). Adjournment:

Motion: (Vachon, second Staples) to adjourn the meeting passed 5-0 at 7:35 p.m.

Kathleen Magoon
Recording Secretary

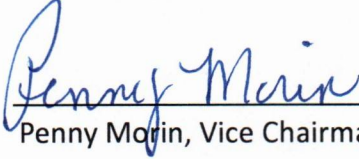
Gerry Vachon, Chairman



Ann Titus



Charlie King



Penny Morin, Vice Chairman



Douglas Staples