

Shapleigh Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
February 21, 2023

Call to Order:

Chairman, William J. Mageary called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., Selectmen Scott E. Cudworth and Michael J. Cote were present. Also present, Town Administrator, Michelle Rumney and Office Assistant, Joanne Holland.

In attendance: Shaun Cavanaugh, Rescue Chief, Gene Streck, Rescue Captain Rob Hughes, Fire Chief, Steve Guillemette and Darren Rogers.

Pledge of Allegiance: was recited

Approval of minutes from previous meeting:

Michael J. Cote made a motion to approve the meeting minutes for February 14, 2023 as presented; seconded by Scott E. Cudworth. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion carried 3-0.

Public Comment: None

Unfinished Business:

i. Town Administrator updates

- Town Reports have been delivered with less than a week turnaround. They look great, copies have been provided to the Board. There are copies at Town Hall, Boonies, Library, and Transfer Station. It is also available to view on the website, the link is on the homepage.
- Fred Smith is no longer picking up mattresses, AC's and Refrigerators. He is unavailable due to health reasons for an unknown period of time. Mike Smith (Fred's brother) is taking over his business. Mike however does not have the space to take the mattresses as it takes a large area to store and break down the materials. We will have to continue to send those to Simpson's with the demo.
- Interview packets have been provided to the Board. Applicant's resume is enclosed along with the interview questions/rating system as well as the job description and posting. Interview next Tuesday at 4:15 p.m., executive session in the conference room. Packets to be returned to Town Administrator after interview and held for any future applicants/interviews and the final hiring process.
- Cost analysis of LED street lights, approximately 32% less kwh used. Of course, the rate/kwh this year has increased by 49% so we won't see the savings in the year-to-year budget comparison.
- Reminder of executive session next week at 4:15 p.m. in the conference room, public hearing on the warrant upstairs (to be live streamed) at 5 p.m., and regular meeting at 6 p.m. downstairs.

- State rates for Road wages and Equipment - Historically the Town has used State rate plus 15% with exception of chain saws which was negotiated @ \$10/hr. Town Administrator gave the Board a draft of the 2023 rates for review, a workshop with the Road Commissioners will be scheduled after Town Meeting.
- Ted's Fried Clams has been sold and will be opening in April under new ownership. Possibly year round, serving breakfast, and addition of bakery.

ii. Community Building Feedback

At the Planning Board public hearing a small group of residents expressed displeasure of the plans for the Community Building. The Board is willing to hear what the public has to say. The ARPA funds have a limited time to be used as they must be allocated by December of 2023 and spent by December 2024. The Board went over the possibility of a elevator. It would not be feasible with all the expenses and upkeep (would have to build a control room, would need hydraulics with hydraulic drums, and 3 phase power which the Town does not have, etc.). Michael J. Cote stated he heard feedback stating that the building was too large but it was planned as big as it needs to be for the multiple activities were being proposed for its use. Other feedback was that people did not like the idea of a metal building. The funds to build the community center are in place without having to raise the mil rate, if the American Fund Rescue Plan funds are not allocated this year we will lose them. On Tuesday, February 28, 2023 at 5 p.m. the Board is holding a public hearing for the warrant articles and encourages the residents to attend. The Board asked the department heads to attend to answer questions that may arise for their departments from residents. The Town Administrator suggested moving the discussion of Article 56 to the end of the Public Hearing to allow for time to get through the other articles as well that may not need as much discussion time, the Board agreed.

New Business:

i. Rescue Chief Briefing

Chief Streck informed the Board that celebrated the employment of three members of the department over the past month; Rob Hughes has been with the department for 1 year, Bryant Jackson for 11 years and Denise DeAngelis for 9 years. The Chief wanted to remind people with the storm coming, to be mindful when shoveling and snow blowing and to dress for the conditions. Going through manufactures when ordering supplies for the Zoll machine instead of suppliers we will be saving \$100 a case which will save around \$700 a year. Last year we had a total of 49 calls for January - March; so far for January and February of this year there have been 48 calls.

ii. Fire Chief - application for firefighter recommendation

Scott E. Cudworth made a motion to approve the hiring of Katharina Roesse to the Fire Department; seconded by Michael J. Cote. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion carried 3-0.

- The Fire Chief reminded the Board that the BLS course will be starting on Saturday, February 28, 2023 at 5 p.m.. There is 12 students that will be attending and 4 are from Shapleigh.
- A junior from the High School approached the Fire Chief and wanted to know if Shapleigh had a junior volunteer fire fighter department.
- Air Compressor will be shipped in the next couple of weeks, the concrete slab has already been poured.
- The Chief asked if the Town's handyman could replace insulation where a water pipe broke in the apparatus bay. The Town Administrator will reach out to the handyman.

Information:

- i. Public Hearings - Planning Board 2/28, abutters notice
- ii. Freon collection proposal
- iii. Town Warrant Public Hearing 2/28

Executive Session – *if needed*

Signatures:

- i. Warrants

Any other business the Chairman may wish to bring before the meeting

William J. Mageary reminded the Board that he will be in Alfred on Monday, February 27, 2023 for RSU 57 meeting.

Adjournment:

Michael J. Cote made a motion to adjourn at 6:55 p.m.; seconded by Scott E. Cudworth. No further discussion. All in favor. Motion carried 3-0.

These minutes are not verbatim Office Assistant, Joanne Holland.