

Board of Selectmen
Minutes January 26, 2021

Convened at 6:00 pm

Present: Andrew Artimovich, Chair
William Faria
Ken Christiansen
Phyllis Thompson
Robert Mantegari

Artimovich called the meeting to order. The board opened the meeting with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Board met and reviewed payroll, accounts payable and signed the register.

Jonathan Ellis was in to present the weekly Treasurer's report. Please see last page to view report.

Kip Kaiser, Building Inspector, had the following building permits to be approved this week:

- Mark Gagnon, 396 Middle Road, demolition permit for shed: signed by Board
- Mark Gagnon, 396 Middle Road, new shed: signed by Board
- Densen Construction, 113 Crawley Falls Road unit 3, plumbing permit for new dwelling: signed by Board
- Densen Construction, 113 Crawley Falls Road unit 3, electrical permit for new dwelling: signed by Board
- Scott Buckley, 164 Deerhill Road, electrical permit to upgrade to 200 amp service: signed by Board
- Brian Kenerson, 388 Rte. 125, new one floor industrial build: signed by Board.

Mantegari made a motion, 2nd by Christiansen to approve the public minutes of 1/19/2021 as written. Faria – abstain, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson – aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Mantegari made a motion, 2nd by Christiansen to approve the nonpublic minutes of 1/19/2021 as written. Faria – abstain, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson – aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Ron Heath, General Manager New England Dragway (NED), was present via zoom to discuss the renewal of NED's 21-22 race permit. Artimovich asked if there were any changes in the race schedule. Heath said a couple Thursday's were added for the Pure Speed Race. Artimovich said the town's biggest concern is the import days and the impact on traffic. Heath said the 2 chief's had a meeting to discuss the special details. Chief Ellen Arcieri, Police Chief, said she met with Chief Wallace, Epping PD, and Joe Lombardo, retired GM of NED, to discuss the special details. They identified several events that will require additional traffic details. Arcieri said they would be adding 5 details to each of those events. Heath said he is fine with additional details and whatever is needed to run the events safely. Christiansen made a motion, 2nd by Mantegari to approve the 21-22 race permit contingent on successful negotiations with the Chief's for details. Faria – aye, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson – aye, and Artimovich – abstain. The motion carries.

Board of Selectmen
Minutes January 26, 2021

There was a police SOP amendment in the mail. Artimovich asked if everyone approved the policy as written otherwise we will need to discuss the amendment in nonpublic. Mantegari made a motion, 2nd by Christiansen to adopt the policy as written. Faria –aye, Christiansen –aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson - aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Arcieri proposed the following warrant article:

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) to be added to the existing Police Facility Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required)

Mantegari said the money will be used towards research and design of a new facility. Faria said there is \$50K in the fund and asked why we need more money. Mantegari said we have preliminary plans that Norwich University drew up, but they will need to be reviewed and stamped by an architect and engineer. He estimated that to be upwards of \$75,000. Artimovich said then if they do not need the full \$50K for anticipated expenses, with the town budget up 6% and the school almost 3% this is the year to trim warrant articles. Mantegari made a motion, 2nd by Christiansen to recommend to see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000) to be added to the existing Police Facility Capital Reserve Fund. (Majority Vote Required) Faria –nay, Christiansen –aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson - aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Faria said he would like to talk about the pay matrix for the police officers. Faria made a motion, 2nd by Mantegari to discuss the pay matrix. Faria said he does not disagree with the matrix or the amounts. The current proposed matrix puts the officers on the matrix April 1st (or when the budget passes) with current years of service and then they increase a step on their anniversary date. Alternatively, Faria would like to suggest a change to the timing of when an officer is placed on the matrix. He would propose the officers be placed on the matrix on their anniversary date not April 1. Faria said he would also recommend a 0.5% escalator annually instead of 2%. The 0.5% in conjunction with the 2.5% step increase would keep the raises to 3% which is what is generally granted to the other town employees. Arcieri said by waiting to place them on the matrix on their anniversary date, it delays any increase at all for 6 months for some. Arcieri said it costs \$24000 to train a new officer and takes a year. That is the risk of not offering a competitive wage. Good officers will leave for more money. Faria said they will buy their contract out and pay us back the cost. Artimovich said we are still out all the time to hire and train a new officer. He went to say that this matrix does not bind future boards and nobody's getting anything until the budget passes. Mantegari said everyone should start at step one. Artimovich said no, then we would never hire anyone with experience. Liz Faria, 209 South Road, reviewed the percentage increase each officer is proposed to receive and cost savings based on putting officers on the matrix based on anniversary date. L. Faria said she does not propose cutting the budget, but cutting the line and re-allocating the money. She proposed a pool to reward "above and beyond" efforts. Arcieri said that was a great idea. She had that in her 2020 budget and had to cut it out to get the budget to pass. With no further public comments, Faria made a motion, 2nd by Mantegari to approve the matrix but not implement it until each officer's anniversary date. Faria –aye, Christiansen –nay (he agrees with the Chief's original proposal), Mantegari – aye, Thompson - aye, and Artimovich - nay. The motion carries.

Carole Belliveau, 46 Mill Road, asked what that did for the bookkeeping. Clement said it will be messy, but we'll do it.

Clement said a final 2020 invoice of \$10877.96 was paid out. She asked for the board to vote to increase the 2020 EMD budget by \$10877.96 to account for COVID expenses. This was offset by the GOFERR Grant. Faria made a motion, 2nd by Mantegari to increase the EMD 2020 budget by \$10877.96

Board of Selectmen
Minutes January 26, 2021

for grant revenue received in relation to COVID. Faria – aye, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson – aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Clement said the Regional Associations Committee met and reviewed all applications. These are the recommendations on how to disburse the \$17,500 budget:

Austin17House:	\$1,300
CASA:	\$1,000
The Community Children’s Fd	\$1,000
HAVEN	\$1,600
Ritchie MacFarland	\$3,300
Rockingham Community Action	\$5,700
Rockingham Nutrition	\$1,340
Seacoast Mental Health	\$1,500
TASC	\$ 750

No funding was allocated for Friends RSVP, One Sky, and Waypoint.

Christiansen made a motion, 2nd by Faria to approve the Regional Associations Committee’s recommendations. Faria – aye, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson – aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Christiansen said the planning board suggests the BOS to consider implementing a Business Occupancy Permit. This would be used to help keep track of tenants in commercial units. Thompson said she agrees with the permit but does not think there should be a fee. Clement said the fee would be to offset the inspector’s time. There was some confusion if this was a duplication of some efforts through the Planning Board’s site plan process. Clement will get clarification from planning on the intent.

Clement had a quote for chimney repairs needed at the Highway Shed. Mantegari said the price seemed reasonable but wanted it broken down into time and material. Mantegari made a motion, 2nd by Christiansen to expend \$900 from the CRF for maintenance of town owned buildings contingent on review of time and materials. Faria – aye, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson – aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Mantegari made a motion, 2nd by Christiansen to sign the 2021-2022 CAI Contract for tax map maintenance. Faria – aye, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson – aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Clement said the moderator’s of the COOP have agreed to continue with voting on 3/9. Clement said the town meeting can be postponed to any date specific after 3/9. Melissa Litchfield, School Board, will get a list of available dates to use the Exeter High School Auditorium and any costs associated.

Liz Faria, 209 South Road, asked about a site for the new police station. Mantegari said it will be behind the fire station.

At 7:17pm Mantegari made a motion, 2nd by Christiansen to go into nonpublic session per RSA 91-A: 3, II for (a) personnel and (c) hiring. Faria - aye, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson - aye, and

Board of Selectmen
Minutes January 26, 2021

Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

At 7:47pm a motion was made by Mantegari, 2nd by Christiansen, to come out of nonpublic session and seal the minutes. Faria - aye, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson - aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

At 7:47pm a motion was made by Mantegari, 2nd by Christiansen to adjourn. Faria - aye, Christiansen – aye, Mantegari – aye, Thompson - aye, and Artimovich - aye. The motion carries.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Clement

DATE:		1/26/2021		
Citizens General Fund:				
	Previous Balance:	17,827.77		
	Deposits:	134,145.42		
	Payroll:	22,923.01	DD: \$22440.49	CK: \$482.52
	FICA:	5,741.12		
	to Impact Fees	14,472.00		
	A/P: Regular	\$44,815.97		
	Txfr to Ambulance	176.30		
	void checks			
	From MMA			
	A/P correction	(52.90)		
	TO MMA	40,000.00		
	Account Balance:	23,791.89		
	Interest Earned YTD:			
	CD's			
MMA:	Unrestricted Balance	6,335,298.40		
	Total Invested Funds:	6,335,298.40		
	Interest Earned YTD:			