



OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

Post Office Box 487

Marlborough, New Hampshire 03455-0487

Telephone (603) 876-3751

Fax (603) 876-3313

e-mail: selectmen@marlboroughnh.org

website www.marlboroughnh.org

SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES

December 27, 2023

Chairman Pitt called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Selectman Paight and Selectman Nelson were present. Also in attendance were Ellen Smith, Town Administrator, Roland Veaudry, and Dustin Franco.

Chairman Pitt opened the public hearing at 10:00 am by stating that this public hearing is being held in accordance with NH RSA 31:95 (b) to accept the following unanticipated revenues:

\$20,584.61 in Highway Safety Grants for the purchase of a speed trailer and sign, and, targeted patrols by the Marlborough Police Department

\$21,600.38 additional Highway Block Grant

\$21,287.26 additional Bridge Aid

The notice of the public hearing was published in the Keene Sentinel on December 12, 2023, and posted on the bulletin boards at the Post Office and Town Office.

After a brief discussion and with no public comments or questions, Chairman Pitt closed the public hearing at 10:05 am.

Selectman Paight moved and Selectman Nelson seconded a motion to approve the December 28, 2023, Payroll Check Register in the amount of \$2,001.85, Direct Deposit Register in the amount of \$13,838.10, and the Accounts Payable Check Register in the amount of \$29,713.26. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Paight seconded a motion to approve the meeting minutes of December 20, 2023, the vote to approve was unanimous.

Danmay Patel joined the meeting at 10:10 am. He was in to discuss two properties he owns in town, 122 Main St and the business currently being run at the location and 227 Main St and the status of the old greenhouses.

The board sent Mr. Patel and the tenant of 122 Main St a letter stating that there was a history of environmental challenges on the site and they wanted to be sure that any

business operating there is compliant with NHDES and town zoning. Mr. Patel provided the board with a copy of the environmental study done before he purchased the land and building which concluded that the site is clean. Mr. Patel noted that the same repair shop that had occupied the space before was now back, so there was no change in use. The condition of the lot was raised and it meets the definition of a junkyard which needs to be addressed. Mr. Patel said the tenant is willing to cooperate with the town and a meeting will be set up.

The next concern is the status of the dilapidated greenhouses at the convenience store site. Mr. Patel explained that he has an uncooperative tenant but is working towards a resolution. The town will send the tenant a letter. Mr. Patel left the meeting at 10:40 am.

The board reviewed and signed the following:

- Building and Electrical Permit Application Map 08-056
- Ashuelot River Hydro, Inc PILOT extension
- Smith – request to carry forward unused vacation time to 2024

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Paight seconded a motion to authorize Ellen Smith to sign the 2024 Monadnock Disposal 2024 Contract Addendum which keeps the hauling charge for plastics at \$300 instead of \$325 and increases the threshold at which time a diesel fuel surcharge would apply. The vote to approve was unanimous.

TA Smith provided the board with an analysis of nonprofit organizations requesting funds be appropriated at the 2024 Town Meeting and what support they provide the residents of Marlborough. There were significant increases in the support provided especially meals through both Meals on Wheels and Community Kitchen. The Town Welfare Director is recommending funding all those who made requests but a few at a reduced amount, more in line with reasonable percentages. The board decided to include all requesting organizations on the 2024 warrant and follow the welfare directors' recommendations.

Marge Shepardson joined the meeting at 11:55 am. The Energy Committee is working on developing a program that would provide free energy audits to homeowners. The Committee is interested in purchasing a thermal imaging camera for this work. Marge explained that a trained member of the committee would enter the home, collect information and provide a report on insulation and heat loss. The Board had numerous questions and was not certain this was a role the municipality would take on. Marge is going to do more research.

Marge and TA Smith sat in on a call with Standard Power and Good Energy with other members of the community power buying group to discuss the news that Eversource would be drastically reducing rates in February 2024. The feedback from the call was to assure residents that they can opt in or out at any time and to remember that the goal of the community power plan was to provide a predictable, stable rate in a volatile market.

Tina Forstrum has been offered the Land Use Board Clerk position and will start with the January 2024 meeting.

TA Smith announced that she submitted a successful grant application to the Monadnock Alliance for Sustainable Transportation (MAST) for the 2023 Complete Streets Implementation Grant in the amount of \$47,750 to implement pedestrian safety improvements.

TA Smith provided a worksheet with a schedule of amounts to be encumbered and carried forward to 2024. Selectmen Paight moved and Selectman Nelson seconded a motion to encumber \$2,199, \$1,088 to convert BMSI Fund Accounting to Webledger and \$1,111 for generator repairs scheduled for 1/4/24, 50% was paid when the work was scheduled, 50% is due upon completion of the work. The vote to encumber the funds was unanimous. Selectmen Paight moved and Selectman Nelson seconded a motion to carry forward the following unexpended unanticipated revenues to 2024:

UNUSED UNANTICIPATED REVENUES TO CARRY FORWARD TO 2024				
From 2019	MFD Oddfellows Donation		9,000	Carry forward to 2024
2021 & 2022	ARPA		217,336	
2021	ARPA - County		26,001	
			243,337	Carry forward to 2024
From 2019	State Aid		22,332	Carry forward to 2022
2/10/2022	Town Office server		(5,490)	
3/10/2022	Email migration		(3,000)	
			13,842	Carry forward to 2024
12/21/2022	2022 SB 401-FN		78,840	NHDOT Municipal Bridges Appropriation
11/13/2023	2024 Spec		21,287	
			100,127	Carry forward to 2024
7/1/2022	2022 SB 401-FN		64,498	NHDOT Municipal Road Maintenance & Construction Appropriation
11/8/2023	Municipal Bridge Payment		21,600	
			86,098	Carry forward to 2024
2022	2022 HB 1221		4,531	7.5% of local employer contributions for police group II NHRS
	10/26/23 Speed-Message Board		(4,531)	
			0	Carry forward to 2024
2022	FEMA 4622DR		37,607	July 17-19, 2022 federally declared disaster
9/21/2023	Highway Plow		(12,414)	
			25,193	Carry forward to 2024
2022	FEMA 4624DR		46,770	Carry forward to 2024

The vote to approve was unanimous.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Paight seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:35 pm, the vote to adjourn was unanimous.

Respectfully submitted, Ellen Smith, Town Administrator