



OFFICE OF SELECTMEN

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SELECTMEN'S MEETING MINUTES August 25, 2021

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

Several members of the public joined the meeting to hear about updates on the July flooding and others were in to ask questions about the library addition.

Chairman Paight opened the public hearing at 10:05 am by stating that in accordance with NH RSA 31:95 (b) this public hearing is being held to discuss the acceptance of \$108,667.85 which is the first installment of Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (LFRF) from the State under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) as unanticipated revenues.

Notice of public hearing was published in the Keene Sentinel on Wednesday August 11, 2021 and posted at the Town Office and Post Office.

These funds may be used to:

- Support public health expenditures
- Address negative economic impacts caused by the public health emergency
- Replace lost public sector revenue
- Provide premium pay for essential workers
- Invest in Water, sewer, and broadband infrastructure

After some discussion Chairman Paight asked if there were any other questions or comments, noting none, the public hearing was closed at 10:20 am.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Pitt seconded a motion to accept the \$108,667.85, which represents the first installment of LFRF from the State under the ARPA, as unanticipated revenues in accordance with NH RSA 31:95 (b), motion to approve was unanimous.

Chairman Paight heard from Craig Cashman that he has pricing for camera work in the downtown area. He is on vacation so we do not know if it has been schedule.

TA Smith and Craig Cashman met with Mark Norby of Park Construction who confirmed that the temporary water diversion plan is not feasible because of the size of the equipment necessary and the associated costs.

There was a discussion about the email scam being dealt with in Peterborough. TA Smith explained the internal controls currently in place in Marlborough.

Chairman Paight acknowledged those in attendance for the library addition project and agreed to address any questions. The Board explained that they need to be sure they have enough information and adequate information to make a decision before taking a vote. The big issue is the underground tunnel. The plans first had the addition 2 feet away from the tunnel and now it is six feet away. The Town is currently dealing with stormwater issues in the downtown area that has had a major affect on properties in the area. Chairman Paight asked those in attendance for the stormwater damage what they thought about the addition being so close to the same type of structure causing trouble in their neighborhood. Several people voiced their concerns and said the tunnel should be avoided at all costs. The safer plan seems to be building on the east side but can it be done within the available funding?

The group discussed the frustration of both sides. The Board needs to balance the interest of the library, the interest of the town and do not want to create a situation that has been ruining peoples lives and property. Neither option is perfect and a compromise is needed.

Most members of the public left the meeting at 11:55 am.

Selectman Pitt moved and Selectman Nelson seconded a motion to authorize Chairman Paight to sign two copies of the Original Loan Agreement for the Downtown Stormwater Planning and Evaluation Project, motion to approve was unanimous.

The Board discussed and agreed to transfer the SUV currently used by the MPD to the MFD, at no cost, once the new cruiser being purchased from MHQ is placed in service, vote to approve was unanimous.

Selectman Nelson moved and Selectman Pitt seconded a motion to approve the August 26, 2021 Accounts Payable Register in the amount of \$281,618.70, the Payroll Check Register in the amount of \$713.29 and the Direct Deposit Register in the amount of \$10,881.11 motion passed unanimously.

The Board is scheduling three work sessions to discuss the library addition, Friday August 27, 2021, Monday August 30, 2021 and Tuesday August 31, 2021 all at 9:30 am.

Selectman Nelson moved and Chairman Paight seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 pm, motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Ellen Smith, Town Administrator