

TOWN OF TRENTON  
BOARD OF SELECTMEN  
MINUTES OF August 27, 2019

- I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. In attendance: Fred Ehrleben, John Bennett, Mark Remick, Carlene Hanscom, Rachel Nobel, and Carol Walsh. Visitors: Stephanie Waite and Susan Starr
  
- II. Visitors Comments: .
  
- III. Approval of Minutes of August 13, 2019: Nobel found two discrepancies in the minutes: Change "Invite School Board" to Old Business instead of New Business; and, Part F: "Nobel volunteered to draft a posting protocol," add an addendum that says "after following her attendance at the August 28<sup>th</sup> MMA Training." She asked that these changes be made. Remick motioned to approve, Hanscom seconded. Vote: 5 Yes.
  
- IV. Administrative Summary Report: The new salt price is \$51.15, from Morton Salt. The recycle center is officially closed, however a few residents have still left cardboard, etc. at the site.
  
- V. Old Business:
  - A. Fire Department: Nothing new.
  - B. Solar Energy: Nobel volunteered to invite school representatives to discuss solar energy with the board. The Selectboard has agreed to help the school with unexpected repairs necessary with the boiler if they expend the funds to replace the portion of the roof necessary for Solar panels.
  
- VI. New Business:
  - A. Board of Appeals Appointment: Danielle Cole has agreed to serve on the Board of Appeals. Hanscom motioned to accept Cole on the Board of Appeals; Bennett seconded. 5 Yes.
  - B. Quitclaim Deed: Conner Property. Remick motioned to approve, Hanscom seconded. Vote: 5 Yes.
  - C. Quitclaim Transfer Tax Form: Rawcliffe. Discussion centered on any potential for this property to become a Fire Department substation location. Remick motioned to sign the form; Bennett seconded. Vote: 5 Yes.
  - D. School Evaluation Options Committee Appointments: A letter had been received from Dr. Grousse, in which he stated his belief that forming such a committee would be in conflict with State Statute and the AOS Interlocal agreement as approved by the voters, although no statute or reference was cited. Grousse had been expected to attend the meeting but was absent. It appeared to board members that Grousse disagreed with the method used by the Select Board to inquire of those on the School Board which may be interested in serving on the Trenton committee. The

inquiry was sent directly to the School Board. Grousse will discuss the matter at the September School Board meeting (Sep. 10) before a response will be received from any interested School Board members. Members of the Select Board were invited to attend. Ehrlenbach reiterate the purpose of the committee is to assess the impact of education over the next seven years on the municipal budget. Members voiced surprise that the Superintendent would not welcome the assessment, which could bolster the argument that the Town/AOS relationship should continue in the same vein. It appears that the superintendent does not invite public conversation about the school. Hanscom voiced her concern that the Board owes it to the people of Trenton, parents, retirees, young families, etc., should be aware and have a voice in the impact of education funding to the town. Ehrlenbach, based on prior information from the school, reminded everyone that the mill rate would grow to be 12.6 next year. At the rate the school budget is growing (5%) in 7 years the mill rate will be 17.2. This matches Ellsworth's mill rate, but would be without many amenities in Trenton. There are four people that volunteered to serve on the committee: Susan Sargent, John Bennett, Stephanie Waite, and Susan Starr. The meetings will be public and will include input from other knowledgeable people as part of the research. Nobel argued that the AOS sees the committee as an investigation into its inner workings, although that has been denied. She believes that the School Board should be represented on the committee. All agreed with her and it was stated that when the School Board members feel comfortable joining, they will be welcome. The initial motion made by Remick was amended by Nobel to have a total number of seven members on the committee. Remick seconded this. Vote: 5 Yes. The motion to appoint Bennett, Waite, Sargent, and Starr was made by Remick; Hanscom seconded. Vote: 5 Yes. Ehrlenbach stated that the committee would be autonomous. Nobel recommended that members of the committee attend the Sep 10<sup>th</sup> School Board meeting.

- E. Household Waste Dumpster: One resident recommended that the town place a household waste dumpster at the former recycle center so that residents can take their trash there. Doing away with the recycle center caused residents to increase their trash costs. After discussion, the members chose to take no action.

VII. Approval of A/P and Payroll Warrant(s): Remick motioned to approve the A/P and Payroll Warrants. Hanscom seconded. Vote: 5 Yes.

VIII. Other Business:

IX. Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Remick, and seconded by Bennett. Vote: 5 Yes. Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm.