

Town of Bartlett Office of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes: Monday, August 20, 2018

Attendance: Chairman Gene Chandler, David Patch, Vicki Garland

Visitors: Kevin McEnaney, Barry Trudeau, Darlene McEnaney, John Smallcomb, Ajith Dissanayake

Reporters: None

Meeting opened at 03:30 PM.

Mark Pinkham (620 West Side Road-6WSTD-111-L00) met with the Selectmen in reference to his taxes going up 35% on his 2017 tax bill. The year before his tax bill went down by \$40.00 so why did the town need so much more money that his taxes went up 35%. Chairman Chandler explained that the town in order to meet the State requirements had to have an assessment update which was done by an approved assessing firm. The assessing firm took into consideration the view from all properties which hadn't always been done before. Pinkham commented that he does have a nice view but there is a big white house (doesn't want to say who so as not to cause trouble) that has rental units and more land with a great view and there taxes aren't all that much. Pinkham stated that local people's taxes didn't go up. Chairman Chandler stated that some people, whether local or not, had their values go up as much as 100% and we can't check into the white house if we don't know which one he is talking about. Pinkham remarked that he has 2.1 acres and parts of it are either swamp or ledge. Pinkham also said that he has been coming here for 20 years and hopes to retire up here. Chairman Chandler reminded him that he can go to the NH Board of Tax and Land Appeals which is available to any and all towns and present his case to them and our Assessor will present ours. Chairman Chandler told him that the appraiser did go back and look at his property again. Pinkham commented that he did have some trees cut last year to improve his view. Chairman Chandler stated he should have waited. B. Trudeau inquired as to why we don't have a Homestead Act like they do in Florida. Chairman Chandler replied that we don't have state taxes and you can't have it both ways. Chairman Chandler gave Pinkham a paper that explains in more detail the view factor. Pinkham inquired if the new preschool was public funded so that is part of the tax value increase. Selectman Garland replied that \$149,000 was appropriated at the 2018 school meeting. Chairman Chandler stated that in itself won't make that much difference. Pinkham questioned if the view tax would stay the same for next year. Pinkham also mentioned that he would like everyone to pay their fair share. Chairman Chandler stated that the view factor, it is not a view tax, will remain the same.

Ralph Cronin and Ryan Mahan (Realtor) met with the Selectmen as Cronin would like to build a house on a thirty acre lot on Timberline Drive (4TIMBR-40-01) and wanted to know if the Selectmen knew of any problems after he gets his septic plans. Chairman Chandler stated that he didn't know of any obvious issues but did remind him that he would also have to check with the Kearsarge Lighting Precinct. Cronin inquired about a driveway. Chairman Chandler replied that it would be private and have nothing to do with the town. Cronin inquired if prior to obtaining a building permit would he need the septic plan. Selectman Patch replied yes.

Ajith Dissanayake (Saco River Ad Hoc Committee) commented that until last week he hadn't realized how frustrating it is for the Selectmen to be dealing with FEMA and the State on the river issues. K. McEnaney remarked that it is like spinning wheels. Selectman Garland stated that it is very frustrating. K. McEnaney inquired if the Town floated a bond is there any chance for a second bridge being built over the Saco River. Chairman Chandler stated that we can't as a study was done when the Stillings Grant area was being developed and were told that it wasn't feasible.

Chairman Chandler opened the sealed bids for the town tax deeded condo unit at 26 Woodland Pines (1RT016-177-C14). The bids were as follows:

- 1.) \$75,001 – Helen Brandon
- 2.) \$126,026 – James McGrath
- 3.) \$82,242.31- Karen Smith
- 4.) \$127,000 – Steven Martin

Chairman Chandler made a motion to accept the bid from Steven Martin. Selectman Patch seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.

Town Clerk/Tax Collector Cheryl Nealley gave the Selectmen a copy of the intent to deed notices to review. These notices are given to those who are delinquent in paying their taxes for two years and one day. The home owners have 30 days to make payment to the Tax Collector.

The Selectmen signed checks, building permits and correspondence during the course of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 04:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Medeiros, Sec.