

Town of Bartlett Office of Selectmen

Meeting Minutes: February 24, 2020

Attendance: Chairman Gene Chandler, Selectman David Patch, Selectman Vicki Garland

Visitors: Angela Huertas, Darlene McEnaney, Kevin McEnaney, Steve Angers, Virgil Abbott

Reporters: None

Time: Meeting opened at 03:45 PM

John Lowell, Manager at Attitash Ski Area was having trouble with his car and called to change his scheduled appointment until Monday, March 2nd.

Chairman Chandler opened the bond hearing at 04:00 PM. He read the bond article to the public. To see if the Town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$600,000.00 for the purpose of flood damage repair to the Saco and Rocky Branch Rivers, and to authorize the issuance of not more than \$600,000 of bonds or notes in accordance with the provisions of the Municipal Finance Act (RSA 33), and to authorize the Selectmen to issue and negotiate such bonds or notes for up to ten (10) years and to determine the rate of interest thereon, with any balance to be raised by taxation The town has applied for Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and USDA Natural Resources and Conservation Service (NRCS) assistance, if any of which may become available for said project, may reduce the amount to be financed with bonds and notes.

Chairman Chandler explained we needed this hearing as we were changing the term from up to 5 years to 10 years as was explained at the budget hearing on 02/13/20.

Abbott inquired if there is a plan done. Chairman Chandler replied that there is a conceptual plan done by our engineer. Selectman Garland remarked that all permits have been applied for and we are just waiting. Abbott inquired how they know how much money to ask for. Chairman Chandler stated that we have been consulting with an engineer and the amount requested is a ball park amount. Abbott inquired as to how much for each river. Chairman Chandler stated he didn't know the total cost breakdown for each river. We are planning to remove the cobble in each one. Abbott is concerned that the repairs done after Tropical Storm Irene didn't work so why would it work now. K. McEnaney mentioned that hopefully the hydrological study will be of use. Chairman Chandler stated that he feels comfortable with the amount requested and would like to be all ready when the funds are available. Chairman Chandler mentioned that we will receive some State funding for Route 302. Selectman Garland stated that there is a Saco River Advisory Committee that has all the information on the Saco River and Abbott may want to speak with them. Chairman Chandler said that there are some figures we can't give out as it wouldn't be fair to the contractors when this goes out to bid. K. McEnaney commented that the bottom line is we can't abandon people and something has to be done. There being no further questions the bond hearing was closed at 04:19 PM.

Tony and Jennifer Simone, 64 Ridge Road, (1DNDHI-59-R04) met with the Selectmen concerning their land value. T. Simone stated that in 2017 when the revaluation was done his land value went to \$93,000.00 and in 2018 the land went up another \$63,000.00 while three other homes in the neighborhood had reductions. They filed an abatement request in Dec. 2018. They received a letter from the Selectmen in June 2019 and met with a representative from Avitar (the assessing firm). They were in contact with Avitar three more times and filed an appeal of the decision with the NH Board of Tax and Land Appeals. There have been a string of letters and 6 or 7 contacts have been made to Avitar which is costing the town money. Avitar went to the neighbors homes and he was right home and could have gone around with them if he had known about it.

They did meet with the Selectmen in January 2020 and a settlement was agreed upon. They wanted information on how the calculations were done and still don't have a satisfactory answer. If they could have been shown the numbers this could have been a done deal a long time ago. Simone submitted their BTLA settlement letter to the Selectmen which closes the case.

Chairman Chandler informed the other Selectmen that Fire Chief L. Patrick Roberts had made some suggested fee changes for fire inspections such as oil burners, place of assembly, etc. It was decided to review those at a later date.

Selectman Garland made a motion at 04:35 PM to enter non public session with Police Chief Christopher Keaton for personnel issues per NH RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Selectman Patch seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous. Selectman Garland made a motion at 05:20 PM to end the nonpublic session. Selectman Patch seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.

The Selectmen reviewed building permits, signed letters and checks throughout the meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 05:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Brenda Medeiros, Sec.