

**Town of Auburn
Board of Selectmen
Town Hall
Stritch Meeting Room
August 7, 2023
Draft Minutes
7:00 PM**

Selectmen Present: Keith Leclair, Michael Rolfe and Tom Carroll

Others Present: Patrick Robinson – Rising Tide Towers, Mike DiPietro, Town Administrator
Chris Sterndale and Recording Secretary Nancy Hoijer

I. Call to Order

Mr. Leclair called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. Public Comments

Mr. Leclair asked if there were any comments from the public at 7:02 PM and there were none.

III. Appointments with the Board

A. Patrick Robinson – Rising Tide Towers

Mr. Robinson provided a presentation concerning improvements to the cell service in areas of town which are not getting service at all, or service is in need of improvement such as the area by Auburn Village School, Lover's Lane, Bunker Hill to Longmeadow Church and Wilson's Crossing to Dept Road.

Mr. Robinson discussed the process of finding land suitable for placement of the recommended 190' tower and associated pad and security fencing. He noted elevation is key and tree clearance for 30'. He described carrier leasing methods and areas where towers are allowed by zoning.

Mr. Leclair asked for more information with a warrant article to lease town land and how a five-year lease could be negotiated. Mr. Robinson discussed First Net and noted while the first five years of the program ended in March the next phase is being looked at.

Mr. Carroll asked how far a radius the tower coverage would cover, and Mr. Robinson indicated 3-5 miles.

Mr. Leclair asked if there could be any suitable existing locations in town and recommended Mr. Sterndale reach out to Mr. O'Neill at Manchester Water Works and then have Mr. Robinson return in a couple of weeks.

IV. Manifests

Highway Accounts Payable 8/9 – \$30,410

Mr. Carroll motioned to approve the Highway Payable Manifest dated August 9, 2023 in the amount of \$30,410. Mr. Leclair seconded the motion. A vote was taken, Mr. Rolfe abstained, Mr. Leclair voted aye and Mr. Carroll voted aye. The motion passed 2-0-1.

V. Consent Agenda

Mr. Leclair read out loud, and offered for inspection, the Consent Agenda dated August 7, 2023 which consisted of a payroll manifest dated August 2, 2023 in the amount of \$68,212.34, an accounts payable manifest dated August 9, 2023 in the amount of \$1,583,179.44, and a raffle permit for the Historical Society's costume raffle at the Duck Race.

Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Consent Agenda for August 7, 2023. Mr. Rolfe seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 3-0-0.

VI. New Business

A. Fire Department Expenditures

i. Fire Department Renovations

Mr. Sterndale received a report that the alarm system would cost more than had been anticipated.

Mr. Rolfe motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve an additional \$3,200 from ARPA funds to be expended on Public Safety Complex renovations. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 3-0-0.

ii. Ladder Truck Repairs

Mr. Sterndale provided a report from the Fire Chief for unanticipated repairs to the ladder truck's aerial jacks which would not extend, together with an invoice from Greenwood Emergency Vehicles.

Mr. Rolfe motioned that the Board of Selectmen approve \$3,704.21 expense from the Fleet Maintenance Capital Reserve Fund for ladder truck repairs. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 3-0-0.

VII. Old Business

VIII. Committee Reports

Mr. Carroll reported that Parks & Recreation met and discussed finalizing the budget.

Mr. Carroll reported that the Library Trustees met for a work session and hired BPS as the construction managers for the proposed library expansion project. A non-profit was started for the fundraising arm. The next meeting is on August 29th to discuss the cost.

IX. Minutes

A. July 24, 2023 Public Meeting Minutes

Mr. Rolfe motioned to approve the July 24, 2023 public meeting minutes. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed 3-0-0.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Rolfe motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:52 PM. Mr. Carroll seconded the motion. A vote was taken, all were in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary