

**Town of Auburn
Board of Selectmen
June 3, 2019
7:00 PM**

Selectmen Present: Richard Eaton, Keith Leclair and Todd Bedard

Others Present Michael Rolfe, Paula Marzloff, Mike DiPietro, Police Chief Ray Pelton, Parks & Recreation Coordinator Amy Lachance, Patrick Kelley, Parks & Recreation Commission; Tom Lacroix, Town Administrator William Herman and Nancy Hoijer, Recording Secretary

Call to Order – Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Eaton called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Approval of Payroll Manifest for the Week of May 27, 2019 - \$49,163.90

Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Payroll Manifest for the Week of May 27, 2019 in the amount of \$49,163.90. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Accounts Payable Manifest for the Week of May 27, 2019 - \$1,000.00

Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for the Week of May 27, 2019 in the amount of \$1,000.00. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Accounts Payable Manifest for the Week of June 3, 2019 - \$719,590.26

Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for the Week of June 3, 2019 in the amount of \$719,590.26. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Approval of Consent Agenda for the Week of June 3, 2019

Mr. Eaton read out loud and offered for inspection a copy of the Consent Agenda for the Week of June 3, 2019 some of which included: one (1) Application for Property Tax Credits/Exemptions/Veterans Tax Credit, one (1) Void Check Manifest, one (1) Raffle Permit/Auburn Historical Association, and one (1) Abatement/Refund Request.

Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Consent Agenda for the Week of June 3, 2019. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Appointments with the Board

Parks & Recreation – Lights for Eddows Field

Mr. Kelley of the Parks & Recreation Commission presented a proposal for upgrade of lights at the baseball and soccer fields at Eddows Recreational Fields. Mr. Kelley reported a change to the cross-arm configurations which resulted in a \$3,200 difference in budget for the baseball fields and a \$300 difference for soccer. The 350 watt lighting originally specified will be upgraded to 440 watts at the same price. Mr. Kelley recommended holding off on the parking lot lights until the full baseball and soccer field lighting cost is determined. Mr. Bedard is

working on having the poles and installation donated which would result in a significant savings to the Town on the anticipated project costs. He further noted the field lights are custom made and have a six to eight week lead time, while the parking lot lights are a stock item requiring little lead time.

Mr. Leclair moved to accept and approve Quote #932987 totaling \$62,072 for outdoor lighting for the baseball and soccer fields at Eddows Recreational Fields and to authorize the ordering of this equipment for the Town of Auburn. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Replacement of Mini Split System at Griffin Free Public Library

Mr. Herman noted Jim Trombly Plumbing & Heating indicated they would hold the original quote for the library despite increase in the cost of equipment. Mr. Herman noted the order was placed last week, while he is unsure of Trombly's schedule.

Mr. Leclair thanked Mr. Herman for providing a breakdown of the status of the Town Buildings Capital Reserve Fund as of May 28, 2019 which showed an anticipated balance for the remainder of 2019 of \$78,660.55.

Mr. Leclair moved to approve the removal of an existing air conditioning system and installation of a new single zone two-ton multi-split system at the Griffin Free Public Library for a cost of \$3,895.00 and to further authorize the withdrawal of this amount from the Town Building Rehabilitation Capital Reserve Fund for this purpose. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Community Forum/Meeting Potential

Mr. Bedard advised he had become aware of Community Forum Meetings while visiting some of the Seacoast communities who had posted notices. Mr. Herman reached out to several other NH Towns who held these types of meetings and shared information ranging from "coffee and conversation" meetings to Summer Town Meeting forums.

Mr. Bedard recommended hosting such a forum during the opening weeks of the Auburn Village School in the fall so that the public could view the work being done on the addition and at the same time be updated on other community projects and issues. Department Heads could present an update on what's happening in their areas such as the Police Department has been doing. Mr. Leclair added the community could be updated what is planned with the budget and timeline of the Master Plan.

Mr. Leclair recommended discussing this with the School Board at the joint meeting and having each department put something together.

Mr. Eaton noted that attendance wise it is important to link the forum to a community activity which has moderately good attendance already.

HB 616 – Employer Share of NHRS Costs to Increase

Mr. Herman provided an update concerning the Senate vote of HB 616 last week which provided a 1.5% cost of living adjustment (COLA) to all New Hampshire Retirement System (NHRS) retirees who have been retired at least five years on the first \$50,000 of their pension.

Mr. Herman noted overall this will raise employer costs by nearly \$150 million with the cost to local governments estimated at \$116 million. The local share will be paid by property taxpayers through increased NHRS employer contribution rates over the next 20 years.

Mr. Herman noted Senator Carson and all five of the Auburn State Representatives voted against the adoption of HB 616 with Senator Carson proposing an alternative which while not adopted, would have made a one-time payment to retirees of \$500 which is what historically has been adopted in the past.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection – September 14th from 9 AM to Noon.

Mr. Eaton announced Household Hazardous Waste Collection will be on September 14, 2019 from 8 AM to Noon for the communities of Auburn, Nottingham and Raymond only, at the end of Industrial Drive across from the Safety Complex in Raymond.

Potential Unanticipated Revenues from NH State Budget

Mr. Herman provided an update on potential new municipal aid revenues proposed in the State Senate's version of the NH State Budget. Auburn's share is estimated at \$42,588.57 for both 2019 and 2020 provided the budget passes the Committee of Conference and is not vetoed by the Governor.

Old Business

Sale of Surplus Police Vehicle

Mr. Herman advised the proceeds of the sale of the surplus police cruiser at auction have been received. After the \$100 expense of towing the vehicle to auction and the 10% auctioneer fee, the Town received a net payment of \$4,850 of the \$5,500 sale price.

Update on Property Tax Exemptions and Tax Credits – 2018

Mr. Herman provided a correction of the tax impact amounts originally presented at the last Board meeting. He noted Mr. Leclair correctly questioned the impact of the two veterans' credits at the last meeting and a review showed one was calculated as an exemption instead of a credit. As a result, the previous figure of \$.01 for Service-Connected Total Disability Tax Credit was not correct. The total \$40,000 in value for the credit results in a \$.05 tax impact. That changes the overall tax impact of all exemptions and credits from \$.27 to \$.32 of the 2018 \$17.06 tax rate.

Haven Drive – Request to Reconsider Reducing Speed Limit to 30 MPH

Mr. Herman provided an email from Mrs. Cloutier expressing thanks for Mr. Dross's prompt attention to her request for assistance with travelers of Haven Drive who did not realize the road

was temporarily closed. Mrs. Cloutier noted speeding was still an issue, and requested the Board reduce the speed limit on Haven Drive from 35 MPH to 30 MPH.

The Board discussed how to address requests for reduction of speed limits in some areas of Town below 35 mph. Mr. Leclair questioned how the Town would distinguish the density of one neighborhood over another.

Mr. Eaton recommended consistency throughout Town and noted he had driven down Haven Drive at 35 mph and noted little difference reducing the limit would have as an impact. Chief Pelton agreed that posted speed limits have been studied and 85% of the time exceeded by 5 to 10 miles per hour. Mr. Bedard noted one instance on Hills Road where posting the speed limit was believed to have increased speeds and the residents requested to have the sign removed. Chief Pelton noted some street finder apps used by motorists contribute to using roads as a cut through as they display the shortest route by the foot. Chief Pelton indicated the police department can increase some patrols in the immediate area and place the radar trailer in the area to give a stronger presence. He also indicated he will speak with Mrs. Cloutier. Mr. Herman will notify Mrs. Cloutier of the Board's discussion and the assistance to be provided by the Police Department.

Joint Meeting with School Board – Tuesday, June 11th

Mr. Herman presented some topics for consideration to discuss at the joint meeting with the School Board. Mr. Herman noted the School Board will conduct their business portion of the meeting at 6 PM with the Selectmen attending at 7 PM.

Some of the topics include: Police Department addition plans; lights at Eddows Fields, Senior Housing ordinances, the Community Forum and potential Tax Anticipation Note for the fall.

Proposal for Addition to Police Department

Chief Pelton noted the base design has been prepared and looks good. The next step is for the designers to develop a full set of plans and, then decide how to proceed. Mr. Eaton felt the air conditioning unit had to be relocated and the drainage improvements and area for the footings and foundation slab could be dug. Mr. Eaton would like to have volunteers from Town assist with the project to keep costs down. Mr. Leclair and Mr. Bedard said before construction work begins, the Board needs to know the full project cost, and agree on how much they could achieve this year with the funds available.

Other Business

Mr. Rolfe noted the recent drainage work was checked on Dartmouth Drive and no problems were noted after last weekend's heavy rain storm. He said in the next couple of days underdrains and culvert work on Spofford Road will begin. Gravel, staking and paving will follow.

Mr. Eaton asked about flaggers and addressing the number of flaggers at details as there should often be more than one present.

Next Meetings/Events

Tuesday, June 11, 2019 - Joint Meeting with School Board – at Auburn Village School – 7 PM

Monday, June 17, 2019 – Board of Selectmen's Meeting – 7 PM

Minutes

- May 20, 2019 Public Meeting

Mr. Bedard motioned to approve the May 20, 2019 Public Meeting Minutes, as written. Mr. Leclair seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

- May 20, 2019 Non-Public Meeting

Mr. Bedard motioned to approve the May 20, 2019 Non-Public Meeting Minutes, as written. Mr. Leclair seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

Mr. Leclair motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 pm. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Hoijer,
Recording Secretary