

**Town of Auburn  
Board of Selectmen  
May 6, 2019  
7:00 PM**

**Selectmen Present:** Richard Eaton, Keith Leclair and Todd Bedard

**Others Present** Mike DiPietro, Michael Rolfe, Russell Sullivan, Marion Miller, Christine McLaughlin, Paula Marzloff, Susan Goodhue, Parks & Rec. Coordinator Amy Lachance, Deputy Fire Chief Bob Seling, Building Inspector Carrie Rouleau-Cote, Alan Cote, 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 April 29, 2019 - \$45,947.43**

*Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Payroll Manifest for the Week of April 29, 2019 in the amount of \$45,947.43. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.*

**Approval of Accounts Payable Manifest for the Week of April 29, 2019 - \$9,160.25**

*Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for the Week of April 29, 2019 in the amount of \$9,160.25. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.*

**Approval of Accounts Payable Manifest for the Week of May 6, 2019 - \$740,453.66**

*Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Manifest for the Week of May 6, 2019 in the amount of \$740,453.66. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.*

**Approval of Consent Agenda for the Week of May 6, 2019**

Mr. Eaton read out loud and offered for inspection a copy of the Consent Agenda for the Week of May 6, 2019 some of which included: one (1) cemetery deed; one (1) notice to excavate; one (1) Form MS-232 NHDRA; four (4) abatement/refund requests; and three (3) pistol/revolver licenses.

*Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the Consent Agenda for the Week of May 6, 2019. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.*

**Appointments with the Board**

Building Inspector Carrie Rouleau-Cote – Building Safety Month

Mrs. Rouleau-Cote presented May is Building Safety Month and recognized a five-week theme:

Week 1 (May 1-May 5) "Preparing for Disasters: Building Strong, build smart;"

Week 2 (May 6-May 12) "Ensuring a safer future through training and education;"

Week 3 (May 13-May 19) "Securing clean abundant water for all communities;"

Week 4 (May 20-May 26) "Construction professionals and homeowners: Partners in Safety;"

Week 5 (May 27-May 31) "Innovations in Building Safety."

Mrs. Rouleau-Cote, who is involved in Pinkerton's CTE program, indicated the need for code enforcement careers in the future.

The theme for Week 3, which is water safety, isn't just about private wells. She reported it also concerns protecting, filtering and using efficient products. Pool safety is a concern to the homeowner as well as visitors and the neighborhood.

Mrs. Rouleau-Cote gave some examples of new technologies in building design and products which come up regularly, such as a local nail salon finding innovations in ventilation of fumes. Home Depot will be working with local communities to set up information at their locations. Mrs. Rouleau-Cote concluded "the Building Department is there to assist homeowners with planning their projects as well as safety."

The Board of Selectmen signed a proclamation declaring May 2019 as Building Safety Month. Mr. Eaton thanked Mrs. Rouleau-Cote and stated the Town of Auburn is very lucky to have her as its Building Inspector.

Amy LaChance, Parks & Recreation – Old Home Day/Closure of Eaton Hill Road

Mrs. LaChance provided a map outlining the proposed closure of Eaton Hill Road for Old Home Day which will take place on June 1<sup>st</sup> at 4 PM followed by Fireworks. The road will be closed from 2 PM until 10 PM at Raymond Road and Eaton Road after the school parking lot.

***Mr. Leclair moved to approve the closure of Eaton Hill Road from Raymond Road to the Auburn School on June 1<sup>st</sup> from 2 PM to 10 PM. Mr. Bedard seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

Vehicle Purchase – Parks & Recreation

Mr. Eaton reported that Parks & Recreation found and purchased a vehicle and displayed a picture of the truck, showing the proposed decal marking on the vehicle, which was being donated by a local resident. Mrs. LaChance also noted the kite design had become a logo brand for Parks & Recreation, and was designed by another Auburn resident.

Mr. Herman asked Mrs. LaChance about summer camps and the Senior Trip. Mrs. LaChance indicated there will be two summer camps this year, Adventure Camp and Basketball Camp. Registration doubled since last year. Adventure Camp will meet at the Safety Complex and is a full-day for 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> graders from 8:30-4:30 with teacher counselors, visiting new locations each day such as beaches, ponds and a water park. Mr. Leclair asked about student/counselor ratios. Mrs. Lachance indicated 4:10, which she had conferred with AVS Principal Lori Collins. Basketball Camp will take place at Tower Hill Church from 8:30 to 2:30 PM. The Senior Trip on June 19<sup>th</sup> is going to the Essex River Cruise in Ipswich, MA and has filled quickly with a waiting list. Another trip will be planned for the Fall. Mr. DiPietro added concerts are coming up also.

## **New Business**

Solar Energy Systems Property Tax Exemption

Mr. Herman noted a few residents have inquired about Auburn having a tax exemption for solar energy which is allowed by state statute. He reported the law requires the voters approval of the exemption by vote at the annual town meeting. Mr. Herman indicated there are currently 44

properties that have solar, with 8-9 additional permits pending. Mr. Herman noted a warrant article can be placed by the Board of Selectmen or it can be brought by citizen petition.

Mr. Leclair asked the tax impact. Mr. Herman advised the current 44 properties have an assessed valuation of \$945,000 for solar. Without that \$945,000 in the Town's assessed valuation, the tax rate would increase by \$0.02/thousand.

Mr. Leclair asked whether the Board of Selectman and the Budget Committee would be asked to recommend or endorse the petition. Mr. Herman indicated the Board of Selectmen could make a recommendation, however the Budget Committee would not be involved as the warrant article would not ask to directly appropriate or spend funds.

Mr. Bedard recommended seeing the interest and preferred to let those interested bring the petitioned article. Mr. Eaton and Mr. Leclair agreed. Mr. Leclair noted with other sources of alternative energy such as geo-thermal, wood and solar fields, they would have to get credits also. Mr. DiPietro added even energy efficient windows and things such as those add value to the properties. "That's what taxes are about." Mr. Leclair noted the homeowners convert to save money or become environmentally friendly. Mr. Herman noted any tax exemption ultimately shifts the burden to those who don't have them.

#### Statewide Fire Station Water Quality Testing

Mr. Herman provided a copy of an email he received from Fire Chief Williams forwarding the request letter of NH DES dated April 18, 2019 asking for water testing samples at fire station wells throughout the state for poly and perfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). DES would do the testing. There is no cost to the Town. DES indicated contaminations are likely associated with Class B firefighting foam.

The Selectman were in agreement to allow Chief Williams to participate with the testing.

#### Police Detail Rates

Mr. Herman provided a Memo dated May 6, 2019 which detailed the proposed request for increase for police details. Mr. Herman noted that last July the Board set the hourly rate at \$55.25 per hour which included an hourly rate of \$40 for officers plus administrative costs and expenses with an additional rate of \$15.69 per hour for a police cruiser as part of that detail. With the approval of the new Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Auburn Police Union, the hourly rate paid to officers for Special Police Details increased to \$45.00 per hour effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. The retirement rate will decrease slightly as of July 1<sup>st</sup>. This would bring the minimum rate to \$61.44 per hour based on this breakdown and recommended rounding up to \$61.50 per hour effective June 1<sup>st</sup>. FEMA has not changed the rate for the cruiser so that would remain the same.

***Mr. Bedard moved to adjust the hourly rate or the Special Police Details to \$61.50 per hour for an officer and the related payroll benefits and administrative costs, and an additional \$15.69 per hour for a police cruiser used as part of the Special Police Detail. The rate change shall be effective June 1, 2019. Mr. Leclair seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

## Joint Meeting with School Board – Tuesday, June 11, 2019

Mr. Herman noted the School Board Chair invited the Board of Selectmen to their June 11, 2019 meeting to tour construction of the Auburn Village School project. The Board agreed to accept their invitation.

### Old Business

#### Potential Addition/Renovation of Police Department

Mr. Eaton reported since the Board's last meeting, an on-site meeting was held at the Safety Complex that unfortunately not too many people attended. But the consensus of those present was unanimous that the addition and renovation proposal for the Police Department was the right approach and needed a formal design and plan to be prepared.

Mr. Eaton advised he spoke to Cindy Nye at Alternative Designs who would come out within a week to review the building and provide an estimate. Mr. Eaton noted he should hear from them tomorrow and would anticipate having a proposal to the next Selectmen's meeting in a couple of weeks.

#### Unanticipated Repairs of Fire Department Apparatus

At the last Board meeting, Chief Williams reported vehicle maintenance issues on Engine 1, Forestry 1, Tanker 1 and Tanker 2. Mr. Leclair questioned whether the Fire Dept. could cover this in its budget with \$6,922 remaining to be addressed.

The cost for the seized pump in Forestry 1 which had to be rebuilt was \$4,422 and the repair of the hydraulic leak on the ladder truck came in at \$2,500. After a review of the overall Town budget the following areas were identified as potential excess or as reflecting a savings, to cover these expenses:

01-4130-6-620-1	Town Report	\$ 741.04
01-4130-6-660-2	Vote Guide	80.08
01-4140-6-660-0	Election Expenses	1,492.13
01-4153-3-350-1	Legal Expenditures	1,000.00
01-4153-3-350-2	Labor Relations	500.00
01-4155-2-290-0	Longevity Pay	1,000.00
01-4191-3-390-1	P/Z Legal Expenditures	500.00
01-4191-3-390-2	P/Z Master Plan & Regs	500.00
01-4299-0-391-0	Town Details	500.00
01-4316-3-390-1	Public Street Lighting	600.00

Mr. Herman noted with regard to the first three line items, the elections have already been held. Mrs. Marzloff noted the Planning Board expected to incur some legal fees in review of the proposed elderly housing ordinance. Mr. Herman noted there were funds in that line item to cover that expense. Mr. Herman noted the line item for longevity pay would be unused as the employee had left the position. This would leave a balance of \$8.75 to be covered from the Fire Department's operating account.

Mr. Leclair asked if the cost of the septic pump repair with Kent had come in yet – no.

***Mr. Bedard moved to approve the payment of a total of \$6,913.25 for the unanticipated repairs to the Fire Department apparatus from 10 specified Town budget accounts, with***

***the remaining balance to be covered by the operating budget of the Auburn Fire Department. Mr. Leclair seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

#### Town Hall Front Porch & Exterior Painting Project

Mr. Herman noted the painting had been completed and all that was left was a change to the handrails cited by the Building Inspector. Mr. Eaton noted the work may have been slow going but overall was pleased with the quality of the work and the cost.

#### Dartmouth Drive

Mr. Bedard noted dumping had taken place over the barriers at the now closed Dartmouth Drive. A photograph was provided. Mr. Rolfe indicated some addresses had been recovered from the debris which alleged the dumping may have come from residents of Manchester and was under investigation.

#### Next Meetings

Saturday, May 11, 2019 – “Shred Day” – Town Hall Parking Lot, 9 AM-Noon.

Saturday, May 18, 2019 – “Faces of Auburn’s Elders” – Auburn Historic, 1 PM.

Monday, May 20, 2019 – Board of Selectmen Meeting – 7 PM.

#### Minutes

- April 22, 2019 Public Meeting

***Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the April 22, 2019 Public Meeting Minutes, as written. Mr. Bedard seconded his motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

- April 22, 2019 Non-Public Sessions x2

***Mr. Leclair motioned to approve the two April 22, 2019 Non-Public Meeting Minutes, as written. Mr. Bedard seconded his motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

#### Adjourn

***Mr. Bedard motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 pm. Mr. Leclair seconded the motion, with all in favor, the motion passed unanimously.***

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy J. Hoijer,  
Recording Secretary