



Town of Dublin
Select Board Meeting
Monday, February 26, 2024

4:30 PM in person and via Zoom

In attendance: Susan Peters, Chris Raymond, Carole Monroe, Maureen Hulslander; Town Clerk/Tax Collector, Jay Schechter, Sterling Abram; Town Moderator, Judy Knapp, Chris Gallant, Lawrence Graves, Karen Madigan, John Woods and Cameron Cashman, reporter for *Ledger Transcript*.

Select Board reviewed payroll, accounts payable and the correspondence file.

CALL TO ORDER: Carole Monroe called the meeting to order at 4:30pm

SELECT BOARD'S BUSINESS:

- 1. Town Clerk and Moderator-State feedback on the recent election-** Judy began by saying pre-COVID, the State would have in-person training classes, but training is now done with webinars. Unfortunately, webinars are not as good as being able to ask questions in person. Prime example: the webinar only goes as far as sealing ballot boxes but does not include what to do with the sealed boxes. Dublin was not the only town to send their ballots to the State. Sterling said that they tried to contact the State on the evening of the election, but phone lines were all busy. Maureen then said that she found out the State closed at 9PM that night. Going forward, the State only wants the tablet and the town report. Ballots locked up for 22 months and then destroyed. If there is a recount, the State will pick up the ballot boxes. Other required reports have a two- or three-day deadline to be turned into the State. Judy mentioned that the 5-day guideline for mailing back absentee ballots is no longer accurate. They are advising applicants to hand deliver the completed ballot whenever possible. The Dublin Post Office will hold the mailed ballot if it is handed directly to the Postmaster-he will stamp it and avoid sending it to Manchester putting it directly in the Town Clerk's mail box.
- 2. Sterling Abrams, warrant articles review for Town Meeting-** Sterling and the Board discussed the dynamics of the Town Meeting. They reviewed the warrant articles with an eye on those that might need further explanation or might be challenged. Chris suggested that the Town obtain an independent legal opinion on Article 18 which is a petition warrant directing the School District to initiate a feasibility study of Dublin's withdrawal from the District. Kate and Susan will work together to find an attorney knowledgeable in education issues. John Woods and/or Blake Minckler will speak on this warrant at Town Meeting.

3. **Transfer Sticker Program and Incident Report Form for review-** Ongoing discussions express concern about the best way to monitor and distribute resident stickers for the Transfer Station. Since stickers will primarily be distributed through the Town Clerk's office, Maureen will write a draft procedure for the Board to review. An incident report form has been drafted and will be reviewed by the board at a future meeting.
4. **Library Maintenance-** The elevator in the library needs to have one of its two cylinders/pistons replaced as it is leaking oil. Library Trustee, Lawrence Graves presented an estimate to the Board. Karen Madigan, Librarian, told the Board that she had tried to obtain other estimates, but one company required a service maintenance agreement to be signed before even inspecting the problem and two other individuals never returned her calls. The State has imposed a March 12th deadline for this repair to be completed or under contract for compliance. Chris made a motion to authorize the repair of one cylinder at the cost of \$5,465 to be funded out of the Town's Building Repair Fund. Carole seconded. Roll call vote: Susan, yes. Chris, yes. Carole, yes.
5. **Building Permit** - signed by the Board
 - 129 Lone Tree Road
6. **Current Use Application** - signed by the Board
 - Map 6 Lot 23
7. **Zoning Board Secretary resignation-** The Board received a resignation email from Neil Sandford, ZBA secretary, effective March 12, 2024. Carole made a motion to accept Neil's resignation. Chris seconded. Roll call vote: Susan, yes. Chris, yes. Carole, yes. The Board thanked Neil for his many years of service.
8. **Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications-** Carole reviewed the communications between the Town, Charter and legal counsel. This agreement will provide a small percentage payback to the Town on cable television use plus provide choices to residents. Susan had some minor changes to the language which Carole noted and will pass on to Charter Communications. Carole made a motion to accept the agreement as amended. Chris seconded. Roll call vote: Susan, yes. Chris, yes. Carole, yes.
9. **Hydro reimbursement agreement-** Susan spoke with Bob Hayden from Standard Power. The Town is currently in an electric contract which terminates in November 2024. To terminate the current contract or to "blend" into a competitive contract would be expensive or extend the termination date. The Board renewed the Hydro contract which provides approximately \$600 in income from Standard Power and expires at the same time as the electric contract.
10. **Approval of the Meeting Minutes for February 12, 2024-** Susan made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. Chris seconded. Roll call vote: Susan, yes. Chris, yes. Carole, yes.

NON-PUBLIC: Carole made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:06 p.m. and enter non-public under RSA 91-A:3 II (a). Chris seconded. Roll Call Vote: Susan, yes. Carole, yes. Chris, yes.

A motion was made by Susan and seconded by Chris to re-enter public session at 6:39 p.m. and to seal the minutes. Roll Call Vote: Susan, yes. Carole, yes. Chris, yes.

Miscellaneous:

- DaoNing Wong submitted a vacation request, April 5th through May 5th. The Board approved the leave.
- Steve Baldwin submitted a Right-To-Know request for all money paid to Chief Suokko for 2023.
- The next Select Board meeting, March 4th, will begin at 4:00 p.m. The Board will be interviewing three candidates for the open position of Transfer Station Superintendent.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, Carole made a motion to adjourn the regular meeting at 6:53pm. Chris seconded.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Katherine M. Fuller and Pamela J. Celko

Carole Monroe (Chair)

Susan Peters

Chris Raymond