

Board of Selectmen's Meeting
Wednesday, June 7, 2023
4:30 PM Town Hall

Present: Matthew Riiska, Paul Madore, Sandy Evans, Barbara Gomez, Ruth Mulville,
Matt Ludwig, John DeShazo, Ken Ludwig, Paul Padua and Keith Byrne

The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m.

Public Comments: None

Minutes: May 3, 2023 and May 12, 2023

MOTION S. Evans to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2023 meeting as presented.

Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

MOTION S. Evans to approve the minutes of the May 12, 2023 meeting as presented.

Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

Appointments/Reappointments

M. Riiska presented the slate of appointments/reappointments as follows:

- Pension Committee – Susan Anderson and Ronald Zanobi for reappointment with the terms to expire 7/31/28.
- Recreation Committee – Jessica Bannerman and Tammy Barbagallo for reappointment with terms to expire 7/31/26
Recreation Committee – Hartley Mead as new member with term to expire 7/31/26
- Board of Assessment Appeals – William Thomas to fill vacancy with term to expire 11/21/23
- Zoning Board of Appeals – Lise Read to fill vacancy with term to expire 11/21/23
- Workplace, Health & Safety Committee – Paul Padua to represent the NVFD no term limit

MOTION S. Evans to approve the above slate of appointments/reappointments.

Second P. Madore. Carried unanimously.

Firehouse Capital Campaign

- Members from the NVFD attended the meeting to discuss the status of the firehouse and capital campaign. M. Ludwig and NVFD members are hesitant to start a capital campaign without the proper approvals from Inland/Wetlands and Planning & Zoning in place for the new firehouse. Rep. Maria Horn has been in touch with M. Ludwig offering to assist in acquiring the bulk of the funds through the State of CT prior to the end of this legislative session, but the permits need to be in place first. The current rough estimate for the firehouse is approximately \$5,000,000. M. Ludwig inquired about the holdup with the engineering and architect plans. According to the commissions they are waiting on plans from Benesch Engineering. M. Ludwig is concerned about losing out on potentially \$4,000,000 in funds from the State.

Firehouse Capital Campaign (continued)

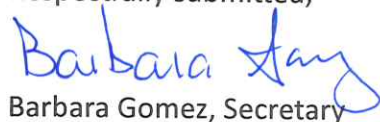
M. Riiska reported that Will Walter from Banesch went to Inland/Wetlands Agency with preliminary sketches asking for their recommendations on how to fit the plan in the current site. Because there are 5,000 sq. ft. of wetlands on the current site the town would need to create 10,000 – 12,000 sq. ft. of wetlands in an alternate area. Bensch is currently working with the company that did the site work for the solar field at the Transfer Station/Town Farm to come up with an area for the required wetlands. The site plans for the firehouse need to be approved by Inlands/Wetlands and Planning and Zoning before the architects (Silver Petrucelli) can proceed. The timeline and reasons for the holdups were discussed in detail by the group. M. Ludwig would like to speed things up before the State of CT legislative session ends and they lose out on State funding. M. Riiska will contact Will Walter at Banesch to see if there are plans ready for submission and let him know we need to move along quickly. He will copy David at Silver Petrucelli and tell him the same thing.

Selectman's Report

- The Pension Committee met on Monday, June 5th. Union Savings Bank gave their report and it was decided we will modify the way our funds are invested. We did not have a quorum so the committee will be meeting again soon.
- Fuel Spill – Environmental Services has completed the work on Route 44 and will be moving their equipment to Maple Avenue to begin remediation from Mills Way to Terrace View. The affected sites will be monitored for a minimum of one year. M. Riiska asked that they not begin the remediation process on Maple Avenue until Monday, 6/19 to ensure that all of the residents are informed. The remediation process and timeline were discussed.
- Mountain Road Bridge – M. Riiska has been working on getting the approximately \$500,000 reimbursement from the State of CT for the past six months.
- River Place Bridge – New footings were needed under the headwalls of the bridge which has delayed the project. M. Riiska will be meeting with WMC Engineering and NE Infrastructure to find out more about the delay.
- Route 44 Retaining Wall – State of CT is still working on planning for the wall. Old Colony Road will be closed on the Route 44 end and will possibly be made a dead end road.

MOTION P. Madore to adjourn at 5:40 p.m. Second S. Evans. Carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,


Barbara Gomez, Secretary