

MINUTES
TOWN OF TOPSHAM
BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING
MAY 3, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: David Douglass
Marie Brilliant
William Thompson
Roland Tufts

MEMBER(S) ABSENT: Ruth Lyons

STAFF PRESENT: Richard Roedner, Town Manager

A meeting of the Topsham Board of Selectmen was held on Thursday, May 3, 2018 in the Donald A. Russell Meeting Room, at the Municipal Building, 100 Main Street, Topsham, Maine.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Douglass called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ROLL CALL

All present were invited to stand and recite the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. The recording secretary took the roll call and noted that all Selectmen were present, except for Ms. Lyons, who had been excused.

TOWN MANAGER'S REPORT

Several dates to highlight for people.

Saturday, May 5 at 10:00 a.m. is the dedication of the baseball field in honor of Charlie Crosby, II. This will take place at the Foreside Field.

Wednesday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m. is Town Meeting, held at Mt. Ararat Commons. All residents should have received copies of the Warrant in the Cryer. Detailed information is available on our web site as well. Registration starts at 6:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 2 is a busy day in Topsham. That morning is the fishing rally at the Topsham Ponds at the Transfer Station. At 4:00 p.m. is the official ribbon cutting at the Head of Tide Park on the Cathance Road. Angela Twitchell from the Brunswick Topsham Land Trust, is here tonight to elaborate on this project, and the planned opening ceremonies, including a series of events that will be taking place that day in honor of Trails Day.

Saturday, June 23 will be the next big public event associated with our Comprehensive Plan. Last October, we received a lot of input from a large number of residents during our five-day kick-off event. Since then, the Committee, staff and consultants have been working on several

fronts, including: developing the data necessary to put Topsham's story into perspective; taking the public input and identifying consistent themes, which are being distilled into a series of Big Ideas; developing strategies that will help the community achieve those Big Ideas. June's meeting is intended to show where the process is, what the Big Ideas are, and to solicit additional comments on the progress that has been made.

This past week we held another Take Back the Drugs collection. Topsham turned in 603 pounds of old medications. This was the 7th largest total (30 to 40 sites) of all the collection sites across the state.

As we approach the end of our budget year, it is worth reminding people that we have openings on various committees, and that appointments are done in June, so if you are interested, check out our web site, or Channel 3, and find out which committees have openings and come into the office to fill out appropriate paperwork.

And finally, a reminder that Town Meeting is on Wednesday, May 16 at Mt. Ararat Commons. The meeting starts at 7:00 p.m., with registration starting at 6:30 p.m.

BOARDS AND COMMITTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

Update from House Representative, Denise Tepler

Representative Tepler reported happenings in Augusta before the Board. Sessions of the 120th Legislature have adjourned with the body coming to an agreement on 11 bills. Representative Tepler said she was concerned that a few items were left undone. She added that changes in the structure in which decisions are made needs to be tweaked.

During discussion following Representative Tepler's presentation, Chairman Douglass asked for the thought behind an 18 year old to be able to purchase narcan. Representative Tepler said the thinking is that if you are a high school senior, 18 years old, and your mother is a drug addict, you should be able to have a narcan needle with you to save her life. She said there is no training needed, it is the same as using epipen. Chairman Douglass expressed concern because of his experience on the Brunswick Fire Department and witnessing an individual having been given narcan becoming extremely violent when they have lost their high.

Selectman Tufts noted Representative Tepler mentioned savings being achieved on cutting public pensions and asked her how this is being done. Response was the Pension Funds is extremely complicated. The committee may some streamlining and there were cutbacks in some municipalities but she wasn't sure what. Selectman said he would hope that the first avenue of relief would not be by cutting benefits. The Town Manager explained how some rules have changed with municipalities with towns that have retirees being rehired. Selectman Tufts said his main concern is that there has been a lot of talk about the difficulties in hiring people for public service in municipalities, as well as teachers, and cutting benefits is not the way to go.

Update on Head of Tide Park: Angela Twitchell, Executive Director of the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust announced a 12-year project that the Town of Topsham has working on – Head of Tide Park. A 12-acre park on Cathance Road on both sides of the road. The Grand Opening Celebration will be held on June 2nd. A number of activities are planned for the day.

Ms. Twitchell thanked the Board for their support, as well as that of the Brunswick-Topsham Land Trust, Topsham Development, Inc. and the Conservation Commission. Ribbon cutting is at 4:00 p.m. with a reception immediately following at the Library.

Update on – TDI/ECD - John Shattuck, Economic and Community Development Director, reminded everyone that Town Meeting is on Wednesday, May 16 at Mt. Ararat Commons.

His report included:

Crooker Relation and Zoning Change

- Crooker is proposing to relocate their asphalt manufacturing facility from the present location to their quarry on the River Road.
- The relocation will require some zoning changes, which are being assessed by the Planning Board.
- The relocation will drastically reduce Crooker truck traffic both on the River Road and the Interchange.
- The firm hopes the proposed changes and other articles can be considered at the fall Town Meeting.

Central Maine Healthcare (CMH) – Topsham Care Center

- It is anticipated that the Topsham Care Center will open in early summer.

Topsham Commerce Park (TCP) and Brunswick-Topsham Water District (BTWD)

- Communications on the sewage issue at the Topsham Commerce Park are continuing with Alan Frasier, the General Manager of BTWD.
- BTWD is assessing minimum upgrades to sustain the existing infrastructure.
- They are also assessing comprehensive upgrades that could be less costly in the long term.
- More comprehensive upgrades would serve existing users and also future development.
- Any upgrade must meet BTWD standards to become part of the public water system.
- When BTWS assessment is completed, the Town will convene a meeting of all interested parties:
 - Highland Green, Helios, MRRA, BTWD and the Town
 - Determine which approach the parties will support
 - Degree to which they will contribute to costs of upgrading the system

Highland Green TIFs

- The Town staff is working the Highland Green to ensure a smooth implementation of TIFs which has been recently revised.
- Highland Green continues to enjoy significant growth and new construction

PUBLIC COMMENT – None noted.

CORRESPONDENCE – Chairman Douglass noted the usual annual request to nominate a citizen of the year was received. The County has come up with a name, so no action was taken.

ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA – Motion was made by Chairman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Tufts, and it was unanimously (of those present)

VOTED

To add Agenda Item **18-32 – EXECUTIVE SESSION - CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION TO DISCUSS TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTIES**

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Approval of the minutes of the Selectmen’s Meeting of 4/12/18.

Motion was made by Chairman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Tufts, and it was unanimously (of those present)

VOTED

To approve the minutes of the March 15, 2018 Selectmen’s Meeting as written.

2. Approval to open the polls at 8:00 a.m. on June 12, 2018 for the State of Maine Primary and Referendum Election and M.S.A.D. #75 District Budget Referendum.

3. Approval to extend the Registrar’s office hours on Wednesday, June 6, 2018 to remain open until 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of additional hours for voter registration as required by State Statute 21-A§122.6.

4. Approval to appoint Ballot Clerks for the June 12, 2018 Municipal Election, as follows:

Elizabeth Bevor	Anne Becklean	Vanessa Bell
Claudia Beckwith	Mary Boie	Jeannette Breton
Roland Breton	Judy Russell	Roger Caouette
Buth Caouette	Claire Corbin	Carmella Crafts
Felix-Miranda Cruz	Madeline Dumont	Bill Eaton
Gail Eaton	Ann Eustis	Mary Henderson
Jennifer Johnson	Helen Kincaid	Monica Kincaid
Elaine Kurtz	Cherylene Labbe	Paul Labbe
Peter Lepari	Kathy Lyon	Linda Nesbit
Al Paisley	Sue Page	Ester Palmer
Roger Perkins	Lena Pinette	Jennifer Reeber
Carla Rensenbrink	Helen Riddle	Jane Scease
Henry Schwartz	Susan Sorg	Cindy Tracy
Barbara Weathers	Jane Welch	Sara White

5. Approval to appoint Linda Dumont as Warden for the State Election.

Motion was made by Selectman Tufts, seconded by Selectman Brilliant, and it was unanimously (of those present)

VOTED

To approve items 2, 3, 4 and 5 of the Consent Calendar as written.

PUBLIC HEARING – None noted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None noted.

OLD BUSINESS - None noted.

NEW BUSINESS

18-31 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION ON THE REQUEST TO AWARD THE BID TO REMOVE ASBESTOS FROM THE OLD FIRE STATION ON GREEN STREET TO THE LOWEST BIDDER, NEW MEADOWS ABATEMENT

Following explanation from Public Works Director, Dennis Cox, motion was made by Chairman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Tufts, and it was unanimously (of those present)

VOTED

To approve the request of \$6,510 to New Meadows Abatement, Inc. for the removal of asbestos at the old fire station.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:55 p.m. motion was made by Selectman Tufts, seconded by Selectman Thompson, and it was unanimously (of those present)

VOTED

To move into Execution Session to discuss Agenda Item 18-32.

18-32 CONSIDERATION AND ANY APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ENTER INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION TO DISCUSS TAX ACQUIRED PROPERTIES PURSUANT TO 36 M.R.S.A., §841, TITLE 405, 6 (F)

All Board Members present entered the Executive Session, including Town Manager Richard Roedner.

The Board returned to the regular meeting from Executive Session at 8:01 p.m. with all members present and Town Manager Roedner.

Motion was made by Chairman Douglass, seconded by Selectman Thompson, and it was unanimously (of those present)

VOTED

To accept payment for back taxes and all accumulated interest and fees for the property in question.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8:03 p.m., motion was made by Chairman Douglass to adjourn, seconded by Selectman Brilliant, and it was so voted.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Williams, Recording Secretary