

Bethlehem Board of Selectmen
Meeting Minutes
Bethlehem Selectmen Office
March 7, 2016

Present: Chairman Culver, Selectman Blanchard, Selectman Laleme, Selectman Glavac, Selectman Staples.

Chairman Culver opened the meeting at 6:00 pm. Chairman Culver moved to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A:3, II (a) & (b) for personnel. Selectman Staples seconded. Chairman Culver did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session. The Board discussed a position with a potential employee.

At 6:20pm Chairman Culver moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Chairman Culver did roll call with all members agreeing to come out of non-public session.

Cheryl Jensen and Don Lavoie came before the Board to discuss Northern Pass. They discussed how the SEC scheduled a tour with 1 day notice and that it is on Election Day. They discussed an email request being sent to SEC (Pamela Monroe) requesting they also visit the Baker Brook site where the transition station is proposed to be. Selectman Laleme said the Board should send a letter saying we do not want to be grouped together with other intervener's. Cheryl Jensen drafted a letter objecting to our intervener status being combined. The Board also reviewed and discussed a letter drafted by Don Lavoie addressing a waiver request by Northern Pass to waive the requirement of removal of infrastructure in the event of decommissioning. After discussing a few minor changes to the letter about grouping the Board agreed the letters should be sent and also that the Conservation Commission should write a letter that the Select Board would support. Mrs. Jensen said she would be attending the meeting on the 14th of March in Plymouth. Selectman Laleme moved to accept letter drafted from Don Lavoie about the waiver and letter from Cheryl Jensen objecting to being grouped together. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 5-0.

Mrs. Jensen said there will be a meeting in Concord with SEC with everyone that has requested intervener status on March 21st and suggested the Select Board send someone on their behalf. Mr. Lavoie asked if the town should hire someone to represent them in regards to northern pass. Chairman Culver said he would shy away from that because of the grouping issue. Mrs. Jensen suggested looking into that after getting intervener status. Selectman Laleme agreed we are not yet at the point of needing an attorney and said she would check to see if she can go to the meeting on the 21st. Chairman Culver moved that all and/or any Select Board members can represent the Board at the Northern Pass site visit to request they go to the Baker Brook site. Selectman Laleme seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed a police STEP grant for \$3,410.00. Selectman Laleme moved to accept the STEP grant. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed abatements. Selectman Laleme moved to approve an abatement for Map/Lot 403-1-107 due to over assessment. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 4-1 (Selectman Glavac opposed).

Chairman Culver moved to approve an abatement for Map/Lot 404-34-20-1 due to over assessment. Selectman Laleme seconded. Selectman Glavac said in the future he would like to do one vote for all abatements and would like to do them once a quarter. Carried 4-1 (Selectman Glavac opposed).

The Board reviewed the minutes from 02/29/16. Chairman Culver moved to approve the minutes. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board reviewed and discussed a job description for cemetery worker/sexton. Brett Jackson said he felt the cemetery committee needs to be more involved in this. Different sample job descriptions were reviewed. Chairman Culver said he thinks the mowing should be separate from the Sexton position and that part of the job description for the Sexton would be to do a weekly walk through to oversee the grounds/stones. He also said the Sexton should receive a stipend to cover hours to monitor and do paperwork and receive a fee to do the grave digging. The Board also reviewed and discussed a job description for groundskeeper and determined the groundskeeper would do all mowing for all town grounds. They discussed the position would be from approximately April 15th through Oct. 15th and would be up to 34 hours a week. The ad will be placed for this position. Selectman Laleme moved to accept job description for groundskeeper. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 5-0.

The Board discussed closing the Selectmen's office on Friday April 22nd. Selectman Blanchard moved to close the office. Chairman Culver seconded. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Glavac said the 6th grade is doing a raffle and asked if the Board would approve giving a family pool pass and rounds of golf as prizes. Selectman Laleme said the manager usually makes that decision. Chairman Culver said he thinks the Board needs to make that decision because it is giving away town funds. Selectman Blanchard said they should give away the greens fee but not to include carts with that. Selectman Blanchard moved to allow 2 18 round greens fees with no carts pass and 1 family pool pass. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Laleme said there are some postings on Facebook with false information about the Country Club revenue and how it affects the tax rate.

At 7:20 Chairman Culver moved to go into non-public session per RSA 91-A II (a), (b), and (c). Selectman Laleme seconded. Chairman Culver did roll call with all members agreeing to go into non-public session.

The Board reviewed a resignation letter from the Deputy Tax Collector and Deputy Town Clerk and accepted the resignation.

The Board discussed an offer of payments from a town owned property bidder. Selectman Laleme moved to accept the 3 payments with balance due on April 29th, 2016 from Mr. Healey. Selectman Staples seconded. The Board discussed having our attorney write up a simple agreement to have Mr. Healey sign. Carried 5-0.

The Board discussed the Country Club Manager position. Selectman Glavac moved to hire Larry Fellows as the Country Club manager. Selectman Blanchard seconded. Carried 4-0 (Selectman Laleme abstained).

The Board reviewed a vacation request from April Hibberd. Chairman Culver moved to approve the request. Selectman Glavac seconded. Carried 5-0.

Selectman Glavac moved to approve the new hire for the Fire Department. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 4-0 (Chairman Culver abstained).

At 8:10 Selectman Blanchard moved to come out of non-public session. Selectman Staples seconded. Chairman Culver did roll call with all members agreeing to come out of non-public session.

At 8:10 Selectman Blanchard moved to adjourn. Selectman Staples seconded. Carried 5-0.

Respectfully submitted,
April Hibberd