

**Location:** Carmel Town Office

**Selectmen Present:** Daniel Frye, Isaac Raymond Suzan Rudnicki, Jared Fitts and Timothy Richardson, Jr.

**Town Manager/CEO:** Kevin Howell

**Rec. Secretary:** Coreen Sylvester

**Guests Present:** Glennis McSorley and Toby Pelletier

**6:30 - Public Hearing (Junkyard Permit Renewals:** Daniel Frye called the public hearing to order for junkyard permit renewals and asked for public comment. Hearing no comment from the floor, Daniel closed the public hearing.

**6:30 PM:** Dan Frye called the Selectmen's meeting to order.

**MINUTES:** Isaac Raymond made a motion to accept the minutes of November 13, 2023 as written. Jared Fitts seconded. Four voted in favor. Suzan Rudnicki abstained as she was not present for that meeting.

**MINUTES:** Suzan Rudnicki made a motion to accept the minutes of November 27, 2023 as written. Timothy Richardson seconded. Three voted in favor. Dan Frye and Isaac Raymond abstained as they were not present for that meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Consideration of Junkyard Renewals:** Code Enforcement Officer Kevin Howell explained there have been no changes to any of the three junkyards for R&R Lumber, Clement's Starter & Alternator and Ideal Recycling, and they are all in compliance. Sue Rudnicki made a motion to approve all of the presented junkyard renewal applications. Jared Fitts seconded. Five voted in favor.

**Quitclaim Deed for Lisa Burgoyne – Map 8 Lot 21-9A:** Jared Fitts made a motion to sign the quitclaim deed for Lisa Burgoyne. Timothy Richardson seconded. Five voted in favor.

**Tax Abatement – Map 10 Lot 28F:** Town Manager Kevin Howell provided an abatement request from our assessor regarding a lot that was created in error. The request was for Map 10 Lot 28F for the years 2021 and 2022. Jared Fitts made a motion to grant the abatements. Tim Richardson seconded. Five voted in favor.

**2024 Spirit of America Award:** After discussion of possible candidates for the 2024 Spirit of America Award and dedication of the 2023 annual report, Isaac Raymond made a motion to nominate David Richardson. Tim Richardson seconded. Four voted in favor. Sue Rudnicki abstained.

**Upcoming Elections:** Kevin explained that in 2024 there will be three state elections; the first is the Presidential Primary in March, which will be held the day after our town meeting. Then there will be the June Primary for other offices, and lastly the general election in November. Kevin said he has asked Superintendent Mark Turner if we may possibly be able to hold the November election in the Carmel Elementary School gym as it would be a better option for a large voter turnout. Mark said he will present it to the building committee.

**Annual Christmas Tree Decorating:** The annual decorating of the Town Office Christmas tree by the elementary school children was done last Friday, and Kevin said it went very well.

**County Commissioner Recognition:** Kevin let the Board know the County Commissioner's are recognizing Spirit of America Award recipients from the past two years and he will be attending the ceremony tomorrow with Doug Small and Julia Pike.

**EMS Blue Ribbon Commission:** Kevin said he has attended six meetings with the EMS Blue Ribbon Commission, with today being the last meeting. The Commission has made many recommendations to the legislature.

**2024 Budget Discussion:** The Town Manager presented a preliminary draft of the 2024 proposed budget.

Kevin stated he is going to propose increasing the Selectmen's pay to \$1,400.00 a year (from \$700.00), and asked if the Selectmen want to present their pay as a separate article so they would still be able to make a recommendation on the rest of the administration budget. Selectmen decided to present it as a separate article.

**WARRANT:** Jared Fitts made a motion to accept the payroll warrant of **December 4, 2023** in the amount of **\$18,695.50**. Isaac Raymond seconded. Four voted in favor. Suzan Rudnicki abstained.

**WARRANT:** Jared Fitts made a motion to accept the payroll warrant of **December 4, 2023** in the amount of **\$753.55**. Tim Richardson seconded. Four voted in favor. Isaac Raymond abstained.

**WARRANT:** Jared Fitts made a motion to accept the payroll warrant of **December 4, 2023** in the amount of **\$753.55**. Isaac Raymond seconded. Four voted in favor. Tim Richardson abstained.

**WARRANT:** Jared Fitts made a motion to accept the payroll warrant of **December 4, 2023** in the amount of **\$753.55**. Suzan Rudnicki seconded. Four voted in favor. Daniel Frye abstained.

**WARRANT:** Tim Richardson made a motion to accept the payroll warrant of **December 4, 2023** in the amount of **\$753.55**. Isaac Raymond seconded. Four voted in favor. Jared Fitts abstained.

**WARRANT:** Jared Fitts made a motion to accept the payroll warrant of December 11, 2023 in the amount of \$7,321.69. Tim Richardson seconded. Five voted in favor.

**WARRANT:** Jared Fitts made a motion to accept the accounts payable warrant of December 11, 2023 in the amount of \$344,575.17. Isaac Raymond seconded. Four voted in favor. Tim Richardson abstained.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Jared Fitts made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to 1MRSA § 405(6)(H) to confer with Code Enforcement on a legal issue. Isaac Raymond seconded. Five voted in favor. Selectmen went into executive session at 7:25 pm. Dan Frye made a motion to reconvene in regular session. Sue Rudnicki seconded. Five voted in favor. Selectmen reconvened in regular session at 7:59 pm. No action taken, informational only.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Jared Fitts made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to 1MRSA §405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter. Isaac Raymond seconded. Five voted in favor. Selectmen went into executive session at 8:00 pm. Isaac Raymond made a motion to reconvene in regular session. Dan Frye seconded. Five voted in favor. Selectmen reconvened in regular session at 9:18 pm. No action taken. Informational only.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Isaac Raymond made a motion to adjourn. Tim Richardson seconded. Five voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.