

Location: Carmel Town Office

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

Rec. Secretary: Coreen Sylvester

Guests Present: Andrew and Deanna Witham, Budget Committee members Nancy Dysart, Wilbur Senter, Evelyn L. Smith, David Richardson, Bryan Roy, Troy Garland, Jeannie Savoy and Kevin Keith, Don Gerrish of Eaton and Peabody (via Zoom) and Gerald Burns III

3:30 PM: Daniel Frye called the Selectmen's meeting to order.

MINUTES: Isaac Raymond made a motion to accept the minutes of January 22, 2024 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 January 29, 2024 as written. Timothy Richardson Jr. seconded. Five voted in favor.

NEW BUSINESS:

Public Hearing and Planning Board Meeting Postponement: Dan Frye stated the public hearing and Planning Board meeting that was scheduled for February 5th has been postponed and all concerned parties have been notified.

2024 Budget/Town Meeting Warrant: There was discussion with Don Gerrish and Budget Committee members regarding proposing increasing the contingency fund in order to meet any extra expenses during the transition period.

Interim Code Enforcement Officer: Isaac Raymond stated he has met with a couple of potential code enforcement officers who may help us out as interim code enforcement. Isaac said one is retired and is willing to help us with mentoring/training a new code enforcement officer. Another works in a nearby town and would be able to work for both towns on a four-month trial basis.

Authorized Signer on Bank Account: Dan Frye made a motion for the Board to add Lacey J. Walton as an authorized signer for the town's checking account # 8218610. Jared Fitts seconded. Five voted in favor.

Grants in Progress: There was discussion regarding various grants Kevin had started and the need to find out the timelines and what actions need to be taken.

Five Road Sledding Park Grant: Isaac Raymond said he received an email from the surveyor who is wondering whether to proceed on the Five Road sledding park. Isaac also said he

will reach out to the engineer to see what info he can provide us with to make sure we keep the project going and do not lose the grant opportunity.

2024 Budget/Town Meeting Warrant:

Budget Committee Action – Evelyn Smith made a motion to increase the budget for the contingency account to \$30,000.00 (from \$15,000.00). Kevin Keith seconded. Eight voted in favor.

Board of Selectmen Action – Daniel Frye made a motion to increase the warrant article for the contingency account to \$30,000.00 (from \$15,000.00). Timothy Richardson, Jr. seconded. Five voted in favor.

Update on Memorial for Kevin Howell: Sue Rudnicki said the is a celebration of life memorial for Kevin will be at the Grange Hall on February 10, 2024 from 11:00 am to 3:00 pm. There was discussion regarding possible ways to help out with the memorial.

Next Meeting: Selectmen scheduled the next Selectmen’s meeting for Monday, February 5th at 5:30 pm.

WARRANT: Jared Fitts made a motion to accept the payroll warrant of **January 29, 2024** in the amount of **\$8,626.75**. Tim Richardson seconded. Five voted in favor.

WARRANT: Jared Fitts made a motion to accept the accounts payable warrant of **January 31, 2024** in the amount of **\$8,685.43**. Tim Richardson seconded. Five voted in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Tim Richardson made a motion to go into executive session pursuant to 1MRSA § 405(6)(A) to discuss a personnel matter. Jared Fitts seconded. Five voted in favor. Selectmen went into executive session at 4:31 pm. Dan Frye made a motion to reconvene in regular session. Jared Fitts seconded. Five voted in favor. Selectmen reconvened in regular session at 5:29 pm. No action taken, informational only.

ADJOURNMENT: Tim Richardson made a motion to adjourn. Jared Fitts seconded. Five voted in favor. Meeting adjourned at 5:29 pm.