SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES
OF JANUARY 27, 2025

Members: Don McDowell, Christopher Palermo, Laura Streets*, Richard Craig, George Cormier

Absent:

ADMINISTRATION and STAFF: Brent Raymond, Town Manager; Judi Alberi, Executive Assistant; Sara Haskins, Town Clerk/Treasurer; Tina Sweet, Finance Director

PARTICIPANTS/GUESTS: Tom Cloutier, Mary Lou Nichols, Martin Green, Charlie Burnham, Jerry & Evelyn Throne, Sheila Tarbox, Tony Cote, Leah Hollenberger

**participating via Zoom*

5:30PM - CALL SELECTBOARD MEETING TO ORDER

Don McDowell called the Selectboard Meeting to order at 5:32 PM at the Tegu Building.

5:31PM - AGENDA CHANGES/ADDITIONS

None

5:35PM - NEW BUSINESS

1. **Discuss the financial impact of FY 25/26 budget due to zoning vacancy**
   Laura Streets was concerned that the previous Zoning Administrator/Planning Administrator's salary was beneath the range needed for a replacement considering that the budget had been finalized. Don noted that the budget included the remaining unused salary for this year and the current budgeted amount. This should cover the cost of the consultant and the new hire. Laura wanted to know if the budget represented just salary or included compensation. Brent noted during the hiring process salaries were estimated with the community standard for the position and included many variables such as insurance costs. Budgeting is a plan, not a commitment added George. There are no contingency costs added to a budget. Every variable in budgeting will be considered and balanced with the actual figures. He felt that this was a good tight budget. Chris and Richard agreed with George. Chris added that he and George worked on the budget for months and new positions in EMS and the Highway Department have already happened with no ramifications. He doesn't feel that decisions should be affected by fear. The prevailing decision was that the budget could stand as it is.

2. **Approve and sign Town Meeting Warning**
   The Selectboard was presented with a final copy of the Town Warning. It was noted that the first paragraph was expended to 3 paragraphs of language that was inadvertently left off that discussed the Informational Hearing and the voter qualifications.

   Motion made by Chris Palermo to approve and sign the warning for the annual town meeting. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried (5/0).

3. **Approve the automatic mailing of all annual school meeting ballots.**
   Motion made by Chris Palermo to approve the automatic mailing of all annual school meeting ballots. Motion seconded by Richard Craig. Motion carried (5/0).

6:10PM - ADJOURN

Motion made by Chris Palermo to adjourn. Motion seconded by George Cormier. Motion carried. (5/0)

Meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm
Submitted and filed this 1/29/2025.
Bonnie McDermott, Scribe

Please note all minutes are in Draft form and are subject to approval at the next Selectboard meeting.