

Tilton-Northfield Fire & EMS Commissioners' Meeting

Meeting Called By: Commissioners
Transcribed By: Courtney Palmer

Date, Time: 01/29/24, 5:30 PM
Location: Tilton Town Hall
Downstairs Meeting Room
257 Main Street
Tilton, NH

Call to Order

Commissioner Auger called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Attendance

Commissioners Paul Auger, Eric Pyra, and Tim Sattler; Chief Michael Sitar and Administrative Manager Kathy Tobine

Budget Committee: Katherine Dawson, Jane Alden, Charles Broughton, Paul Blaisdell, Jason Wright and Scott Lewandowski

Public: Kevin Waldron

Katherine called the Budget Committee meeting to order at 5:30 PM

Budget Committee Minutes

Jane made a motion to accept the minutes of 12.18.23. Jason seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

New Business

Commissioner Pyra updated the Budget Committee on TNFD v. TNWD. A court-ordered settlement was reached. A lump sum payment of \$400,000 is to be paid within 30 days to resolve amounts owed for 2021, 2022, and 2023. The rate for Pressurized Hydrant water service for 2024 shall be \$165,302.10. There will be an increase per year through December 31, 2031, which shall be 75% of the increase called for in the Water District's applicable Tariff. Extensive discussion ensued about the settlement.

Katherine made a motion to add \$165,301.10 to Pressurized Hydrant Line 4332 to the 2024 budget. Jane seconded the motion. There was a discussion. Katherine asked the Board of Commissioners if they would approve the pay raises presented in their budget if their budget passes at the District Meeting. The Commissioners agreed to the pay raises. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Jason made a motion to adjourn the Budget Committee meeting. Jane seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 6:07 PM.

Old Business

Operating Budget

1. Warrant Article 03 was reviewed. There was extensive discussion. The Board agreed to leave their recommendation at \$3,555,019.
2. Warrant Article 10 was reviewed. Commissioner Sattler made a motion to fund this article at the Budget Committee's recommended amount of \$1,500. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

3. UNH Funding: Chief Sitar explained that the \$20,000 received back from the attorneys could pay for the survey. Additionally, he stated he anticipates approximately \$72,000 more in Federal funds from the SAFER grant. There should be more than enough returned and additional funds to pay for the survey.
4. UNH Survey: Kevin commented that the cost of the survey was around \$13,000 to \$14,000. Paul B. explained what the Building Committee is looking for from this survey. Extensive discussion ensued. Paul B. commented that the Commissioners need to determine whether they are serious about this project or not and if they are, what they need to do to get to that end. Discussion ensued. Kevin mentioned the importance of public outreach.

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to fund the survey. Commissioner Sattler seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about which option to select for the survey. It was agreed that they would like the mail survey to households and post office boxes. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Paul B. asked Commissioner Auger to think about if they didn't do this survey, how would they get to a result of getting the District to approve a new building.

New Business

PowerPoint Presentation

Chief Sitar presented the Board with his PowerPoint presentation for the District Meeting. Commissioner Sattler commented that he would like to review this and discuss it at their next meeting.

Minutes

01.02.24 Public

Commissioner Sattler made a motion to move the minutes to the floor for review. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Commissioner Pyra commented that he thought there was a range of survey prices on page 1 2/3 of the way down. The cost of the survey, depending on options, will be approximately \$11,000 to \$14,000. Page 2, the second sentence should read that Commissioner Pyra gave an example of a mission statement. Commissioner Pyra made a motion to approve the minutes as corrected. Commissioner Sattler seconded the motion. There being no further discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

01.09.24 Public

Commissioner Sattler made a motion to move the minutes to the floor for review. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. Commissioner Pyra made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Commissioner Sattler seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Any Other Business

1. The manifests were reviewed and signed.
2. Plodzik & Sanderson

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to authorize the Chair and Chief to sign the Plodzik & Sanderson documents. Commissioner Sattler seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

Nonpublic Session I

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to enter nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II(I) Consideration of legal advice provided by legal counsel, either in writing or orally, to one or more members of the public body, even where legal counsel is not present. Commissioner Sattler seconded the motion.

Roll call vote to enter nonpublic session: Paul Auger, Yes; Eric Pyra, Yes; Timothy Sattler, Yes Motion passed.

Nonpublic session was entered at 7:26 P.M.

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to leave the nonpublic session. Commissioner Sattler seconded the motion.

Roll call vote to exit nonpublic session: Paul Auger, Yes; Eric Pyra, Yes; Timothy Sattler, Yes
Motion passed.

Public session reconvened at 7:30 P.M.

Commissioner Pyra commented that they reviewed and approved the Nonpublic minutes of January 2nd and 9th.

Nonpublic Session II

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to enter nonpublic session per RSA 91-A:3, II(c) Matters which, if discussed in public, would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person, other than a member of this board, unless such person requests an open meeting. This exemption shall extend to include any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a fee, fine, or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant. Commissioner Sattler seconded the motion.

Roll call vote to enter nonpublic session: Paul Auger, Yes; Eric Pyra, Yes; Timothy Sattler, Yes
Motion passed.

Nonpublic session was entered at 7:32 P.M.

Commissioner Sattler made a motion to leave the nonpublic session. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion.

Roll call vote to exit nonpublic session: Paul Auger, Yes; Eric Pyra, Yes; Timothy Sattler, Yes
Motion passed.

Public session reconvened at 7:48 P.M.

Commissioner Pyra commented that the Nonpublic Session II minutes of January 2nd were reviewed and approved. They also reviewed and acted upon the Disposition Reports for December.

Commissioner Pyra made a motion to seal these minutes because it is determined that divulgence of this information likely would affect adversely the reputation of any person other than a member of this board. Commissioner Auger seconded the motion.

Roll call vote to seal the minutes: Paul Auger, Yes; Eric Pyra, Yes; Timothy Sattler, Yes
Motion passed.

Adjournment

Commissioner Auger made a motion to adjourn at 7:49 PM. Commissioner Pyra seconded the motion. There being no discussion, a vote was taken. Motion passed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Courtney Palmer

Courtney Palmer

Administrative Assistant

Next Meeting Date, Time, Place:

February 6, 2024, 6:30 P.M.
Immediately Following Public Hearings
Tilton Police Station
45 Sanborn Rd.
Tilton, NH