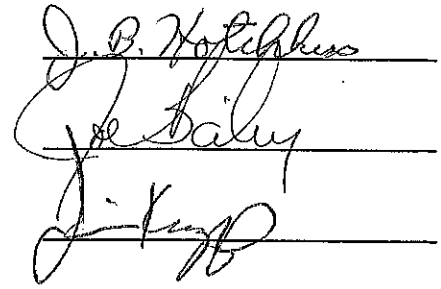


Town of Middleton  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
March 25, 2019



Called to order at 6:30 P.M

Pledge Recited

Roll Call- present. J. Hotchkiss, J. Bailey, J. Knapp

**Signature Action:**

- *Chief Blodgett presents Officer Shawn Owen to the Board of Selectmen to replace Officer Doug Voelbel who retired. J. Bailey motions to hire S. Owen as a full time police officer effective immediately. J. Knapp seconds, all in favor. Officer Owen was sworn in.*
- *Re-organization of the Board.*
  - *Chair- J. Hotchkiss*
  - *Vice-Chair- J. Bailey*
  - *Member- J. Knapp*
  - *Planning Board rep- J. Bailey*
  - *School Board Rep- J. Hotchkiss*
  - *Highway Rep- J. Knapp*
  - *Budget Committee rep- J. Bailey*
  - *Zoning Board rep- J. Hotchkiss*
  - *Cemetery Rep- J. Knapp*
  - *JLMC Rep- J. Hotchkiss*
  - *Fire Dept Rep- J. Knapp*
  - *Personnel Policy Rep- J. Bailey*
  - *Police Department- J. Bailey*
  - *Conservation Rep- J. Hotchkiss*
- *J. Bailey motions to accept the BOS minutes from 03/11/2019 as written. J. Knapp seconds. All in favor.*
- *MS 232 appropriations from town meeting signed by the board.*
- *MS 535 audit paperwork signed by the board.*
- *Audit commitment letter for the tax re-committal signed by the chair J. Hotchkiss. This is switching tax collectors and will cost between \$1500.00 and \$1750.00.*
- *FEMA public hearing is scheduled for April 8 at 6:30 PM to accept the FEMA funds from the March 2018 storm.*

**Old Business**

- Susan Potter- no show
- Rabies clinic this Saturday at the Fire Department 9-12. Town Clerk will be open during those hours.
- Cell tower- J. Hotchkiss speaks about AT&T looking for a building permit to place their repeater on the cell tower. Blue Sky's permit should work as its one project. Blue Sky will not be starting until the road posting has been lifted. J. Bailey asked if anyone has reached out to Strafford County regarding placing their repeater on the tower.

**New Business**

- Lenny Melanson asks about the money in the Highway Building CRF. L. Melanson speaks about possibility of widening the fire department. Question on if an addition will require additional fire marshal codes. If the addition is less than 50% of the actual building than no additional codes are required. J. Hotchkiss speaks about building an additional bay for the ambulance which would include an office area and area to store medical supplies securely. Funds would have to come from the CRF. Board unable to use fund balance unless it's an emergency. 40X20 addition would be enough. The board would get specific details and put out to bid. Roxanne Tufts-Keegan talks about preparing for the future and making sure we are not just getting some of the project accomplished. J. Coskie asked if the FD office trailer could be sold. It is not worth a lot and not the safest. Mary Knapp asked if the addition would be large enough to have a bathroom. It is possible to have a bathroom added but the septic would have to be upgraded.
- Roland Currier questions Highway Department employees taking the town trucks home. R. Currier wants the Board to look into this issue. L. Melanson questions the Fire Chief taking home the command car onto the worst road in town. L. Melanson wants to see the town vehicles to stay within town.
- Question asked when the new ambulance will be in service. Date is not specific.
- Charlie Allard wants to know the success rate is on the fire department. J. Hotchkiss cannot answer that question. Charlie Allard complains that the FD showed up, ran out of water, and then the fire re-kindled and burned an additional 40 hours. Fire Chief did not put water on the freightliner that was besides the building which could have been saved and is now a total loss. C. Allard wants to know how much new equipment the FD needs if it cannot save anything. C. Allard not happy losing a truck that should have been saved.
- Roger Mains speaks about T-Mobile and completing a balloon test. T-Mobile would like the Town to go through a contract. J. Hotchkiss would like to have a public hearing. J. Bailey would like to wait for the summer months to include seasonal residents. T-Mobile would need to do a presentation for the townspeople. J. Hotchkiss speaks about not hearing any complaints when there was talk regarding the tower on Ridge Road but has heard a lot of negative comments on having a tower within Tanglewood. J. Hotchkiss would like pictures of the balloon test from several different locations.
- Question on why the Town would not sell the Tanglewood properties for town development. Why wouldn't the town sell the 70 acres to a developer and profit instead of making a recreation area that would cost the town more money? Need to research to see if Tanglewood properties have deeded water rights.
- Discussion on the cell tower funds that are designated to go to Highway Building CRF which can be changed through another warrant article at another Town Meeting.
- Roxanne Tufts-Keegan asked if the trash collection day was going to change. Board has not made a decision and Waste Management will be at the next BOS meeting.
- Joe Varga asked when the town long term plan is updated. Town's long term plan is basically updated every year at town meeting when the townspeople speak about what they will approve.
- Bill Lawrence arrives to discuss FD topics. Discussion on utilizing the OTH bathroom for the FD. Not a good idea for the FD to utilize a public building for FD use. Should we be contaminating the public, or interrupting an event. What happens when the trailer has safety concerns? Perhaps the town cannot do anything this year. It may cost over \$65,000 to add an addition including the bathroom.
- Lenny Melanson speaks about how his truck is lighter than the ½ ton pick-up truck. Chief Blodgett read RSA 239:191 stating that the BOS can make the road weight restrictions stricter.
- Chief Blodgett asks the board regarding a resident looking to do a flea market on the weekends and wonders if he would need a special event permit. He would not; it would be considered a business since it would take place every weekend.

**Public Participation**

*J. Bailey motions to adjourn at 8:22 PM. J. Knapp seconds, all in favor.*

*Respectfully submitted by:*

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*Laura Parker, Administrative Assistant*