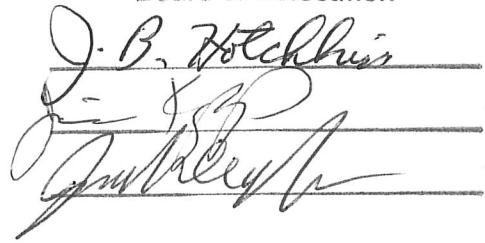


Town of Middleton  
Board of Selectmen Meeting  
January 27 , 2020

Approved By  
Board of Selectmen



Called to order at 6:30 P.M

BOS Members Present: J. Hotchkiss, J. Knapp,

Pledge Recited

**Signature Action:**

J. Knapp moves to approve the Board of Selectmen's meeting minutes dated 01/13/2020. J. Hotchkiss seconds.

**Old Business**

Discussion on cell tower. J. Knapp states right now testing 911 and end of week. AT&T will have better reception than the other cell phone carriers. It also is a 5-year contract after that some other companies can jump on.

Budget committee public hearing is Thursday 1/30/2020 at 6:00pm at Town Hall. To discuss warrant articles and budget for the town.

J. Hotchkiss discusses the investigation between Laura Parker and William Lawrence. On 1/13/2020 Laura Parker requested a public apology from the Board of Selectman and a copy of the results of the investigation outcome. She received the copy and J. Hotchkiss is ready to read an apology letter to Laura Parker who is in the audience. J. Hotchkiss reads the letter out loud and handed the signed letter to Laura Parker.

**New Business**

J. Hotchkiss discusses the Manchester trash pick-up on how they were going down private rds and now have decided that will not go down any private rd. He states that as big as Manchester is, they too do not go down private roads with trash pick-up.

J. Hotchkiss also discusses how Merrimack had recycling and is getting rid of it because it jumped double in price that again is why Middleton does not recycle because it cost too much.

J. Knapp discusses how J. Mammone states that we need Planning Board members. If anyone is interested in joining please come to a meeting.

Town Clerk wants to know what the polling hours will be for the upcoming elections J. Hotchkiss states:

**Presidential Primary-** hours will be 7-7 at the Old Town Hall

**Town Elections-** hours will be 7-7 Old Town Hall

**Town Meeting** -hours will be at 9am-adjourned Old Town Hall

J. Hotchkiss discusses the process for Internal search for Fire Chief position. J. Hotchkiss states how Jake Bourdeau is highly qualified with over 24 years of experience. The applicant has recommendations from some of the fire fighters from Middleton fire department as well as Town employees. J. Hotchkiss recommends J. Bourdeau to become the new Fire Chief. J. Knapp 2<sup>nd</sup> all in favor. J. Hotchkiss ask if anyone have any questions in the audience, Lenny Melanson, ask what his plans are? Lenny Melanson ask if he is going to cut? J. Bourdeau states he doesn't know about cutting but defiantly will look at excessive spending.

J. Hotchkiss speaks about how a Long time ago the Board of Selectman offices were in the Library area of the Old Town Hall. He states when they moved over to the town hall that it was then uses as a library and since then the library is not there. He would like the room to be uses as the Fire department office till they can afford to build on the Fire department. L. Melanson asked if they are a fulltime department J. Hotchkiss said it is a part-time department. Laura Parker ask if we are not renting the OTH the reason why is because if we are renting the OTH and the fire department goes through while there is a party going on she doesn't think it's fair for the people who paid. J. Hotchkiss states there is a separate door.

Mary Knapp talks about the recreation committee they had a meeting 1/23 and had 10 people showed up. The first event 2/8 bake sale at the deliberation meeting at 10:00am.

L. Melanson speaks on salt shed. He wants to know why we need a new one. J. Hotchkiss states yes, we need one. Lenny Melanson ask What is the basis on that? The salt shed is barley standing and we only have a tarp to cover it. When we have a load of salt it doesn't fit all the way in states J. Hotchkiss. L. Melanson wants to know what we are proposing. J. Knapp says we don't have numbers yet. Lenny Melanson ask why we need so much salt. He states we only have 7 Miles of rd. to salt. Rick Washburn states no we have 27 miles one-way plowing. There is a lengthy discussing between Lenny Melanson and Rick Washburn about why we need so much salt. A new discussing starts about the neighbor that abuts the salt shed Rick Washburn he feels that it should be fix, the water runoff is going right into the neighbor yard. Lenny Melanson states that the neighbor was more upset about the right of way between the fire department and his yard than the salt going into his well. J Hotchkiss is concerned about the salt running downhill. At some point someone could come down from the state. Brittany Baylor states if we plan out something it tends to be cheaper than an emergency. Lenny Melanson ask if it's going to be moved down to the pit. J. Hotchkiss and J. Knapp states to be determined.

J. Hotchkiss states By Thursday we will have a warrant article with a price tag.

L. Melanson also speaks on why he can't drive home unloaded with his truck. He states that his truck weighs less than a pickup truck because of the weight disbursement. J. Hotchkiss explains cumulative weight aspect. He also states that state goes by different weight requirements. R. Washburn states that we always had these weight restrictions to save the rds. It the law and every town does it. Lenny Melanson wants to know how to get exempt to go home. R. Washburn states it won't happen. L. Melanson states he really doesn't want to get lawyers involved. But he will if he has to.

Motion to adjourned @ 7:33pm

Respectfully submitted by:

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Kathleen Blaney, Administrative Assistant