

TOWN OF SMITHFIELD
Summary of the March 4, 2025
Selectmen's Meeting Minutes

PRESENT:
Richard Moore
Laurie Landry
Justin Furbush

ALSO, PRESENT: Nichole Clark
Hans Rasmussen
Rebecca Bright Travis Warren
Meredyth Tuttle

THIS MEETING WAS TAPED AND THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS A BRIEF SUMMARY.

The summary of the February 18, 2025, meeting minutes were accepted.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Town Meeting Handout for Proposed Ordinance

The board went over the draft ordinance to be worked on throughout 2025 for Tiny Home/Recreational Vehicles that will be a handout at Town Meeting.

2. 319 Grant Info & Discussion

Travis Warren, Road Commissioner, Hans Rasmussen, CEO, and the board talked about what road would received work through the 319 grant that the 7 Lakes Alliance received and earmarked for Smithfield. Travis will be calling 7 Lakes Alliance.

3. Town Meeting Article Information

The AA asked the board is they needed any information for the Town Meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Tax Acquired Property Policy Public Hearing

Rick Moore opened the public hearing for the proposed Tax Acquired Property Policy. The board looked over the proposed policy that was drafted by the Town Lawyer. Rick asked if there was any questions or input from the public. There was none. Justin Furbush motioned to accept the Tax Acquired Property Policy. Laurie Landry seconded the motion. Motion passed,

2. Letter from Delta Ambulance about Employee Retention Credit

The board received a letter from Delta Ambulance giving them information about The Employee Retention Credit (ERC) is a refundable tax credit for certain organizations affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Former Delta Ambulance Executive Director Tim Beals applied for this credit in 2023, but processing was slowed due to a high number of improper claims. What was initially thought to take a few weeks became perpetually delayed and some financial advisors doubted if there would be any payout at all. The total amount expected was just over \$2 million minus fees, but we lost any sense of when or if we would receive it. we received the first of several ERC installments last month (Jan 2025). Over this year, we expect to keep a total of approximately \$1.8 million after fees. These payments *will* show on Delta Ambulance's 2024 990 as they are based on tax periods that accrued before 2025. This was a pleasant surprise for us this year, but I did not want there to be any confusion or perceived lack of transparency regarding our financial status.

These payments will *not* affect per capita rates. As described in prior communications, we are a few years behind the curve on much-needed ambulance replacements, at \$200k to \$300k per vehicle, and a substantial portion of the ERC must be used to get us back on an acceptable replacement schedule. In other words, we're still catching up. This is a one-time event, and funds will be used judiciously to help preserve long term cash flow as much as possible.

3. Charter Communications Franchise Payment Info

The board received information from Charter Communications on the town's franchise annual payment.

4. Stevens Road Plowing

The board and office had received complaints about plowing the end of the road and the snowbanks at the beginning on Stevens Road. Justin Furbush met Dan Witham, a road resident to find out his concerns. Justin spoke with Joe Lewandowski, plow contractor and explained what needed to be done.

5. KRDA Budget

The board received information about KRDA fiscal year budget.

6. Maine Paid Family & Medical Leave

The AA informed the board that Joni is looking into the new legislative law concerning Paid Maine Family & Medical Leave and the contributions that the town will have to make to the state.

7. Time Change Reminder for Elections & Meeting

The AA reminded the board about the time change for voting and annual meeting.

8. Fire Department Floor

The AA had been asked by the Fire Department who did the sealant on the station floor. The last time the station floor was sealed was prior to 2020 and the sealant was purchased and the members applied it to the floor. The AA didn't know who to contact to get a quote. Hans Rasmussen gave a name and will get the number to the AA.

9. FD Oil & Water Separator 4 yr Service Quote

The AA received a quote from Enviroserve to clean out the fire station oil and water waste. The quote is \$1,280.00 (\$190.00 an hour & \$1.40 a gallon). Justin Furbush motioned to accept the quote from Enviroserve. Laurie Landry seconded the motion. Motion passed.

10. Boiler Repair

The AA scheduled the annual boiler maintenance service call. One of the boilers was found not working. The motor and fan had stopped working. The Heating technician will replace the motor and fan.

11. Request for LPI to Check Out Porta Potty Situation on Village Rd

The LPI, Hans Rasmussen was asked to go check on a porta potty that was seen laying down in a field off from the Village Rd.

12. Adjourn and Sign Warrant #3-25

Justin Furbush motioned to adjourn, and sign Warrant #3-25. Laurie Landry seconded the motion. Motion passed.