

SELECTMEN'S MINUTES MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2015

The Selectmen's meeting for Monday, March 16, 2015 started at 6:30 p.m. Present were Selectman Bussiere, Selectman Gaudiello, Selectman Hatch, Selectman O'Brien, Chairman Clark, Administrator Scruton and Clerk McNeil. Town Clerk, Kimberly Kerekes, administered the Oath of Office to Casey O'Brien.

Chairman Clark welcomed everyone and led in the Pledge of Allegiance. Chairman Clark welcomed Casey O'Brien on the eve of St. Patrick's Day.

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN – Selectman Gaudiello moved to nominate Mike Clark as Chairman, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative. Selectman Gaudiello moved to nominate Dawn Hatch as vice chairman seconded by Selectman Bussiere. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative

APPOINTMENTS

Doug Langdon – Solar PPA – This is a follow-up meeting to the last Selectmen's meeting that Mr. Langdon attended. Mr. Langdon suggested the following questions for the discussion and consideration on solar: the main reason to explore solar opportunities – desire to be “green”, save money, has the town's electricity expenditures been an issue – cost savings with no investment as the cost of electricity keeps going up, how would this compare with what other NH municipalities have done – Durham and other towns are looking at solar – is Barrington going to be one of the first, what is the town's stance on a 20 year contract – may need a new town vote per the town's attorney (there are so many financial details and an escape clause), maybe look at other options to provide the desire to be “green” “cast a broader net”, look at roof warranties/building life expectancies, and are there incentives that will expire. Selectman Gaudiello felt there needs to be some comparison between the two companies that submitted proposals. Both companies have different methodology for the buyout. It may be recommended that the Board look at other companies as there have been changes to the industry – “net metering”. Chairman Clark felt that the Town should move forward before the tax incentives go away. Mr. Langdon will offer a third option and the Board will compare what has been presented. The town will not be opening up the bid process again. Mr. Langdon will have some information for the next Selectmen's meeting in April. Paul Maustellar made several suggestions. Jack Bingham, Barrington Power, presented the Board with sample PPAs for the Board's review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Paul Maustellar stated that he was appalled with Chairman Clark's and Administrator Scruton's comments in the articles in the Fosters. Administrator Scruton defended Fosters stating they did quote him correctly and that it has been hard to find an existing building in Barrington that meets the needs of the town office and the Board may have to look out of town for a building if it cannot renew at 333 Calef Highway, construct a new building or renovate the old building.

Daniel Ayer asked about the amount in the budget for demolition of the old town office and is it legal. Administrator Scruton said the town's attorney thinks so. The Board noted that you take the problem, look at the facts and try to find a solution for the town. The old building is sitting there and costing us money.

Ken Grant asked about the demolition and is it an historic building. He claims that the building is not contaminated. He feels that the taxpayers weren't asked about tearing down the building as promised by Chairman Clark. Administrator Scruton noted the number of times that this issue has been brought up at Selectmen's meetings, the town's website, public hearings, channel 26 and a discussion at Deliberative Session.

REVIEW OF MINUTES – March 2, 2015 – Selectmen Hatch moved to approve the minutes of March 2, 2015, seconded by Selectman Bussiere. Selectman Gaudiello and Selectman O'Brien abstained from the vote. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

STAFF REPORT

Clerk McNeil requested signatures on the following:

- Abatements #9 & #10
- Chairman Clark signed three letters of denial from abatement decisions
- One Land Use Change Tax in the amount of \$8,290
- Intent to Cut on Smoke Street and Ramsdell Lane
- Vendor Manifests dated 3/5 & 3/12
- Payroll Manifests dated 3/1 & 3/8

Administrator Scruton

1. Selectman Gaudiello moved to support Roberts and Greene doing the 2014 audit of the town's financial records, seconded by Selectman Hatch. Selectman O'Brien abstained. The motion passes.
2. Selectman Bussiere moved to renew the Siemens contract for one year for maintenance of the HVAC units and authorize Administrator Scruton to sign the agreement, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
3. Selectman Bussiere moved to implement the budget for salaries and hours starting, March 30th, seconded by Selectman Hatch. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
Selectman Hatch moved the following appointments as read: Leigh Elliott Library - Trustee Alternate 2016, Glenn Gould, Julia Guimond, Marika Wilde, and Anne Melvin - Conservation Comm. 2018, Ray Desmarais - Zoning Board of Adjustment 2018, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.
4. The Board supported delaying doing any civil engineering work at the proposed new town office site.
5. Administrator Scruton noted the proposed location for the library is very much up in the air given the vote on the town hall and while the Board considers again saving the old town building. The Board will make a decision, after input from the Library Trustees, whether to release \$25,000 to the library to start design work for a new library.
6. The Board supported delaying further architectural work on the proposed town office until the town decides how to proceed.
7. The Board authorized Administrator Scruton to extend the current lease at the town office and to begin to negotiate to add an option year to August, 2017.
8. Selectman Bussiere moved to approve the extension of employment agreement with Administrator Scruton with a modification from \$2,800 to \$2,400 for official travel and meetings, seconded by Selectman Gaudiello. It was unanimously voted in the affirmative.

9. The Board supported going out to bid for a new bucket loader using money in the Highway Equipment Capital Reserve Fund. It was asked if they had thought of going with a lease/purchase. Dan Ayer offered a suggestion.
10. The Board reviewed an RFP for paving. Once received, the bids will be opened at a Selectmen's meeting.
11. Administrator Scruton presented a spreadsheet of money spent on studies of the old town hall, proposed town hall, and moving expenses for 333 Calef Highway – totaling \$451,680.

OLD BUSINESS

There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS

Selectmen Liaison Roles – It was recommended that Selectman Hatch keep ZBA and Library, Selectman Bussiere would like to go to the Planning Board, Selectman O'Brien to do Recreation and Selectman Gaudiello the Conservation Commission instead of the School Board. She felt the School Board has a different format than town boards and that she was ineffective at their meetings. These will be finalized at the next meeting.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT

Selectman Hatch noted that she has a library trustees meeting and a ZBA meeting this week. Selectman Bussiere stated that he was at the election all day answering questions about the proposed town office. However; he was disappointed in the results. Selectman O'Brien was disappointed at the small turnout on Election Day. Chairman Clark would like to recognize Selectman Malloy for his years on the Board. He also reminded the Board to be thinking about goals for Administrator Scruton.

Clerk McNeil noted that she received a request from a representative of the New Hampshire Old Graveyard Association to do work with a student from UNH on the cemetery at the intersection of Route 125 and New Town Plains Road. The Association would like to do a workshop at the site. There is a large pine tree that they would like to take down. The Board would require anyone taking down the tree to have a \$1,000,000 insurance policy. Clerk McNeil discussed this request with Rick Walker of the Cemetery Commission and he was going to do further research. The Board supported the concept. Clerk McNeil will work with Rick Walker on this proposal.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Paul Maustellar asked what the Siemens renewal covered and asked if the boilers were still in the old town office. He also spoke about the Communication Committee survey on Election Day. Three hundred people responded to the survey and they pick up some more volunteers. Ken Grant was surprised that Selectman Gaudiello felt that she was ineffective attending school board meetings. She suggested Mr. Grant start attending School Board meetings.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.