

Town of Farmington
Board of Selectmen – Public Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 27, 2014
6:00PM
Selectmen’s Chambers
356 Main Street

Farmington Board of Selectmen
Monday, October 27, 2014

Members Present:	Others Present:
Matt Scruton, Chairman	Town Administrator Keith Trefethen
Charlie King	Town Clerk Kathy Seaver
Paula Proulx	Fire Chief Peter Lamb
Brian St. Onge	Public Works Director Dale Sprague
Arthur Capello	Goodwin Library Director Shanna Smith
	Cons Com Chair Dave Connolly
	Moose Mountain Regional Greenways Land Conservation Director Keith Fletcher
	Waste Management Account Manager Peter Lachapelle
	Residents: Rodney and Judith Thompson Mark Guilmett

1. Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance:

Chairman Scruton called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

2. Approval of Minutes:

Sept. 22, 2014 - Change item #8, page 2 to show Selectmen toured the Barrington and Madbury safety complexes only.

Motion: (Capello, second St. Onge) to approve the minutes of Sept. 22, 2014 as amended passed 5-0.

Sept. 22, 2014 Non-public sessions-

Motion: (Proulx, second King) to accept the minutes of non-public sessions A, B, C, D as submitted passed 5-0.

Oct. 14, 2014 - Amend item #9, page 3 to state that Selectman Proulx requested a description of the easement granted to the 500 Boys and Girls Club. Change item 14, section G to reflect that Selectman Proulx asked if a date was chosen to set the tax rate. Amend item 6, page 2 to state that Leeman presented a deposit form.

Motion: (Proulx, second St. Onge) to approve the minutes of Oct. 14, 2014 as amended passed 4-0-1 (Capello abstained).

Oct. 14, 2014 Non-public session minutes-

Motion: (Proulx, second King) to approve as amended passed 4-0-1 (Capello abstained).

3. Public Comment - None

4. Library Trustees - Update Library Activities:

Library Director Shanna Smith reported on activities, projects and goals at the Goodwin Library. Smith said circulation, the number of cards issued, computer usage and the number of volunteers have all increased. Staff have conducted surveys, a SWOT analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunity and Threats) about the facility and services, are developing a strategy plan and policy updates. The library board has applied to the NH Registry of Historic Places for historic site designation, which may also help with future funding. The Eagle Scout project has been completed which resulted in new signage, fresh paint and flower beds. The entire library was "weeded" in preparation for the Hay Day Book Sale which resulted in twice the profit from last

year's sale Smith said. In addition to their work at the library, volunteers also cleaned up the Goodwin Cemetery. Other improvements include switching the phone and Internet to MetroCast, electrical updates, addressing fire code violations and building maintenance. Smith said they are planning to replace computers over a three year period to stagger costs. She added that she is not anticipating an increase for next year's budget.

5. Conservation Easement Deed Thompson Property:

Town Administrator Keith Trefethen told Selectmen the conservation easement deed for property located north of Meaderboro Road in Farmington (a portion of Map R-67, Lot 4) and New Durham (Map 269, Lot 7) has been reviewed by the attorneys for all parties involved and is ready to be signed. Property grantors Rodney and Judith Thompson, Cons Com Chair Dave Connolly and Moose Mountain Regional Greenways Land Conservation Director Keith Fletcher were present for the signing ceremony. Motion: (King, second Proulx) to accept and sign the conservation easement passed 5-0. Selectmen signed the deed and posed for photos. Town Clerk Kathy Seaver then notarized the documents. Selectmen thanked everyone involved for their efforts. The deed must also be reviewed and approved by the New Durham Board of Selectmen.

6. Signatures/Easement Deed 500 Boys & Girls Club:

Trefethen presented the easement deed for Map 36, Lot 1-1. Selectman St. Onge noted that the starting point is described as "Along Paulson Road 390 + - feet" which could be interpreted to mean anywhere along Paulson Road. Selectmen reviewed the description of the easement and determined the starting point should read beginning at the point abutting the northwest corner of the current 500 Boys and Girls Club property along Paulson Road and then continue with the description. Motion: (King, second Capello) to accept and sign the easement deed as amended passed 5-0. Selectmen signed the deed and Town Clerk Kathy Seaver notarized the document.

7. Recycling-Trash & Leaf Waste:

A) Chairman Scruton asked for public comment on the issue. Resident Mark Guilmett told the board the private business on Paulson Road that accepted yard waste had inconvenient hours and has now closed, so there is no place in town for residents to dispose of grass and leaves. He said that the City of Somersworth accepts yard waste in the sand pit area next to their dump site, has not experienced problems with trash mixed in with the yard materials and still has room to continue accepting materials after 20 years of operation. He asked Selectmen to consider allowing a similar set up to continue at the Farmington transfer station which has more convenient hours for resident use. Chairman Scruton said the proposal has not been approved by Selectmen and that he was not aware that a trial run of the operation was already underway at the transfer station. Public Works Director Dale Sprague told the board the trial began about two weeks ago in an effort to determine if the proposal would be viable. Three roll off containers have been set up for collection and a loader will scoop the materials and deposit them in a flat area in back and process them. The yard waste must be loose or placed in paper bags and no brush will be accepted. Trefethen said Sprague did not begin the project without his approval, adding that he felt it was his duty to provide something for residents on temporary basis. He suggested Selectmen could disapprove the program if they chose to. Although members recognized the value of recycling the materials, they were concerned about labor costs, lack of a complete processing plan, trash mixed in with yard materials, space concerns and the impact on transfer staff. Sprague said he could not address their concerns as he does not know the volume of materials that will need to be processed at this time.

Motion: (St. Onge, second Scruton) to continue the set up for leaves and grass collection on a trial basis during the fall and spring seasons and to require the Public Works Director to provide a report at the end of the spring season passed 3-2 (Scruton, Proulx, St. Onge-yes, King, Capello-opposed).

B) Mandatory Recycling-Selectmen discussed the pros and cons of making recycling mandatory in town. Discussion included concerns about disposal cost increases as the volume of recyclables increases, how to enforce the mandate, non-resident use, and how to increase participation through education. Selectman Capello said he did not favor yet another instance of the government telling people what to do, but would

support the proposal if it was approved by residents at town meeting. Selectman King suggested the Public Works Director conduct an audit of the current participation rate, educate residents about the recycling program and then conduct a second audit to determine if the participation rate increases.

Motion: (King, second Capello) to authorize the Public Works Director to audit the program as he sees fit to get a reasonable sample of recycling participation passed 5-0.

C) Bridge Aid- Sprague told Selectmen that three bridges in town have been added to the "red list" of structurally deficient bridges in need of repair or replacement. He explained that the bridges were on a previous red list, had received some repairs and subsequently removed from the list. When state officials recently conducted another inspection, they were put back on the list. Sprague said he planned to get an estimate for the work, submit applications for state funding and then get in line to receive the funds.

Motion: (King, Capello) to authorize the Public Works Director to submit the applications to the DOT for Bridge Aid passed 5-0.

Motion: (King, second Capello) to authorize the Town Administrator to sign the applications passed 5-0.

8. Transfer Station Disposal Proposals:

Trefethen reported that quotes have been received for waste removal services from Waste Management of Rochester, NH and Casella Waste Systems of Belmont, NH. The current contract expires at year end. Waste Management Account Manager Peter Lachapelle provided a spreadsheet depicting the companies rates for a multi-year contract. Waste Management proposes \$102 per haul cost and \$69 per ton cost with annual escalators of 1-2% each year. Casella would charge \$190 per haul cost, \$75 per ton cost and increases would be tied to the Consumer Price Index (Boston) each year. Recyclable removal would cost \$13 per ton with Waste Management and \$20 per ton with Casella. Selectmen decided to take additional time to review the materials presented and obtain any additional information needed from the two companies and the Town Administrator before making a decision.

Motion: (King, second Capello) to table the matter until their next meeting passed 5-0.

9. Public Safety Building Update & Annex Status:

A) Annex update- Trefethen said a Waste Management representative estimated it would cost between \$4,200-\$4,500 to remove debris from the annex site if the town conducts the demolition of the building. Fire Chief Peter Lamb said he met with state fire officials to discuss burning the debris and is awaiting approval of a burn permit. He said he also contacted Enviro Advantage to discuss asbestos and lead removal, but has not received a reply. He added that the project is a several week event due to moving equipment and vehicles, demo the building, clean up, and then obtain and construct the temporary structure. Trefethen said the lowest bid to demo the building is approximately \$12,000 and significant savings could be realized if the town staff conducted the demolition. Sprague said a small crew of town staff could perform the demolition and debris removal during the winter on a slow day with the aid of an excavator and two 10-wheeled trucks. Members determined there was insufficient information to make a decision and took no action.

Motion: (Capello, second King) to table the issue passed 5-0.

B) Safety Building Update- Selectman King reported that he met with Fire Chief Lamb to discuss the problems at the current fire station and his department's needs at a new facility. He said the work is moving forward and he hopes to complete a proposed conceptual layout in time for budget season.

10. Appointments:

Trefethen said an application for appointment to the Conservation Commission has been received. Resident Resta Detwiler requested appointment to a one-year term as an alternate to the commission and Cons Com Chair Dave Connolly included a note recommending the appointment. Selectmen noted that the only open position on the commission runs from 2014 to 2016.

Motion: (King, second Capello) to appoint Resta Detwiler to the open position as an alternate member to the Conservation Commission passed 5-0.

11. Possible Proposal Standardized Official Ballot Referendum:

Chairman Scruton presented a proposal for the purpose of discussion and to determine the board's willingness to include a warrant article to adopt the SB2 form of town meeting. The proposal would be voted on at the annual Town Meeting next March and would need a 3/5 vote to be adopted. Under SB2, residents would attend two sessions, a deliberative session, where residents could make changes to the proposed budget and warrant articles and a second session where residents would vote by ballot on those issues. Scruton said it could increase voter turnout and include more residents in making decisions on town matters. Selectman King suggested the board request an expert speaker from the Government Center to make a presentation to the board about the two forms of meetings. No action was taken.

12. Tax Deeded Parcels:

Trefethen told the board that Auctioneer James St. Jean is still working on documents for the second bidders and the properties have not yet gone to closing. The matter was tabled.

13. Any Further Business:

Trefethen said the town's tax documents have been completed but one piece is missing from the school district. Department heads have been noticed to finalize their end of year costs and the documents will be provided to the board by November 1.

14. Non-Public Session A-

Motion: (St. Onge, second Capello) to enter non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II(c) Discuss Police Negotiations passed 5-0 on a roll call vote (Scruton, St. Onge, Capello, King, Proulx-yes) at 8:22 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Capello) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 on a roll call vote (King, Capello, St. Onge, Proulx, Scruton-yes) at 8:40 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Capello) to seal the minutes of the non-public session until after the negotiations have concluded passed 5-0.

15. Non-Public Session B-

Motion: (Capello, second King) to enter non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II(a) Pending Legal Cases passed 5-0 on a roll call vote (Scruton, Proulx, St. Onge, King, Capello-yes) at 8:41 p.m.

Motion: (Capello, second St. Onge) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 on a roll call vote (King, Capello, Proulx, St. Onge, Scruton-yes) at 8:55 p.m.

Motion: (Capello, second King) to seal the non-public session minutes until after the trials passed 5-0.

16. Non-Public Session C-

Motion: (King, second Capello) to enter non-public session under RSA 91A:3 II(c) Discuss Teamsters Negotiations passed 5-0 on a roll call vote (Scruton, King, Proulx, St. Onge, Capello-yes) at 8:56 p.m.

Motion: (King, second Capello) to come out of non-public session passed 5-0 on a roll call vote at 9:05 p.m.

Motion: (Capello, second King) to seal the non-public minutes until after the negotiations have concluded passed 5-0.

17. Non-Public Session D-

Motion: (Scruton, second King) to table agenda item #17, (c) Lease Strategy Children's Center passed 5-0.

18. Adjournment:

Motion: (St. Onge, second Proulx) to adjourn passed 5-0 at 9:11 p.m.

Respectively submitted,
Kathleen Magoon
Recording Secretary

Chairman, Matt Scruton

Paula Proulx

Arthur Capello

Brian St. Onge

Charlie King