

I. CALL TO ORDER at 6:10 pm in the basement meeting room at the Fremont Town Hall. Present were Selectmen Leon Holmes Sr, Brett Hunter, and Greta St Germain; and Town Administrator Heidi Carlson. All rose for the Pledge of Allegiance.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Selectmen discussed receiving calls today from the media regarding the Police Chief appointment. St Germain relayed a conversation she had with Wood, after he declined coming to speak with the entire Board. Wood expressed to St Germain that he felt the Board did not show concern for his well-being in recent months. The Board felt that each time he had been in to meet with them that they had asked how he was and how things were going for him at the Police Department. St Germain specifically recalled a conversation regarding a camping trip Wood described taking with his family. Wood expressed to St Germain that it was a terrible mistake not to make the job full-time. St Germain said that Chief Janvrin had served the Town well in a part-time capacity for more than 20 years. There was also some concern that the Fire Chief had asked for that position to be full-time, and the Board had decided against that a couple of years ago also. Overall, St Germain said that Wood was very upset about not getting the job.

This led to discussion about Wood's future participation in the Department, which Selectmen feel is solely at the discretion of Chief Twiss.

St Germain and Carlson indicated that Twiss had been to the Town Hall last evening to sign the release and background check forms, and had begun a discussion about some operation items related to Fremont town government (budgets, schedules, etc).

The Board discussed a potential wage for Twiss and will further discuss it once the background information comes back.

Carlson relayed to the Board a conversation with a resident yesterday questioning the Police Chief appointment, who indicated she was disappointed that Wood had not been selected. She did not know of the Board's reasoning behind the number of hours, and that was further explained. There was also some support expressed for the Board's decision within the community.

III. LIAISON REPORTS

Hunter reported that the Planning Board has proposed monthly site visits to the Seacoast Farms site for compliance monitoring. They further are recommending that if the applicant is found to be noncompliant that fines and penalties be levied in accordance with NH RSA 676:17. The Planning Board is also recommending that the applicant be given notice of these proposed items, and be given 30 days to become compliant.

Selectmen agreed that this monitoring would be a good effort, and will advise the Planning Board to proceed.

IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Acceptance of the minutes of 11 July 2013 was tabled.

V. SCHEDULED AGENDA ITEMS

At 6:25 pm Andy Kohlhofer met with the Board to discuss the formation of an Economic Development Committee. He provided copies of some sample Economic Development Charters and Bylaws and said several area towns have such Committees. He said there are Economic Development Committees in Windham, Stratham, Durham, Hooksett, Hillsborough, Exeter, Hopkington, Allenstown, Pittsfield, New London, Newmarket, Newfields, Farmington, Bedford, Swanzey, Northwood, Wolfboro, and Peterborough.

He listed some examples of what they do:

- Assist in developing Master Plan
- Target Areas for development
- Review ordinances to see whether promote or obstruct economic development
- Gather people with economic, business and development acumen. He suggested that it needs people who do not have an underlying personal interest in particular properties.
- Study town assets and deficits
- Assist in developing the Master Plan

There are no statutes that regulate Economic Development Committees. It could be a Planning Board subcommittee or overseen by the Selectmen. The Committee would be subject to the Right to Know Law in terms of posting meetings and preparation of minutes.

He said you could develop a website for resources, develop a newsletter to outline the Town's assets and organize and advertise events. There was discussion about how to organize and how funding would be handled at such time as the Committee needed things.

The Selectmen suggested that the Planning Board be contacted if they would support it as a subcommittee. Kohlhofer will do that, and volunteered to be the Planning Board representative.

Kohlhofer left the meeting at 7:00 pm.

6:45 pm Public Input - none

7:00 pm Department Heads

At 7:30 pm Beede Hill Road residents John & Renee King and Building Inspector Bob Meade met with the Board. The Kings wanted to touch base with the Board about Seacoast Farms odors and an accumulation of trash on Shirkin Road. Mrs King noted that the Planning Board has done a lot of oversight, and that there was a recent Site Plan Review process. She said in the evening when it has been hot during the day that there is an odor, and wants everyone to be aware of it, and for the Planning Board to stay on top of it. She wanted Selectmen to be aware of how important it is for the Board to stay on top of it because from a complaint through resolution (if legal action were needed) is an extremely long process.

Meade said that Seacoast Farms is supposed to follow Best Management Practices and there are some days that it will smell. There are conflicting statutes and some question as to what NH DES is responsible for versus local ordinance, or who enforces certain statutes.

Mr King said that they had paid for aerial photos of the site and these were shared. He also said that they had paid for attorneys to review their concerns. He said that the Town needs to enforce these laws. The Counsel that the King's have hired, without the multiple cease and desist orders, that they could only pursue litigation through a civil matter which will cost \$10,000 up front.

Street power went out at 8:00 pm and the meeting recessed for a few minutes while the generator was started and power converted over.

The Kings said it was problematic when people drop off deliveries at all hours of the day, night, and weekends. Meade looked up the hours of operation, which are business weekday hours, and 9:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturdays. The gate to the site does not ever appear to be locked, so that material can be dumped and left unprocessed for up to three days over the weekend, and this causes significant odor problems.

Moving forward, the Kings will make an effort to check on a regular basis at the gate. Mr King said that Bob Kelly has always asked for a call when there is a problem so he can address it, but King said that Kelly has not returned his calls in a very long time.

Selectmen reiterated that it needs to be logged in by the Police Department when there is a call there for odors. When Meade is working in Fremont, he will check on any complaints received.

Mrs King said that there is no windsock out there currently. When there has been in the past, the operators could better tell when not to operate due to poor wind conditions.

Hunter said that he would also drive by out there and other will be asked to check the lock on Saturdays. Seacoast Farms will be advised to keep their gate locked at all times.

There was discussion about the height of piles, and questions about when the wells would be tested again. It was suggested that when the Town's letter goes out, that it be copied to John Galloway, the landowner.

Meade will work on a letter to go out from the Town. It will advise that the Town will be going out whenever there is a complaint, that they need to reinstall the windsock, lock the gate, continue working on moving the tailing piles, to return to monitoring the varying wind speeds and prevalent direction, and that upon a resident's complaint the tenant (Bob Kelly / Seacoast Farms) should be available to attend to it immediately. Meade will also cover Best Management Practices and other Site Plan conditions that need attention.

The King's and Meade left the meeting at 8:30 pm.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Selectmen further discussed the Town Clerk resignation. Sharon Girardi has been sworn in as the Deputy Town Clerk and will begin training as soon as she can work out scheduling details. Carlson advised the Board on progress with scheduling temporary employees and noted that Sue McKinnon has been extremely helpful once again. Carlson and McKinnon had worked on an email with information and the Town's needs, and McKinnon sent it out to the Clerk's Association. Already a few Clerks had replied that they could help. The Board asked Carlson to secure what help was necessary for a transition and training period and to make whatever arrangements were needed with NH DMV or other agencies to establish the visiting Clerks in the system with access for Fremont.

2. A Comcast commercial contractor installed the drop today for use with the PEG access, to be able to view the broadcast and see that the channel is working properly once equipment is purchased.

Selectmen discussed uploading video to YouTube like the School Board has done for their meetings pending the purchase of the necessary equipment. Randy Bucchini has some proposals for equipment and

is nearly ready to make a recommendation to the Board. Hunter will spec out a video camera that may be used in the interim to upload some meetings and see how that process may work.

3. The Board asked Carlson to contact Herb Tardiff again to schedule time to meet with the Board. The goal is to have that happen for August 1, 2013. Additionally, Family Promise has scheduled time that evening and would like it to be made available to the Fire Chief, Building Inspector, and Welfare Director to learn more about the organization.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

1. Selectmen reviewed and approved the payroll manifest \$21,340.82 and accounts payable manifest \$220,272.83 for current week dated 19 July 2013.

2. Selectmen reviewed and approved bills and invoices for payment next week.

3. Selectmen reviewed the folder of incoming correspondence; reviewed and signed outgoing correspondence to Police Chief candidates.

There was some discussion about compensation for Chief Twiss. The conditional offer had been returned as accepted.

4. Selectmen reviewed and approved the August Newsletter for publication. The temporary Town Clerk Schedule will be added as soon as it is complete at least through the month of August. Carlson advised that she had asked the Town Clerk to hold the August renewal letters until a schedule can be printed to be enclosed with each, as the Clerk had printed the renewal notices with her former hours on them. The Board agreed it would be best to send them out with updated and current information.

Hunter brought up the topic of mailing the newsletter every month based on concerns from residents who no longer receive it. The Board decided this was a discussion for budget season.

5. Selectmen reviewed a list of potential tax deed properties and those residents who currently have payment plans.

6. Selectmen reviewed a Disabled Exemption application for parcel 02-018.002. With all of the information the owner supplied, he is not qualified (over income) at this time. Motion was made by St Germain to deny the application. Hunter seconded and the vote was approved 3-0.

7. Selectmen drafted a press release regarding the conditional offer of employment to Jon Twiss.

8. Hunter questioned if the Credit Card Policy needed review. It will be verified and brought back next week if needed.

9. Hunter questioned the Town's Impact Fee Ordinance and what the funds could be used for. The statutes provide that they cannot be collected for general highway use, and there was discussion about the purpose and function of impact fees.

10. St Germain circulated copies of recent wage and salary data for towns of similar size to Fremont. The Board reviewed them and chose several towns similar in size and character to Fremont, who have a combined Town Clerk Tax Collector. From there, St Germain will work on a spreadsheet comparing office hours, wage scales and other information. This will be brought back to the meeting next week.

VIII. NON-PUBLIC SESSION NH RSA 91-A

The next regular Board meeting will be a work session, to be held on Thursday July 25, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

IX. ADJOURNMENT – by 9:00 pm

Motion was made by Holmes Sr to adjourn at 9:15 pm. Hunter seconded and the vote was unanimously approved 3-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Heidi Carlson
Town Administrator