

**OFFICE OF SELECTMEN
6 HOLLAND STREET
PO BOX 139
MOULTONBOROUGH, NH 03254**

Selectmen's Work Session

January 4, 2013

MINUTES

Present: Selectmen: Joel R. Mudgett, Chair, Edward J. Charest, Betsey L. Patten, Jonathan W. Tolman, and Town Administrator: Carter Terenzini.

Absent: Russell Wakefield (w/prior notification)

ABC: Jean Beadle, Alan Ballard, Betsey Patten

Absent: Kathy Gary and Barbara Sheppard (w/prior notification)

CALL TO ORDER: The Chair called the meeting to order at 9:03 A.M.

UPDATES: (1) The Town Administrator gave out a couple of updates, advising the BoS on the latest submission to DES proposing mitigation for the wetlands impacts from the upgrade of the soccer field. He noted we had used virtually all of the lands available to us, spoke to its negative impact upon programming, and pointed out there were no lands left to offset the impacts on wetlands if and when we attempt to upgrade the softball field. Joel suggested that, depending on what happens to this submission, we may need to revisit the proposed purchase of lands at the Highway Garage. As a result of the discussion the consensus was to authorize the TA to contact the Lakes Region Conservation Trust to see if they would be willing to be the 3rd party holder of any conservation easements necessary to satisfy DES requirements. (2) The Town Administrator distributed a letter from the Trustees of the Trust Funds saying they had withdrawn their request for \$15k with which to retain an investment advisor. It was noted by Jon Tolman that the BoS had not voted in opposition to the basic idea and the TA was asked to draft a follow-up letter to the Trustees for BoS signature.

- 1.) Setting a Final Budget Draft for Public Hearing and Submission to ABC: The TA went through the budget revision sheets to see if there were any further additions, deletions, or modifications the BoS wanted to make to the budget. Jon Tolman noted that on page 86A the first Grade VI in the notes should read Grade IV effective January 1, 2013. Otherwise, the BoS indicated that there were no further changes they wished to make to the proposed budget. The TA did observe that he has yet to receive budgetary estimates for the surge protection at Town Hall and the Public Safety Building, and the AV equipment to broadcast meetings, and that some of the specific items in the facility project list might have to get pushed back to accommodate these priorities.
- 2.) TA Recommendation #3: Reduce our defense of Variance and Permit Approval: The TA recapped the discussion with Town Counsel where we advised the Town not retain its recordings of meetings as that then drove the need to prepare costly and time consuming transcripts. He advised we tape over each recording once the minutes were approved. Betsey thought this was a reasonable step and Ed, after 10 years on various Boards, thought it was important for the Town to reduce our defense costs. Alan Ballard felt that there had been an instance in which the tapes had "saved" the Town while Carter said that – if so – this would be the only such known instance. Jon was for keeping the taped record and felt we should go digital while Carter said that the format of the audio record did not change the basic issue; that this forces the Town to

absorb added costs of transcriptions and review. Joel felt the decision should be made in conjunction with the Land Use boards and wondered why an applicant who has met his requirements should have to keep paying to defend his permits or variances. Jon echoed those sentiments. The consensus was to hold this matter for a future workshop with the Chairs of Planning and Zoning and Town Counsel.

- 5.) TA Recommendation #4: Set Targets & Ceilings for Certain Unresolved Funds (Dry Hydrant and Police Communications Fund): The TA noted the Personnel Liability Fund needed to be added to the list. The consensus was to hold this matter for a future workshop with advice from the Police and Fire Chiefs, and the Finance Director.
- 6.) TA Recommendation #6: Implement or Kill the Communications Technology Fund: The TA reported on his inquiry to Time Warner as to a possible cost sharing on expansion in the Bean Road and Brick Kiln areas as they had declined to undertake them on their own. The consensus was to hold this matter for a future workshop, to invite Time Warner and Fairpoint in to discuss their expansion plans (internet broadband being the major concern), and discuss the philosophical issues of building out private enterprise/profit making infrastructure at taxpayer expense at that time.
- 7.) TA Recommendation #7: Implement a Boat Launch Fee on the Honor System: The TA recapped the proposed fee noting that it would only work with a strong enforcement penalty. The Police Chief had recommended it be \$75 which is the same as for parking violations. Jon asked and was assured this fee would not be required for anyone having a valid Town WMF/Beach sticker. The consensus was for the TA and Police Chief to proceed. Joel asked that the fishing tournament fee be incorporated into the rewrite of the ordinance(s).
- 8.) Setting a Final Warrant Draft for Public Hearing & Submission to ABC: The TA began a review of the Draft Warrant as of 12/17. He asked, and was granted by consensus, permission to pull Draft Article 8 at his discretion. After lengthy discussion amongst the BoS and ABC, the TA was asked to redraft Article 9 to show that Step 7 was the request of the Town Clerk, to show a “from”/“to” comparison (the current annualized salary plus wage based benefits as opposed to the requested annualized salary plus wage based benefits).

The Board(s) recessed at 10:50 a.m. and reconvened 11:05 a.m. (Ed Charest left at this time for another obligation).

As to the Blue Ribbon Commission’s (BRC) recommendation for a gym facility study as presented in Article 11, there was substantial discussion driven by Jean Beadle as to whether or not the article should be further broken into two parts; one for a yes/no as to the idea and the second for the money. Betsey observed that she now liked it better as a standalone as opposed to when it had been part of a larger capital item. Jon felt that anecdotally and on a personal basis he can justify it, but that the timing is not good. Joel asked if we even want to ask the first half of the question with substantial discussion following as to whether or not the Town has really answered the question of whether or not it wants a gym. Noting the wide ranging views on the question of what the Town has said on this subject, Jon said he was now talking himself back into going for this article, but in two phases. Alan felt the BRC had not documented the need and a study should be done by the CIPC or others on the costs of operations. Jean responded that we don’t even know if the Town wants it (a gym) yet. The consensus was to rewrite the article to take a sense of the meeting as to pursuing the recommendation of the BRC only and deal with funding internally amongst various possible sources during the Fiscal Year if it should pass, or seek the funding in 2014. On Article 19 Alan noted that Tri-CAP had been placed in receivership under the oversight of the AG’s office. The

TA was asked to write them seeking information on the disbursement of funds within the community over the past and encourage them to be present at the Town Meeting.

The TA reviewed his schedule to be sending out a revised Draft of the Warrant by 01/9 or so and then updating the BoS on 01/17 on the DES pushback on the soccer field mitigation. The ABC was asked, and advised yes, that they could present their report on 01/17 to the BoS. The BoS could then make any last adjustments on 01/17 allowing the TA to post the 02/07 Public Hearing materials on or about 01/20. They would all have to note that additions might result from petition warrant articles.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.

Approved

Date
Respectfully Submitted
Carter Terenzini, Town Administrator