

Approved

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting October 1, 2012

PRESENT: Rodney Towne Selectman
 Dwight Lovejoy Selectman
 Christine Quirk Selectman
 Peter Flynn Town Administrator

Transfer Station Superintendent Gerry Cornett, Police Chief James Brace, David Woodbury, Ken Lombard and Brandy Mitroff were present.

A. CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Dwight Lovejoy at 6:00PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda-The Selectmen signed the consent agenda. Rodney moved to approve the consent agenda. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

B. PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 1: Gerry Cornett-Transfer Station Superintendent-Update on the Waste Hauler Status:

- Hauling Contract: After 28 years hauling for New Boston, Jeff Dunning has sold his company and the new Transfer Station hauler will be Sizemore as of October 1. A letter of appreciation will be sent to Jeff for his years of service to New Boston.
- Recycling Efforts and Revenues: Over the past eight weeks the Transfer Station employees have been inspecting bags, reimplementing the recycling program and educating the public about the recycling program. This has had a substantial impact. Revenues: Gerry is now projecting \$10,000 less revenues than budgeted for as the markets are collapsing. \$85,000 is expected, \$63,258 has come in so far this year.
- Grind for woodchips and brush was done for \$4,000, 150 tons were done in 6 hours. \$6,000 will be budgeted for this service next year.
- Transfer Station plows and trucks are getting maintenance in preparation for winter.
- Scale rehab is in progress including rust treatment and painting. \$209,000 has come in through the use of the scale since 2006 when the current tracking system began. This program paid for everything it was planned for.
- Campground recycling update: The campground recycled 6.6 tons since the inception of recycling there. This is the second year of the program. Revenues from this program

will be donated to New Boston's 250th celebration next year. The school recycling program is also going well. Food leftovers are being turned to compost at the Tracking Station.

- The Transfer Station budget is on track, no increase is expected next year and the Transfer Station budget could possibly decrease next year.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 2: Adoption of the public and non-public minutes of September 17, 2012: The Selectmen reviewed the public and non-public minutes. Christine moved that they be accepted as presented. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 3: Continued discussion of pay scales for 2013, including Library and Police: As discussed at the last Selectmen's meeting, Peter began preparing pay scales for town departments but police and library were not done at that time.

- He has been working with the Police Chief over the last two weeks. A chart for the Police Department pay scale was reviewed and compared to the town step and grade plan. It is a 10-step scale instead of 14, as town employees will have. Police Chief James Brace was present and said this plan will protect the town investment in new officers and long-time New Boston officers. This plan will hopefully encourage community policing for citizen comfort when police services are needed. It stays within the budget the Police Department already has with an increased level of service compared to 2010 with only \$12,000 more for the payroll budget. The plan was also compared to state trooper and Henniker Police Department pay scales.
- After much thought and consideration Peter concluded that the first year increase was too high for some categories, so he recommends splitting the increase to be spread over two years for some positions that had high raise percentages the first year. A new chart was prepared with these adjustments included. The entire payroll budget increase next year would be \$12,800 for 44 employees, not including the Police Department, Town Administrator and Police Chief. The Police Department payroll budget is expected to increase \$50,000-60,000 as one more officer has been hired. This particular increase is not due to the pay scale scenario. The pay scale should increase the Police Department payroll budget by approximately \$3,000-4,500. One staff member inquired, in writing, about some of the aspects of the new pay scale and Peter followed up with a written response. Another employee was not satisfied with the step revisions showing a split over the next two years. However, at least six employees approached Peter and told him they thought the program was fair and a very good idea. Also, in the original presentation, the library was not included but is now included in this pay scale. The Library Trustee chairman reviewed the scale and had some adjustments that will be reviewed and are not expected to affect the total package. This program is a savings compared to the old way of awarding raises to town employees. Brandy asked that this be made clear to the Finance Committee. Peter recommended the personnel handbook not be updated with the pay scale until after the voters approve the budget in March. Rodney moved to approve the step and scale presented tonight by Police Chief James

Brace and Town Administrator Peter Flynn to prepare the budget. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 4: Town Administrator's Report:

1. 2013 Budget Payroll Analysis: as above.
2. Budget Preparation: as above.
3. Transfer of Highway Department truck to purchaser Jon Lewis: the truck was sold, the bill of sale created and title turned over.
4. Letter sent to person as discussed in non-public: A letter was sent as discussed in non-public.

Item 5: Selectmen's Reports:

Rodney attended the Planning Board meeting where the following was discussed:

- The Planning Board voted to appoint Jon Strong to the CIP Committee.
- Peter Shellenberger was in for final approval that was granted with one caveat that he has 85% grass stabilization by May to be in compliance.
- Heidi Palmer antique shop at the corner of Clark Hill Road and Route 13 presented the parking plan with 4 parallel parking spots and extension of hours of operation. This was approved by the Planning Board. Building Inspector approval is pending.
- A meeting is scheduled October 20 at 8:30 AM at the library to discuss the mixed use overlay moderated by Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission. The public is welcome to attend.
- The Towne Family Trust subdivision at 170 South Hill Road was discussed: where 1 12-acre lot and 1 80-acre lot are planned. A sitewalk is scheduled and they will meet with the Planning Board at their next meeting for final approval.

Rodney attended the recent 250th Celebration Committee meeting. Plans are moving along well. A calendar of events is posted on the New Boston website and a partial list is on the back of the Historical Society 2013 calendar that is on sale now. A fund has been set up to take donations to be used for the celebration. Fourth of July activities are planned to be expanded for the 250th. This budget line is usually \$4,500 but Rodney will request it be increased to \$10,000 for patriotic celebration next year and in subsequent years will ask it be kept higher than \$4,500. Bunting for the Town Hall and Fire House will be added to the budget. It may also be time to replace the flags that hang around town. These will remain up until Veterans Day and will be checked to ensure they are attached properly.

Public Forum: None.

Item 6: Request for Non-Public session per RSA 91-A:3, II(d): Christine made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A:3II(d) at 7:03 PM. Rodney seconded the motion.

Poll taken - Rodney –yes, Dwight=yes, Christine=yes
The Board then entered non-public session at 7:05 PM.

Rodney made a motion to seal the non-public minutes of tonight, seconded by Christine. All voted in favor-3-0

ADJOURNMENT: Rodney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:25 PM, seconded by Dwight. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien