

# Adopted

## Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting August 20, 2012

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

Police Chief James Brace, Road Agent Dick Perusse, Dave Elliott, Lee Brown, School Board Chairman Kevin Collimore, Tom Miller, Fire Chief Dan MacDonald 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. Christine moved to approve the consent agenda. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

### **B. PUBLIC FORUM:**

Lee Brown was present to discuss placement of a tanker on Molly Stark Lane. The School Board asked him to investigate and repair the water storage tank near Molly Stark Lane. While the cause of the leak is determined a supply tank will be needed to allow school to open. The tanker considered is a full size tanker to be placed on Molly Stark Lane to allow enough pressure to power the school sprinkler system. A site was selected on Molly Stark Lane off the paved surface. The Road Agent agreed to loan jersey barriers and cones to warn traffic of the tanker. There is already signage in place letting people know work is being done. Two large pine trees will need to be removed to make room for the tanker. Lee is here for permission to park the tanker on the right of way with proper delineation.

Rodney said he has viewed the area with Lee and saw the trees that need to be cut, he said it has to be done and is valid to take care of the issue.

Lee said the water storage tank has to be repaired before December due to weather and freezing. Molly Stark residents were notified and given contact information, some have discussed it with the workers with no further inquiries. The original pipe was buried 5.5' below the surface. The tank was inspected in the spring at the Fire Inspector's request where the water level was noticed to be low. Coincidentally, construction of a new basketball court began at the school. The water level was monitored during construction and was dropping. Construction of the basketball court has been put on hold. Damage to the original tank was discussed. There are no records of tank maintenance over the years. Patch and liner repair options were considered but probably won't

work. Replacement of the tank has been discussed with an in kind 10,000 gallon precast concrete tank in a location closer to the road with proper soil, or tie into the new 60,000 gallon tanks that would require a pump house and booster pump at 2.5x the cost of an in kind tank. The new tank will be monitored monthly.

Lee is the project manager. He and Kevin Collimore asked if it is a town solution to repair the tank and if the town would be willing to share costs of the repair. Is the pump house a better solution that would also benefit the town in some way?

Rodney is concerned that this problem will happen with a new in kind tank and would like to research the fourth option, but the Selectmen have no place in this decision, they are just getting information. This is the School Board's decision. The town would not benefit from these solutions.

Tom Miller said the tank cannot be replaced in kind because buttress walls will be needed all the way around, it cannot be exactly the same and that will increase the cost of the replacement tank.

Dave Elliott said the town has installed several Mitchie cisterns since the installation of this cistern. This was the first cistern installed in New Boston with many issues, including a big design flaw of a pipe coming out of the bottom, leaks that caused settling, it was repaired and redesigned but continued settling. Residents were unhappy when it was installed due to cosmetic reasons. Cisterns designed since are better and allow for minimal movement, come with engineer stamps. It could be from any precast company. The soil work needs to be verified. The new tank could be installed close to the road for maintenance ease, it wouldn't be a large bump anymore and would look uniform with other cisterns in town according to the Planning Board approved cistern solution. It is very likely piping will begin to freeze in November; this is an urgent repair situation. The decision should be made within the next two weeks. Lee is contacting soil-boring companies now. Mitchie has precast cistern available now. Dave doesn't prefer a fiberglass tank. Precast probably was better quality 25 years ago but a new precast tank would be an approved design.

Dwight compared the cost of a pumping station at \$150,000-175,000 to the replacement cost of \$50,000.

Dan MacDonald recommended the long term decision be made as a unit of department heads, not a ten year decision but maybe spend more money now to save money in the future. Sacrifices could be made because of belief in the community. He recommended getting Town Engineer Kevin Leonard involved; get real pricing and real solutions. The old tank could be maintained as a backup.

The Selectmen want to fix this right, if the new tank will do it then that is the better solution than a pump house. Rodney will meet with the School Board to discuss options and the town's interest in helping with the cost. There seems to be no benefit to the town, but a permanent solution for a school issue.

Brandy Mitroff was present and asked how this project would be funded. The School Board authorized an amount to come out of the School District's Building and Renovation CRF that

will be inadequate to fund a replacement or pump house. There is an adequate amount available in the CRF for the School Board to authorize further.

### **C. APPOINTMENTS:**

#### **Item 1: Road Agent Dick Perusse-Project updates:**

- Gregg Mill Bridge: The concrete repair membrane was placed over the deck; backfill completed and will be paved tomorrow. The equipment will be removed and the bridge will be open Wednesday. The deck did not need as much repair as was expected.
- Status of road reclamation and paving: Some are done; Bedford Road will be paved next week. A notice will go out to 130 residents, as paving will affect a large area.
- Water tank on Molly Stark: Dick agreed to supply with concrete barriers and orange barrels for marking of tanker.
- Sale of pick up: A draft sale proposal was reviewed and will be advertised in various places including the September New Boston Bulletin. Check will be made payable to the town and go into the general fund. The closing bid date will be September 17 and bids will be reviewed at that night's Selectmen's meeting.
- Sale of IH water truck will be the same as the pick up in the month of October.
- Future sale of Pelican sweeper: Dick hopes to sell this in the spring. It is expensive to maintain yearly.

### **D. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item 2: Highway Safety Committee-Recommended Appointments:** Police Chief Brace has recommended a Highway Safety Committee be formed. The Selectmen reviewed his memorandum dated August 14, 2012 and recommended members. The Selectmen members will rotate. Meetings are expected once or twice a year. The Committee will review road safety issues in town and make recommendations. Rodney moved to establish a Highway Safety Committee. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 Rodney moved to appoint the Highway Safety Committee membership as follows: Police Chief, Fire Chief, Road Agent, one Selectman and members of the public Peter Clark two years, Tom Miller three years and Cheryl Campbell one year. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 Peter will send appointment letters to the members.

**Item 3: Fuel Oil For Winter Season (Town Buildings) Award of Contract:** Peter has been researching oil contracts. Two companies were considered in the past. Putnam was used last year. Putnam's bid for this year was \$3.04 per gallon and Fred Fuller bid \$2.94 per gallon. 8181 gallons were used last year equaling an \$818 difference in price if the same amount is used this year. Peter recommends using Putnam again this year as they have worked well with the town over the years. Christine moved award a contract to Putnam for fuel for town buildings this year. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

**Item 4: Review and adopt minutes of August 6, 2012, public and non-public:** The Selectmen reviewed the public and non-public minutes. Rodney moved that they be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

**E. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Item 5: Town Administrator's Report:** Memorandum reviewed.

1. **Town Clerk request for input re:** Avitar software for use of credit cards in clerk's office. This item will be further discussed at the June 18<sup>th</sup> meeting after Irene obtains more information for final input. Suggest each selectman reviews package that Irene distributed on May 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Update-**'One write' check system has to be implemented first. Karen is moving along with this item.

2. **Fuel Bids for 2012-2013:** Fuller and Putnam have estimates. Board to decide at meeting of August 20<sup>th</sup> who will be awarded the contract.
3. **2013 Budget Payroll Analysis:** Town Administrator in process of creating a report including the following: a) Payroll increases based on past "cola-merit" system, b) Completing review of comparison positions in several area towns similar in population. And c) A proposed sample of a step system based on similar system used by the State Employees Union.
4. **Highway Safety Committee:** Requesting adoption and appointment to the committee at the meeting of August 20, 2012

**Item 6: Selectmen's Reports:**

The Planning Board will meet next week. The Selectmen thanked Rodney for getting involved in the School water project.

**F. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Public Forum:** None.

**Item 7: Chief James Brace-Introduction and appointment request for new part time police officer; Ceremonial 'Swearing In' of Sgt. Dan Aiken, Officer Kate Fiore, Officer Eric Cartier and Officer David Murray to the New Boston Police Department:**

- Chief Jim Brace informed the Board that the Police Department is now at full strength. He introduced Jennifer Watson to fill the part time per diem position. She will go to the September Police Academy at significant cost savings to the town due to her part time status. She can subsequently be hired full time by the town if necessary. Christine moved to accept Jennifer Watson as a part time per diem officer for the town of New Boston. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

- The formal swearing in of four officers will take place tonight.
- Christine noted she is happy with the Police Department involvement in the town and campground. Jim thanked her and said he wants to keep communication with the Police Department open both positive feedback and any issues to resolve them in a timely manner. He expects the new officers to work well in the community.
- There have been some residential burglaries over the past month, five daytime. Suspects have been identified in three of these and the department has a handle on this issue.

7:08 pm- The meeting venue was now transferred to the outside where a public ceremonial swearing-in ceremony took place with Sgt. Aiken, Officers Fiore, Cartier and Murray. The official swearing-in of Officer Jennifer Watson also took place.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Rodney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:30 PM. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

*Prepared by Maralyn Segien*