

Adopted

**Town of New Boston
Selectmen's Meeting
August 19, 2013**

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

Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett, Charlie Grandll from J&J Manufacturing, Road Agent Dick Perusse, Brandy Mitroff, Tax Collector Ann Charbonneau and Police Chief James Brace of the public were present.

A. CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Christine Quirk at 5:55PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda-The Selectmen signed the consent agenda. The consent agenda included a vote to accept the resignation of Officer David Murray. Rodney moved to approve the consent agenda. Dwight seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

B. PUBLIC FORUM:

Brandy Mitroff discussed the blue spruce tree in the town common as an idea came up many years ago to cut it down. It was saved by petition. Recently Bob Todd brought up the history of planting certain trees in New Boston that were funded by a federal grant including the blue spruce and another tree. Lyn Lombard has a copy of the brochure. Peter will get a copy to file at the Town Hall to reference when considering these trees in the future.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 1: Gerry Cornett-Recommendation for Transfer Station trailer bid award: Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett and J&J Manufacturing representative Charlie Grandll were present to discuss the Transfer Station trailer bid award. He sent the bid request to six companies. Two bids came back but neither met specifications. J&J Manufacturing amended their contract to meet specifications. Stecco was also considered but their bid did not meet specifications. The trailer from J&J is expected to cost \$84,500. The voters approved \$85,000 for this purchase. Dwight asked Gerry to check into the tire pressurizing system. Rodney moved to accept the bid proposal from J&J Manufacturing for a tri-axle solid waste trailer in the amount of \$84,500. Dwight seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 The Selectmen thanked Gerry for his work in obtaining this bid. The trailer is expected in New Boston mid-October. The current trailer will be sold.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 2: Approval of the Public and Non-Public Minutes of July 29, 2013: The Selectmen reviewed the public minutes of the July 29, 2013 meeting. Dwight moved that they be accepted as presented. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

The Selectmen reviewed the non-public minutes of the July 29, 2013 meeting and made one change. Dwight moved that they be accepted as amended. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 3: Introduction of new line item configuration for budgets: Peter noted that budget planning season is approaching. He has been working to make the process more organized with a new department breakdown to be used this year to show the true cost of operating each department or committee instead of including some items such as personnel and benefits in the Selectmen's budget as has been done in previous years. He has discussed this with the Department Managers. They are concerned about public perception, as their budgets will increase. Peter will work to educate the public. This change will not affect the bottom line, it will remain the same. The Selectmen approve of the change. Brandy Mitroff noted she is on the Finance Committee and she thinks they will embrace this change. She will also mention this change in the New Boston Bulletin.

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 4: Town Administrator's Report:

1. Riverdale Road Bridge Engineering Update: Nothing new. Decisions from the state are expected regarding the historical review and color issues.
2. Rose Meadow/HUD Suit: The attorney provided at no cost to the town by its insurance carrier The Local Government Center will respond to the complaint made by HUD.
3. Employees Holiday Party/cookout: Peter surveyed the employees about how they wish to handle the holiday party and cookout as discussed at the July 29 meeting. The employees voted to keep them both the same. The employee cookout will take place September 12.
4. Eagle Scout honor for Matthew Evans: Matthew Evans is receiving an Eagle Scout award September 15 at 1:00. The Selectmen will prepare a proclamation to present to him at the ceremony.
5. Request for Attendance Record for Planning Board Meetings: Planning Board member attendance record from January 27-July 23, 2013 was received as requested.
6. Local Background Check Federal Police Recommendations: A model for the town to possibly adopt regarding door to door peddlers and hawkers attached for Selectmen review. Peter will review with the Police Chief if this is needed in New Boston. The Selectmen are concerned this would also affect vendors at the Farmers Market.
7. Exit Interview for David Murray: Scheduled for August 23 at 10:00 AM. Dwight will attend.
8. LaPenn Request: Mr. LaPenn sent another letter. Peter will respond.
9. Request from the Planning Board for the Selectmen to authorize them to consult with town counsel in a special meeting in the near future. The purpose of the meeting is to educate the town boards, commissions and officials as to what the proper procedures are

in interpreting land use laws and procedures relative to enforcement etc. The Selectmen supported this request and recommended that the Town Administrator and Selectmen be in attendance also. The Selectmen recommended using Attorney Cleary from Wadleigh, Starr and Peters law firm.

Item 5: Selectmen's Reports:

Rodney reported the 250th Committee is happy with the results of the Fourth of July events and the sales of t-shirts and commemorative items. They are planning the New Year's bonfire event again with the Recreation Department.

Public Forum:

Two persons indicated they wanted to talk to the Board and the Board asked if they would yield to the two non-public's first. They obliged.

Appointment-Tax Collector Ann Charbonneau: Request for Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(d): Rodney made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A:3II(d) at 6:45 PM. Dwight seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 The Board then entered non-public session after a roll call: Rodney-yes, Christine-yes and Dwight-yes. The Board exited non-public at 7:10 PM via a motion by Dwight, seconded by Christine and carrying by a 3-0 vote.

Appointment-Police Chief James Brace: Request for Non-Public Session per RSA 91-A:3, II(a): Rodney made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A:3II(a) at 7:10 PM, with Dwight seconding the motion. Following a roll call vote: Rodney-yes, Christine-yes and Dwight-yes, the board then went in to non-public session.

Move to exit Non-Public Session: Dwight made a motion to exit Non-Public Session at 7:24 PM Rodney seconded and the vote carried 3-0 in favor.

**Public Forum Cont.
7:25 PM**

Mr. Bob Huettner presented a letter to the Board which they proceeded to openly discuss before the Board. Mr. Tris Gordon also accompanied him.

They called for the termination of Planning Coordinator Nicola Strong. They accused her of unethical and illegal actions involving the Planning Board. They claimed that Nicola steers the Board and has been recently vengeful toward them. They were concerned about her future vengeful actions after this Selectmen's meeting. They felt that she was deliberately trying to harm them and said that her actions were unethical and "potentially cause for suit" for the Selectmen to continue involving her in anything to do with them and their projects from this point on.

They claimed that on some occasions the minutes (Planning Board) have been altered and the actual discussions were twisted.

According to their claim, the holding up of the Certificate of Occupancy caused the home buyer emotional pain. Mr. Gordon questioned the explanation that the minutes referred to the vote to hold back on the Certificate of Occupancy. He said that there was no indication of the Planning Board holding up the CO but only any future Building Permits. A discussion relative to the CO process took place whereby there were conflicting opinions as to the merits of the Planning Boards actions.

Further discussion concerning Nicola's alleged unethical behavior centered around her insisting that the Twin Bridge engineer conduct more tasks on their account.

Discussion then centered on the acreage dispute (disturbed area) between the Town's engineer and Twin Bridge's representatives (Meridian). They quoted the Town's engineer as saying he did not have the proper equipment to estimate the size of the area in question. However, they contend that they were in compliance with the NHDES Alteration of Terrain regulation.

Town Administrator Peter Flynn clarified a statement in their letter whereby their letter stated that "we strongly feel the termination of Stuart Lewin is in order, as he not only helped collaborate this illegal withholding of a CO, but furthermore refused to sign off on its release after being advised by both our attorney (Mr. Gordon's) as well as the Town's attorney and the Town Manager (Peter). Mr. Flynn made it clear that he, in no way, advised anyone as to what action to take.

The two gentlemen continued to claim that a conspiracy was going on by members of the Planning Board to cause harm to Twin Bridge Land Management, LLC.

The board told them that their comments and letter would be reviewed and we would be in touch as to what action is to be taken.

Letter attached.

ADJOURNMENT: Rodney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 PM, seconded by Christine. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien