

Adopted

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting May 2, 2016

PRESENT: Joe Constance Selectman
Rodney Towne Selectman
Christine Quirk Selectman
Peter Flynn Town Administrator

Police Chief Jim Brace, Road Agent Dick Perusse, School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert, Laura Bernard and School Board Member Bill Schmidt 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 6:00PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Consent Agenda-The Selectmen signed the consent agenda. The Consent Agenda included the acceptance of Lee Brown's resignation from the Recreation Commission with regret and thanks for his many years of service. Joe moved to approve the consent agenda. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

B. PUBLIC FORUM:

Police Chief Jim Brace was present and noted that Lt. Matthew French accepted a Chief position in Henniker after the former Henniker Chief resigned as of May 1. The hire was accelerated and Lt. French's last day in New Boston was April 29 and he was sworn in as Henniker Chief on April 30. Jim is working to fill this position at the patrolman level. There are two New Boston officers who may be ready for promotion and Jim will try to hire from within. The Selectmen will send Matthew a letter of congratulations. Peter noted the former Henniker Chief's resignation was unexpected.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 1: Chief James Brace-Discussion re: Depot Street and Possible Detour (Possible Highway Safety Committee Recommendation): Police Chief Jim Brace was present to discuss a memorandum he prepared regarding the Highway Safety Committee's recommendation for traffic on Depot Street during the NH DOT bridge repair in New Boston this summer. He read the memo aloud. The Committee recommends opening Depot Street to through traffic for the duration of the project with some temporary changes to the road and removal of some brush to allow better sight distance at the intersection with High Street. Maps and pictures of the area were reviewed. Joe asked if the State of NH DOT can paint the crosswalk between the Common and Dodge's store at the same time. Selectmen's Secretary Laura Bernard was present and said she called NH DOT about this and received a response that they only paint crosswalks at traffic light controlled intersections and at school crossings. Rodney noted the town painted crosswalks in other locations in the past. Jim will ask Tim Boodey at NH DOT if now is a good time to have a crosswalk painted in the area. Joe moved to, as an emergency measure; drop the no through traffic ordinance on Depot Street between May 16 and September 5, 2016. Rodney

seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 The Selectmen thanked the Highway Safety Committee.

Item 2: Dick Perusse-Road Agent-Discussion Re: Equipment Purchase: Road Agent Dick Perusse was present to meet with the Selectmen to discuss recent equipment purchases as follows:

- The Highway Department has been leasing a vibratory roller for several years to use on most dirt and gravel roads, gravel shoulders, installation of drainpipe and reclamation of pavement. This is paid from the Summer Hired Equipment budget line for the past four years and each year it is used more and more up to \$21,000 at times. This purchase is for a new roller with payments \$50 per month less than the town paid for rental. Dick reviewed the payment options. Rodney is in favor of the lease this year but said it will be appropriate to discuss this with the Finance Committee in the fall to decide whether to continue the lease next year. Dick noted there is an option to drop the lease after 12 months. Peter noted this is required for municipal leases in NH due to possible changes in yearly municipal budgets. Rodney also noted the lease could be a good deal as in the past the roller was rented monthly but may have been used one week out of a month if there was bad weather. Four years ago the Road Committee and Selectmen were supportive of beginning the rolling process as opposed to the grading and raking that was done in the past. Roads seem better with this process. Rodney and Christine are in favor of continuing this lease after this year and will recommend it to the Finance Committee. Christine noted she brought up purchasing a roller instead of renting during the last Finance Committee process. Joe asked if the manufacturer's warranty is standard and Dick noted it is not, he researched prices and found the best warranty, quality of equipment and dealership with CAT. Joe moved to approve the lease arrangement of a vibratory roller with CAT. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0
- Dick also purchased a used CAT D7 bulldozer to use at the stump dump and sand pit. Rodney thanked Dick for finding this quality equipment at a great price for New Boston. Rodney and Dick have been discussing New Boston's need for this equipment for a year and it came up at the perfect price and timing. It is a 1988 bulldozer with few hours on it from the National Guard in Bangor, ME. The town has been spending \$8,000 per year on the work this machine will do for the town. If the town decides, this equipment could be sold at a profit.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 3: Adoption of Public Minutes of April 18, 2016: The Selectmen reviewed the public minutes of April 18, 2016. Joe moved they be accepted as presented. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Item 4: Request Authorization for Change in Employee Terms of Participation for Health Insurance Plan: Peter presented the new Health Insurance Plan for town employees noting there have been three presentations on the plan held for employees recently. Schoolcare representatives met with employees and managers tonight to answer any questions that came up during the process. Peter thanked Laura and Jim for their work on this matter. Peter reviewed a Powerpoint Presentation. The town recommends moving away from the Green Plan it has been using which was an HMO plan with high premiums and low deductibles and moving to the

Yellow or Orange Plan. There will be no increase in to the Town. Coverage is the same, but the employee premiums are lower. There are deductibles and co-pays that need to be met. The plan will be with Schoolcare from July 1, 2016-June 30, 2017. It is a Consumer Driven Health Plan. This will decrease the town's risk of Cadillac Tax in the future. Maximum annual out of pocket expenses plus premiums will equal less than the current weekly premiums alone. Most employees are choosing the Yellow Plan. The town is trying to keep costs down for taxpayers. Joe moved to support moving to the Schoolcare Consumer Driven Health Plan as presented. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:None.

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 5: Town Administrators Report:

- Footbridge Update: The Foot Traffic Safety Committee met since the last Selectmen's meeting. They obtained more information from Daniels Engineering and after receiving questions from bid vendors rejected all bids. New scope of work was prepared and new bids are requested and due soon. The Committee was requesting material from the Highway Department but the town will not contribute to the project with materials, only with help from Dick and Peter. It was determined the material from the town would cost \$4 more than material from bidders so bidder material will be used.
- Tax Waiver: Peter made a legal inquiry of this matter and it will be discussed in non-public.
- Radio Tower Update: The Road Agent, Police Chief and Fire Chiefs met today to discuss this project. No formal decision was made.
- All Boards Meeting Update: An All Boards meeting requested by the Superintendent of Schools took place April 20 at NBCS where many Department Heads, Selectmen and Board and Committee chairs and members attended. The Selectmen considered if further action should be taken. Rodney noted economic development is an issue and the Master Plan and Planning Board is where this should take place. Joe noted the Planning Board is currently working on the Master Plan and considering where commercial development could occur. They considered the east side of town but New Boston doesn't offer services businesses might need. New Boston also could consider a convenience store near the Bedford town line or an Industrial Park such as Weare has on Gould Road. The new Town Planner is expected to be beneficial in this process with his experience, information and knowledge. Rodney discussed participating in the Master Plan process with the Fire Wards and they are interested. This commercial development process is not expected to occur quickly. Joe noted location is also an issue as New Boston is not near an interstate. This kind of development may have an impact on town roads.
- Taxpayer Association Request for Information: Peter made available five years of revenue and expenses information as Steve Sears requested, notified him it was ready but never received a response from Steve after they tried to schedule a meeting that did not work out. Kaleb Jacob did meet with Peter and Peter gave him the information prepared. The information seems to have made its way to Steve who has since discussed it with the Fire Department. Rodney noted the town officials need to keep educating the public as the town and school are run as good operations.

Item 6: Selectmen's Reports: Joe reported the Planning Board discussed an option for the Thibeault gravel operation issue as using an insurance bond to execute the cleanup. The Town Planner explained this process and the Planning Board voted to contact legal counsel. Peter will check with Planning Coordinator Shannon Silver on this request to counsel.

Public Forum:

School Board Member Bill Schmidt was present and asked if there was any consensus at the All-Boards meeting as he was unable to attend. Joe referred him to speak with School Board Member Glen Dickey about this as options were discussed such as commercial development, incentive areas, 55 plus communities and others, and now is the time to address these as the Planning Board is working on the Master Plan. Bill noted the Planning Board did a survey last year and determined the town doesn't want to become similar to Bedford. Joe noted this result is obtained from many town surveys. Rodney noted surveys are not reliable as there are not enough people answering and the questions are limited. Joe noted real suggestions are needed and this may be the time with the Master Plan. Christine noted the final draft of the Master Plan will go to a vote. Rodney said elected officials have to do the work and give good options. Joe recommended not having a repeat of the All Boards meeting again as it was not productive and there are more productive ways to obtain the information requested. Christine said it was a good start. School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert was present and said the All Boards meeting had to happen to allow people to voice their opinions. Laura said the Planning Board has tried development options but they were shut down. Rodney said he remembers the 1970s when the rules preventing development were established. Christine said she is excited to be involved in this upcoming process.

Dick noted Old Coach Road will be closed two days this week for drilling and blasting. A detour will be posted. Information was given out via flyers to homeowners in the area and is posted on the Town's website.

Item 8: Possible Request for Non-Public Per RSA 91-A:II (a) Personnel: Joe made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A:II (a) at 7:07 PM. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 The Board then entered non-public session after a poll of all members.

Move to exit Non-Public Session: Joe Constance made a motion to exit Non-Public Session at 7:05 PM. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Joe moved to seal the don-public minutes for a period of five years, seconded by Rodney. All voted in favor 3-0.

Rodney requested that the Board send a letter to Department of Administrative Services Commissioner Vicki Quiram in support of Carl 'Rocky' Bostom for a promotion as Director of the White Farm (surplus items) in Concord. Rocky has helped the Town over the years in purchasing many items from furniture to vehicles and other equipment for little cost.

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

Prepared by Maralyn Segien