

# Approved

## Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting May 16, 2016

<b><u>PRESENT:</u></b>	Joe Constance	Selectman	Excused Absence (Vacation)
	Rodney Towne	Selectman	
	Christine Quirk	Selectman	
	Peter Flynn	Town Administrator	

Glen Dickey, Dave Elliott, Jack Munn from the Southern New Hampshire Planning Commission, Recreation Director Mike Sindoni, Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett, energy Committee Chairman Susan Carr and Foot Traffic Safety Committee members Gail and Randy Parker, Jay Marden and Bill Morrissey 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 Lou Lanzillotti's application to the Solid Waste Committee. Rodney moved to approve the consent agenda. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

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

Glen Dickey of 54 McCurdy Road was present saying since the April 20 All Boards meeting he has been researching issues and spoke to local realtor Heidi Palmer regarding selling commercial property in New Boston. Glen noted she wanted to go on record tonight saying she has been encouraging businesses to purchase property in other communities due to the onerous Planning Board in New Boston. Glen asked about the Planning Board and Selectmen relationship.

The Selectmen noted they appoint all Planning Board members and a Selectman sits on the Planning Board at all times. Joe is currently serving but Rodney attended last week in Joe's place. Rodney noted this issue was discussed at that meeting. He also noted there has been citizen resistance to commercial property. The Planning Department proposed a mixed use district a few years ago but this was not even supported by the property owners who could take advantage of it. Rodney noted resident surveys have been used to help make decisions in the past but not enough people participate. With the mixed use proposal approximately 40 people participated but that is a small number to be making these decisions. The process needs to be better and more streamlined.

Glen is concerned if this continues New Boston will become an upper middle class enclave. People purchasing property in New Boston now are families with children. Commercial property is the least impacting alternative. He will attend the next Planning Board meeting. He asked what percentage of property in New Boston is zoned commercial. The Selectmen noted this information is readily available in the Planning Department.

Christine noted she owns a business in town and town attitudes toward business are changing. Rodney said the attitude is changing in the community and on Boards. Glen said the New Boston Taxpayers' Association could be used to help this change.

Jay Marden of Gregg Mill Road was present and noted he has been through the Planning Board process in the past through his former business. He noted fifteen years ago it was much harder than it is now; both sides of Route 114 in New Boston could have been filled with businesses but for the attitude of the Planning Department.

### **C. APPOINTMENTS:**

**Item 1: Gail Parker and Foot Traffic Safety Committee-Recommendation For Bid Award For the South Branch Footbridge Road And Tree Cutting Project:** Foot Traffic Safety Committee Chairman Gail Parker was present with Committee members Randy Parker, Jay Marden and Bill Morrissey to meet with the Selectmen to discuss awarding the bid for the South Branch Footbridge Road and Tree Cutting project. Gail said permits were approved in late March for the Shoreline Protection Permit and Wetlands Permit. The bridge was ordered from Algonquin who is working with Construction Engineers at the Daniels Bridge Company from Ascutney, VT who have been doing a lot of work and communicating often with the Committee. The engineers are looking at the site tomorrow, getting precast specs ready and building precast footings and clearing the land on one side of the bridge. A major piece of the project is to get the access road ready which is expected to be finished the second week of July. The bridge is expected to be placed in late July with a subsequent ribboncutting. Peter noted his involvement in this project was to make sure the bid process went according to town policy requirements. A first bid went out but determined to be inadequate. The scope of work changed all bidders were asked to bid again. Two bids were returned from D&S Excavating, Inc. and Scott Elliott. The Committee met May 9 and discussed the details of both bids. Both met most of the requirements but the cost was a deciding factor. The Committee recommended the bid award go to D&S Excavating, Inc. who bid \$28,450. The other bid was \$33,000. Incredibly, Committee fundraising is almost complete; approximately \$10,000 is still needed. The Committee is extremely cooperative in adhering to all town policies. The town owns the land on both sides of the bridge. The Selectmen noted they are satisfied with the process and the bids. Randy thanked Peter for his help in this process. Jay noted the Historical Society recently voted to donate \$500 to the project. Rodney moved to award the bid contract to D&S Excavating, Inc. for the Tree Cutting/Clearing and Temporary and Permanent Access Construction at the New Boston Pedestrian Bridge in the amount of \$28,450. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor.

2-0

**Item 2: Gerald Cornett-Transfer Station Manager-Update on Transfer Station Operation:** Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett was present to meet with the Selectmen to update them on Transfer Station operations as follows:

- Tree Removal from Town Forest: Gerry met with the Forestry Committee last week about removal of trees at the Transfer Station that cause an issue in the winter and are a hazard with nearby power lines. The Forestry Committee agreed to remove these trees this year at minimum or no cost to the Transfer Station.

- **Electronic Disposal Fees:** Gerry discussed this issue with the Selectmen approximately one year ago. The cost of electronics disposal continues to increase and increased again mostly due to items containing cathode ray tube (CRT) glass. 21 tons of these items are collected each year at the Transfer Station. So far this increase has been covered with revenues from material collected at the Transfer Station but no longer. All TVs collect a \$10 fee but cost \$16-34 each to haul away from the Transfer Station. Electronic fees need to be adjusted. Many towns are going to a “per pound” fee for electronics. Gerry mentioned this in his Town Report as hauling and disposal companies are passing costs on to towns. New Boston is fortunate it already has scales. Other towns are facing this problem and now purchasing scales. There is no value in TVs; there is some value in components of smaller electronics. The fee structure is meant to also cover some administrative costs. Gerry noted NY is a little ahead of NH on this issue. He said this is a fee not revenue. The Transfer Station does not have to take these items as appliance companies such as Sears take the items but their fees have also increased to \$25 minimum. New Boston has the cheapest fee schedule compared to surrounding towns. Gerry recommends changing the fee schedule to “16-18 cents per pound.” Rodney noted this might not be practical for some smaller electronics such as VCRs. Peter recommended considering this a first reading and move this item to a second reading and Public Hearing. Removal of other items were discussed and Gerry noted the town gets yearly savings for removal of propane tanks at no fee to the town or residents, ceramic toilets are removed with C&D. The Selectmen will move this to a second reading where Gerry will bring forward detailed numbers and a detailed plan on this and other fee items. Rodney moved to move this request to change the fee schedule on items with CRTs to a second hearing. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0
- **Glass Disposal and Trucking:** Glass disposal is becoming an issue as it is a regulated item in NH. Trucking fees are also an issue. Many places are no longer accepting glass. Keene and New London are available. Keene could be an issue at \$300 per load. This budget line is expected to increase. NH DES recently came out with a new regulation on use of glass and New Boston can consider using it in house as it is good to use in wet areas. This item may soon cost the same to recycle as it would to throw away. Gerry will address this with the Solid Waste Committee.
- **Operational Update:** The backhoe is being refurbished and this project is going well. The number of cars coming to the Transfer Station is decreasing but volume is the same compared to last year. The market is on an upturn, no longer stagnating or decreasing.
- The Selectmen thanked Gerry for a great job running the Transfer Station.

**Item 3: Mike Sandroni-Recreation Director-Update on Department Activities for the spring and summer:** Recreation Director Mike Sindoni was present to meet with the Selectmen to update them on spring and summer Recreation Department activities as follows:

- Two weeks ago the Selectmen accepted Chairman Lee Brown’s resignation from the Recreation Commission. The Commission is meeting soon and a member is expected to move up to Chair and another Commissioner will be sought.
- A handout of programs was provided to the Selectmen for review.
- The Recreation Department is very happy with the new on-line registration service.
- Camp Coolio begins June 27 for eight weeks. Enrollment has increased over the past several years and enrollment this year is going very well. Program Director Katie Livolsi is credited with running this great program for families.

- Christel Caron has been teaching a very popular yoga program since the fall.
- Senior citizens are offered a great service of the Foot Care Clinic and Blood Pressure Clinic each month.
- Summer concerts will take place on Tuesday nights again this year.
- Softball camp is new this year and will take place the week of July 11.
- Men's basketball is now taking place Sunday evenings only. Roland Cook has been running this great program for years and was recently recognized as Recreation Volunteer of the Year.
- The Road Agent and Highway Department were thanked for recently removing dead trees near ballfield two.
- The Selectmen thanked Mike for a great job running the Recreation Department.

**Item 4: Susan Carr-Energy Commission-Discussion Re: Solar Power Educational**

**Campaign:** New Boston Energy Commission Chairman Susan Carr was present to meet with the Selectmen to discuss participating in a free solar power education campaign with SNHPC. Other towns have had good success with this. The application deadline is May 20. Jack Munn from SNHPC was present as he is coordinating the SolarUp NH program for businesses, residents and town governments where solar installers would compete to provide the lowest cost to a community. The net metering issue from last year is now resolved. SNHPC is looking for a letter of support for the program that they would send to all residents. The town would be asked to hang a banner in front of the town hall and put yard signs out that say "SolarUp New Boston." Peter will work with Susan to complete the application on the Board's behalf. Rodney moved to submit an application to participate in the SolarUp NH community program. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

**D. OLD BUSINESS:**

**Item 5: Adoption of Public and Non-Public Minutes of May 2, 2016:** The Selectmen reviewed the public minutes of May 2, 2016. Rodney noted that after the non-public session the Selectmen requested a letter of support be sent to Rocky. This will be added to the minutes. Rodney moved the public minutes be accepted as amended. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

The Selectmen reviewed the non-public minutes of May 2, 2016. Rodney moved the non-public minutes be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

**E. NEW BUSINESS:**

**Item 6: Acceptance of Resignation:** Rodney moved to accept the resignation of Bookkeeper Jacqui Fillmore as of May 4, 2016. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

**F. OTHER BUSINESS:**

**Item 7: Town Administrators Report:**

- Footbridge Update: As above.
- Tax Waiver: Town Attorney Bart Mayer's response and applicable RSA were given to the Donovans. The Donovans met with the Hillsborough Town Administrator who said

his request to New Boston is not the same as what took place in Hillsborough. The Donovans will meet with the Hillsborough Selectmen and give the information to their attorney.

- Communications Tower Update: A recommendation for the vendor to use on this project will be available at the next Selectmen's meeting. A grant for this project will be applied for tomorrow.
- Taxpayer Association Request for Information: Questions from the Association and Peter's responses are included in tonight's meeting packet. These were shared with the Department Heads and they agree with the responses.
- Depot Street Detour: Streetlights will be turned on Wednesday morning and traffic will then be allowed on Depot Street.

**Item 8: Selectmen's Reports:** Rodney reported he attended the Forestry Committee meeting where they discussed the Transfer Station tree cutting project that will be mixed with selected cutting of diseased trees at a profit to the Forestry Committee or at a lower cost than Gerry received in his previous quote. The Committee discussed needed equipment purchase for forest maintenance and to become part of the Tree Farm organization. The Committee will meet tomorrow to start the Tree Farm process. Future meetings will be scheduled for an earlier time. Rodney attended the Planning Board meeting for Joe where they discussed a Bailey Pond subdivision to create one more lot and a sitewalk was scheduled. The Master Plan was discussed. Some in the audience discussed restricting lot approvals and other options to decrease the speed of development. Town Planner Mark Fougere will research past discussions and issues of commercial development in New Boston. The SNHPC attended the meeting to discuss a Main Street program that is probably not applicable in New Boston.

**Public Forum:**

None.

**Item 9: Possible Request for Non-Public Per RSA 91-A:** None.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Rodney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 PM. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

*Prepared by Maralyn Segien*