

Adopted

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting June 6, 2016

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

Transfer Station Manager and Conservation Commission member Gerry Cornett, Open Space Chairman Ken Lombard, Fire Chief Dan MacDonald, Road Agent Dick Perusse, Police Chief James Brace, Anthony Cardone, Willard Dodge, Brandy Mitroff and Conservation Commission members Laura Bernard, Betsy Whitman, and Louise Robie 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. Joe moved to approve the consent agenda. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

B. PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 1: Public Hearing-Second Reading-Increase in Fees for Televisions and Computer Screens: The Public Hearing opened at 7:02 PM. Joe noted he has reviewed materials from the May 16 Selectmen's meeting and from the Transfer Station and found that electronics disposal costs have clearly gone up. He asked if smaller items would be charged a per pound fee. Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett was present and he and Rodney noted they generally would not be weighed unless someone came in with many of them. Gerry requests the fee for disposal of television and computer screens be increased to at least 18 cents per pound. The Transfer Station budget is \$1,000 in the hole on that line so far this year and these disposal fees are expected to go up, as are tire disposal fees. Gerry noted the fees cannot be offset with recyclable revenues, the amount of recyclables received at the Transfer Station has decreased from prior years but recycling is steady this year. Rodney moved this matter to a third reading at the next Selectmen's meeting. Joe seconded the motion. All in favor. 3-0

Item 2: Fire Chief Dan MacDonald, Police Chief James Brace and Road Agent Dick Perusse-Report and Recommendation of Contractor for Communications Tower Construction: Fire Chief Dan MacDonald reported a Warrant Article recently passed to spend \$98,000 on upgrades at the communication tower that is used by the Police, Fire and Highway Departments. He has been researching this project with Police Chief James Brace and Road

Agent Dick Perusse. They put out an RFP and submitted a grant to use toward the project two weeks ago. Competitive bids came in from installers, they were opened, announced, reviewed and Timberlane Construction Company was chosen to do the work. Dan, Jim and Dick recommend New Boston award the contract to Timberlane Construction Company at \$79,372.89 contingent on New Boston receiving the full requested amount from the grant. If not, this contract would be null and void. Timberlane has great references, reputation and experience. \$196,254 was requested from an EMPH Group Grant to cover the entire project including building improvements, electrical conduits, tree removal, sitework and the antenna. The town share of this project is the amount requested in the March Warrant Article. Foliage won't affect communication with this tower. Joe asked if this project will help with unified communication throughout the state. Dan said this project is for local communication and may help with unified communication with upgrades. Rodney moved to accept the recommendation of this committee of a conditional agreement with Timberline Construction Company for \$79,372.89 for the communications tower upgrade. Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 The group will continue to work with Peter on this project.

Item 3: Laura Bernard-New Boston Conservation Commission-Annual Update on Conservation Areas and Projects: Conservation Commission Chairman Laura Bernard was present to meet with the Selectmen to update them on Conservation Commission activities. Laura began the presentation with a Powerpoint Presentation including the following:

- The role of the Conservation Commission according to RSA.
- Saunders Pasture Conservation Area: The Conservation Commission recently met at this area with its steward Gordon Russell and Matt Tarr from UNH. This is a sensitive area where wildlife needs to be protected. The CC plans to follow Matt's recommendations to protect it. Willard Dodge was present and noted if mowing is not done on a regular basis, when it is done, different equipment may be needed. The CC still plans to mow approximately every 2-3 years depending on growth evaluation.
- Betsy Dodge Conservation Area: There are two encroachment issues here. One abutter has a large shed over the boundary. Some other items that were over the boundary have been cleaned up. Code Enforcement Officer Ed Hunter is involved and giving the abutter a hard deadline to clean up. Open Space Committee Chairman was present and discussed the other encroachment saying a new abutting property owner was misled on his property boundary and built two sheds on conservation land. A land swap was proposed and brought to applicable state groups and the SPNHF. The state is willing to consider it but SPNHF is not due to IRS concerns. Ken is considering another possibility and will bring it to town counsel. The abutter is willing to work with the town on this. The Selectmen approved Ken continue working on this.
- Mill Pond Conservation Area: The footbridge project will make this trail longer. The NBCS Trail Maintenance Club helped make a new easier entrance, from the cemetery.
- Lyndeborough East and West Conservation Areas: Trail tags are being added.
- Bog Brook Preserve. There are no trails here and none are expected without a boardwalk, which is more than the CC can take on at this time.
- Skofield Conservation Area: There are two trails here and now a new bridge over a wet area and another bridge may be going in soon.
- West Lull Conservation Area: Trails will be developed in the future.

- Rail Trail: Most of Phase I was completely rehabbed, a ribbon cutting took place last year and the trail is now used often. Willard discussed finishing Phase I and how to get material in by an access road if a grant that has been applied for is approved. The CC applied for a \$23,052.75 grant from the NH Bureau of Trails to finish Phase I and get an access road that will also be used for the next Phase. If awarded, the work has to be done with this grant money by next September. He said volunteers will help build the road. Willard spoke to the Road Agent about material and found it is ok to bring it in and they agreed the Highway Department will bring waste and unusable material from the various construction sites to the area. Someone is needed to cut 6-7 trees in the area at the Conservation Commission's expense. The Phase 2 permitting process will begin soon.
- Joe moved to support the removal of waste and unusable material at the Sherbourne Lot and bring it to fill at the Parker Road trail junction and cutting of trees to get to the Rail Trail. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0
- The 10 year old Rail Trail footbridge was redecked last year due to rotting boards.
- Gallerani Conservation Area: this is a lovely new 87 acre Conservation Area. Ken and Conservation Commission Alternate Barbara Thomson have been marking the boundary. Trails will be added. There has been ATV use but will be posted "no ATVs."
- Conservation Commission member Louise Robie is holding regular community guided walks on conservation trails.
- Several groups including scouts have been helping clean up trails.
- The NBCS Trail Maintenance Club run by Jackie and Jen Moulton worked for four weeks this spring on the Mill Pond and Bailey Pond trails.
- Other ongoing responsibilities were reviewed.
- The Conservation Commission has been sponsoring two New Boston children to attend a week at Barry Conservation Camp for the past three years.
- Willard expressed concern that another building lot was approved at Bailey Pond Road and a highway truck cannot turn around there for plowing. Ken discussed options available under the easement and the possibility of widening the end of the road to make this easier.
- Ken gave an Open Space Committee update saying the Committee is responsible for monitoring and maintaining eight easements. There is a possibility of acquiring another easement at Sue Martin's 80 acre property at South Hill Road. The map of the area and recent timber cutting were reviewed. Ken recently learned there is a possibility of acquiring another easement at the 60 acre Higby property and he is working on this.
- The Selectmen thanked all involved for their work on these matters.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 4: Adoption of Public Minutes of May 16, 2016: The Selectmen reviewed the public minutes of May 16, 2016. Rodney moved the public minutes be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0-1 Joe abstained.

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 5: Preliminary Report of Expenditures and Revenues: Peter reported the Departments are doing well controlling spending. Tax money is starting to come in as the first tax bill recently went out.

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 6: Town Administrators Report:

- Footbridge Update: Donations have come in and the committee has met the goal to completely fund the project. The contractor began work May 17.
- Tax Waiver: This will be discussed under Selectmen's Reports.
- Communications Tower Update: As dealt with in Item #2 above.
- Bookkeepers Position Opening: To be discussed in non-public.

Item 7: Selectmen's Reports: Rodney reported he has been talking with Dan Donovan about a possible tax waiver for a new Rose Meadow Facility. The Donovans went to their attorney who agreed with the town attorney. Dan would like to discuss alternatives such as a tax abatement application for approximately two years with Peter, the Selectmen and attorneys for both parties. This would help the Donovans be able to build another facility soon. Peter will schedule a meeting.

The Selectmen send their sympathies to the Clark family as Binny Clark passed away May 27. He served as a Library Trustee for many years and was a good citizen.

Public Forum:

None.

Item 8: Request for Non-Public Per RSA 91-A:3, II, (a)(b)(c) Personnel and Legal: Joe made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A:3,II (a)(b)(c) at 7:17 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 made a motion to exit Non-Public Session at 7:35PM. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Rodney moved to seal the non-public minutes for a period of five years. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Rodney moved that the Board authorize the Town Administrator advertise the bookkeepers position as a full time position with benefits and to revise the title name to Accounting Supervisor to be included in the pay scale of Grade 7 of the Town's pay schedule. The exact pay step would be based on qualifications and experience. The Town Administrator, Peter Flynn, advised that the job will be advertised in the Manchester Union Leader and Sunday News along with the regular posting in various locations. The notice of the job will also be posted on the Town's website and the Classified Ad section of the New Hampshire Municipal Association web site.

ADJOURNMENT: Joe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:37PM. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien