

Approved

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting October 17, 2016

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

School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert, Fire Chief Dan MacDonald and Dwight Lovejoy 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 6:00 PM 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: Fire Chief Dan MacDonald-Re: Discussion and Decision of Disposition of Replaced Ambulance: Fire Chief Dan MacDonald was present to meet with the Selectmen to discuss disposition of the ambulance that was replaced about six weeks ago. It was kept in case there was a problem requiring the new ambulance to be sent back for maintenance. Prior to this Dan spoke with the Police Chief about turning the old ambulance into an Emergency Management vehicle for various uses such as a communications vehicle, command vehicle, not for ambulance uses. The Chiefs propose keeping the old ambulance for four months to see if there is a need for it. Dan is also the Emergency Management Director. Alternatively, Dan has been researching the resale price of the old ambulance and learned the town could sell the 1999 4 wheel drive ambulance with 58,000 miles for \$15,000-20,000 on eBay. Rodney noted he is interested in the proposal to keep the ambulance for four months. Joe noted he is ready to sell the old ambulance as the need is not obvious and a different type of vehicle may be better for the proposed purposes. Christine is not sure which option she would prefer. The Chiefs will prepare a proposal to present to the Selectmen at their next Selectmen's meeting. Peter will get an estimate from the Property Liability Insurance Company of how an additional town vehicle would affect the insurance premium. Joe moved to table this proposal until the next Selectmen's meeting so the chiefs can prepare a more detailed proposal and the Selectmen can discuss it with the Department Managers involved. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 2: Adoption of Public and Non-Public Minutes of October 3, 2016: The Selectmen reviewed the Public Minutes of October 3, 2016. Rodney moved the Public Minutes of October 3, 2016 be accepted as presented. Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 4: Request From Department Managers To Conduct A Public Informational Meeting On Monday, October 24 For The Purpose Of An Overview Of Their 2017 Budget Requests And Function Of Each Department's Activities: Peter reported the Department Managers discussed this at Wednesday's Department Manager meeting during discussion of voter reaction and the default budget as a way to educate voters. The Selectmen have suggested at past meetings that voters should attend more already scheduled meetings to learn this information. The Department Managers suggested holding an additional informal meeting with a facilitator at a location such as the library. Joe noted he is against this suggestion as meetings of this type are seldom productive and New Boston already has a very detailed budget review and information process with CIP meetings, finance meetings, Selectmen's meetings, Public Hearings, Deliberative Session and voting. In addition, Peter is always prepared with informational handouts and the information is available on the town website. Joe moved to deny the request for a public informational meeting on October 24, 2016. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 4: Review Of Town's Expenditures and Revenues: Peter reported the transition to a full time Accounting Supervisor has gone very well. The Department Managers are very happy and excited with how the Accounting Department is being handled. The budget process is going very well. The 2016 budget is progressing well. The Assessing budget may go over by approximately \$3,000 due to an ongoing legal case the Assessor is involved in that required many hours of preparation as well as increased building in town this year requiring more hours than previous years. On the other hand, some budgets may not use their total budgeted amount. The Accounting Supervisor salary line will be over due to the transition in this position to full time this year. The Highway Department had spending on some items over the projected amounts but the Road Agent Dick Perusse is closely watching the bottom line and will notify Peter immediately if there is a problem. More revenues are expected, especially in December as typically occurs.

The Department Managers are preparing their 2017 budgets with some increases. This year's budget presentations will include a new column showing default budget amounts, actual spending will be updated frequently and spending of prior years will be easier to read.

Item 5: Town Administrators Report:

- CIP Preparation: The CIP Committee met again Wednesday. The meeting was well attended by the public with standing room only. The public was told that the CIP meetings are not a forum for public input, per the CIP policy the Committee is an advisory board only. Selectmen and Planning Board meetings are the forum for public input along with various Public Hearings that occur during the budget process as discussed above under Item 3. The School

District made a presentation to the CIP Committee followed by an impressive presentation on a proposed fire station. CIP Committee Member Fred Hayes has followed up on the meeting by preparing figures for the Highway and Fire Trucks included on the CIP Schedule and will have these ready for review at Wednesday's CIP meeting. The proposal for a GIS program was not well received initially by the Committee but more research can be done if it is added to the CIP Schedule. The GIS program could be paid for through a Warrant Article. Peter is prepared with an initial estimate but more quotes will be researched as well. Peter will learn more about GIS at a conference he is attending in November.

- Old Coach Road Issue with Fairpoint: Peter called Fairpoint as directed at the October 3 Selectmen's meeting. The next day Fairpoint was called and they began working in the area but ran into an issue with Comcast. Fairpoint is now working with Comcast to come to a resolution. Peter will follow up with Comcast and will call NH PUC and NH Representative Andy Sanborn if Fairpoint's response is unsatisfactory.

Item 7: Selectmen's Reports:

Joe reported the Forestry Committee met Monday and discussed the possibility of a land swap with a property owner who inadvertently encroached on town property. A proposal was suggested and will be presented to the Open Space Committee and then to a Warrant Article. The Forestry Committee will hold a workday next week taking soil samples at the Colby lot. This is to continue toward becoming an American Tree Farm.

Christine reported she will not be able to attend Wednesday's CIP meeting. Joe will attend in her place.

Public Forum:

None.

Item 8: Request for Non-Public per RSA 91-A:3, II(a)(b)(c): None.

ADJOURNMENT: Joe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:31 PM. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien