

Approved

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting October 3, 2016

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

Dave Elliott, Kaleb Jacob, Foot Traffic Safety Committee members Gail and Randy Parker, School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert, Sergeant Ryan MacLean and his family, Master Patrolman Stephen Case and his family, Police Department Administrative Assistant Cathy Widener, Lt. Masella 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 6:00 PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance. Former Police Chief Greg Begin was remembered with a moment of silence as he passed away last week.

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: Police Chief James Brace-Pinning Ceremony of Officer Ryan MacLean as Sergeant and Officer Stephen Case as Master Patrolman: Police Chief James Brace reported that after four and a half years as Chief in New Boston the Police Department is getting to a point where it can grow from within. Tonight Officer Ryan MacLean was promoted to Sergeant and Officer Stephen Case was promoted to Master Patrolman. Chief introduced both with their background and experience and reviewed the extensive promotion process where they both showed through testing, performance and job knowledge that they are ready to serve in these positions. Ryan's wife pinned him as Sergeant of the New Boston Police Department.

The Chief also requested to appoint Jesse Byam to the per diem part time officer position to replace Officer Previtt and to provide support to department shifts as they occur. Jesse worked as an officer in Maine, is part time certified in NH and worked with NH Marine Patrol. He passed the written, psychological and physical tests and background check along with all other necessary testing. Jesse will complete training with the New Boston Police Department as required. Rodney recused himself from the Board as Jesse is his relative. Joe moved to approve Jesse Byam as a per diem part time officer in New Boston. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 2-0

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 2: Discussion Re: Footbridge Site Restoration: Rodney reported he observed reclamation at the South Branch Footbridge site last week and doesn't believe the Selectmen agreed to extension of the trail toward the stone wall, he thought that was going to be totally reclaimed with natural growth after the crane was brought in for bridge installation. Joe subsequently viewed the area and agreed with Rodney. Rodney then met with contractor Dave Elliott and discussed the project and plans. Dave was present at tonight's meeting and said the gravel brought into the trail area for the project can be covered with loam and grass to allow a surface for emergency vehicles to travel if necessary and he can replace more of the stones that were set aside from the stonewall, leaving a smaller opening than originally planned. Joe supports Dave's suggestion. Rodney suggested a wider gap in the stonewall with a gate to keep locked unless an emergency vehicle needs to enter. This is to prevent the area from becoming the main trail entrance. All Selectmen concurred with this idea.

Foot Traffic Safety Committee members Gail and Randy Parker noted that all plans including a post development plan were prepared and agreed to by many town groups including the Selectmen before the project began. The Committee then put the project out to bid and Dave was awarded the bid. Dave's work was almost complete when this issue came up last week. There was a stone wall in the area previously; the rocks were saved according to the plan to be replaced after the bridge was installed. There was an agreement with NH DES and Shoreland Protection Agency to remove the gravel and replant in the shoreland protection area. Randy noted the top soil was also removed and set aside for construction of the temporary road. This was discussed with the Fire Chief, Conservation Commission and Selectmen at the time of the plan. The Fire Chief gave some instructions for the land as it may be used for a Fire Station someday. Rodney and Joe noted they disagreed with that procedure.

Rodney said cover the gravel with loam and plant grass to keep the surface accessible for emergency vehicles. Some of these stonewall rocks will be replaced but not entirely as this is now a grassed over access road for emergency and maintenance vehicles, but not as access to the trail or part of the trail. Instead the trail planned was to curve toward the existing library trail.

Randy noted that all that has been done at the site was done according to the plans discussed with all groups before construction began. The Selectmen said there was a misunderstanding at that time and they will now only agree to their current suggestion for this area. Randy said there is a Committee that needs to review the new proposal. Time and money were spent on the plans that were approved before construction began. Rodney said it doesn't matter because the town owns the land and the Selectmen make the decisions for the town. The Committee was invited to the next Selectmen's meeting to discuss this.

Randy said Dave should be allowed to finish the scope of work to get paid. He needs to get his equipment to his next job. Rodney said Dave should be allowed to finish the scope of work as the Selectmen propose. Gail read aloud the scope of work found in section 8 of the contract.

The Selectmen propose a twelve foot walkthrough with a gate and agreed the town will cover the expense of the gate. If the town does not cover the expense, Rodney will. The Selectmen will plan for the gate once the current project is done. Rodney also said the two pieces of property

involved need to be kept delineated in case the Fire Station is not built there and the town sells the property. Rodney moved to cover the trail at the property by the South Branch Footbridge where the library trail currently exists with approximately two inches of soil and the gap in the replacement stonewall will be fourteen feet wide. Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 Dave will take no action from the library to the stone wall.

Item 3: Adoption of Public and Non-Public Minutes of September 19, 2016: The Selectmen reviewed the Public and two sets of Non-Public Minutes of September 19, 2016. Joe moved the Public and two sets of Non-Public Minutes of September 19, 2016 be accepted as presented. Rodney seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 4: Report On NH DMV Motor Vehicle Audit: Peter reported Town Clerk Irene Baudreau is a Municipal Agent and passed the annual NH DMV Audit.

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 5: Review Of Town's Expenditures and Revenues: Peter reported some town budgets are getting tight, such as the Highway Department budget, which Peter will be watching closely. Some budget lines are over but some are under and the town is expected to finish in good shape. More revenues are expected, especially in December as typically occurs.

Item 6: Town Administrators Report:

- Footbridge Update: The grand opening is October 9 at 2:00.
- CIP Preparation: The CIP Committee meetings begin Wednesday to prepare for the CIP season. A GIS program is on the CIP Schedule for Committee review. The Selectmen agree it is appropriate.
- Revaluation Update: The Assessing Office sent letters to all property owners regarding the revaluation that happened over the past year. Many residents called with questions. Fifteen appointments were scheduled with the assessor to discuss the assessment.
- Summons's for legal action were served to the Selectmen this past week by the Sheriff's office. No action is needed at this time.

Item 7: Selectmen's Reports:

Rodney reported the completion of the Old Coach Road project is delayed pending needed work by Fairpoint. They were made aware of the project in March 2015 but have not done their portion. Rodney said it is time the Town Administrator and Selectmen take action to contact Fairpoint. Rodney spoke to Milford town officials who had the same problem and learned of an RSA that says once Fairpoint is given notice it has two weeks to complete the work. The Selectmen asked Peter to call Milford town officials, NH PUC, Gary Aubin and send a letter to NH PUC including the timeline of the project.

Joe reported the Forestry Committee meets Monday to continue town forest boundary work. The Committee will then begin the extensive counting required.

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School Board Chairman Wendy Lambert was present and thanked the Selectmen for their work.

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

ADJOURNMENT: Rodney made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:57 PM. Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien