

Approved

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting April 3, 2017

<u>PRESENT:</u>	Joe Constance	Selectman
	Rodney Towne	Selectman
	Christine Quirk	Selectman
	Peter Flynn	Town Administrator

Recreation Director Mike Sindoni, Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett, David Litwinovich, Lou Lanzillotti, Kaleb Jacob, School Board Chairman, Wendy Lambert, Steve Sears, Karen Scott and Bill McFadden of the public were present for all or part of the meeting.

A. CALL TO ORDER: A regular meeting of the Board of Selectmen was called to order by Rodney Towne 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 except for one pending excavation request pending more information. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

B. PUBLIC FORUM:

Steve Sears of Carriage Road was present and asked if the Selectmen have made any advancement on appointing feasibility study committees for major town issues as he suggested at the March 20 Selectmen's meeting and in a letter to the Selectmen.

Rodney noted he reviewed the letter from Steve on this subject and the Selectmen will not be taking this on as it is statutorily under Fire Ward jurisdiction as the Fire Wards are an elected board, not Selectmen appointed. The Fire Wards operate under RSA 154, the RSA regarding how to organize Fire Departments and Fire Wards. The current Fire Ward makeup is completely allowable under the RSA and the system was reauthorized by voters. There are other allowable options that could be set up in New Boston through a Warrant Article. The Fire Wards are responsible for fire protection in New Boston. The Selectmen could bypass them but would rather not. Voters did not approve the Fire Station presented to them in 2017.

Steve said voters did not want the land purchase on River Road either. Rodney disagreed and said he did some presentations on that purchase that never mentioned a central Fire Station going at the River Road property. Steve noted one of those presentations at a Grange meeting about the Fire Station never mentioned a substation.

Joe said bring this to the Fire Wards. Steve noted he and others attended a Fire Wards meeting where the Fire Wards said they will take a few weeks off but will pursue a Fire Station at the currently proposed location.

Karen Scott of Dane Road said the Fire Chief has made it clear that he wants a new Fire Station and the other Fire Wards are all involved with the Fire Department under the Fire Chief. She is considering petition Warrant Articles such as reorganizing the Board of Fire Wards and will get the procedure to do this from Peter.

Joe noted if the Fire Department receives grant money from the state or federal government the Selectmen need to approve this. Steve asked if the Selectmen control the Fire Department budget as well. Christine said the budgets of all elected officials are handled the same way, such as Town Clerk and Library Trustees. Rodney also noted the state constitution requires the town to fund the library.

Joe noted the Fire Station proposal may come back at a future date but won't necessarily be the same. Joe also has questions that he will bring up to the Fire Wards. Rodney said the Finance Committee will do the same and he expects it will be considered more closely during the budget process.

Steve asked if the Selectmen would get involved in the negotiating process with the Air Force Tracking Station for potential use of its facility as an expanded New Boston Fire Department due to growth on that side of town. Rodney said the Selectmen will not get involved with this negotiation as it is the Fire Wards responsibility. It was recently a possibility that New Boston would no longer be able to use that station. This can be discussed more at negotiation time, the Air Force officials are located in Colorado and very hard to communicate with, also it is risky for New Boston to invest in that station as its future is uncertain. Alternatively, the town could consider land in that area of town for a Fire Station.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 1: Gerry Cornett-Transfer Station Superintendent-Updates on Activities at the New Boston Transfer Station: Transfer Station Manager Gerry Cornett was present to meet with the Selectmen to update them on activities at the Transfer Station as follows:

- Staff training is taking place on the new skid steer. The old skid steer will go out to bid, possibly on EBay, for a minimum of \$5,000.
- Gerry reviewed a staff shortage at the Transfer Station.
- The Transfer Station operated well during the winter; markets are doing well for revenues so far. Glass is not revenue right now; it is being disposed of at a good rate for now but is expected to continue to be an issue.
- Future Trends for Disposal Costs: New Boston is locked into a contract for one more year with the possibility of adding two years.
- Future Growth: The current storage trailers were purchased in 2005 and now getting to the end of their usability and safety. Gerry is considering purchasing at \$2,500 including delivery, some of the overseas storage containers similar to what the Road Agent is using. These will be easier and safer for Transfer Station employees to use.
- General Status: The new traffic pattern established three years ago is working well. Enforcement is continuing. A lot of new residents are moving in and using the Transfer Station and a lot of residents are moving out and bringing many items to the Transfer Station as they clean out their houses.

- Gerry will reconvene the Solid Waste Committee. Two additional members are needed to review town needs and the future of the Transfer Station in the next five years. This need will be posted on the town website.

Item 2: Mike Sindoni-Recreation Director-Updates On Review of Winter Activities and Information Re Spring and Summer Activities: Recreation Director Mike Sindoni was present to meet with the Selectmen to update them on activities at the Recreation Department as follows:

- Information on upcoming spring and summer events was provided.
- Recreation Assistant Sheri Moloney started last week, getting organized and settled in nicely. She is thrilled to be part of the town and Recreation Department and the Recreation Department is thrilled to have her. She is continuing as the gymnastics program instructor until May with her previously planned retirement and she is working on hiring her replacement. A replacement is expected to be found to keep this program going.
- The senior program is going strong with events, monthly trips, health checkups, activities and lunches. Joe noted he expects the senior program to grow as many residents seem to stay in town after their families are grown. Mike noted this, especially transportation, was discussed at a SNHPC Becoming Age Friendly meeting today. The Department gets many calls requesting transportation and this is the next need the Recreation Department needs to become involved with. Rodney suggested the Department could coordinate a volunteer program.
- The Easter event Saturday will be held in the gym due to outside ground conditions.
- The Department is in between sports seasons. Basketball ended and baseball season is beginning. The basketball season was very successful this year with several teams winning trophies.
- The lip sync contest was great this year. The gym was packed again and CBS filmed it and showed clips on CBS This Morning. New Boston was excited to be part of that.
- Archery, Golf and a kid's dance are coming up.
- Applications for the Department scholarship are being accepted.
- Fun Pass books are for sale and discount tickets will be available.
- Camp Coolio is starting June 26. The Department is excited it is fully staffed with the same staff and director as last year.
- Softball and soccer camp registration began.
- Rodney noted the requested Recreation bus was not on the Warrant this year but may come up again. He asked if it could be funded through fundraising. Mike said the Recreation Commission will consider that along with its Revolving Account that it had considered previously.
- Steve Sears of Carriage Road noted he recently contacted Mike about beginning a Pickleball program as it is very popular among seniors and might be good for physical wellness. Court time is needed. Most players have their own equipment. Mike said gym time is an issue. He is considering this activity and will try to get gym time. Gerry suggested using tennis courts but Mike said the New Boston tennis court surface is not ideal for this activity.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 3: Adoption of Public and Non-Public Minutes of March 20, 2017 and Deliberative Session Minutes of February 6, 2017: The Selectmen reviewed the Public Minutes of March 20, 2017. Joe moved the Public minutes of March 20, 2017 be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 The Selectmen reviewed the Non-Public Minutes of March 20, 2017. Joe moved the Non-Public minutes of March 20, 2017 be accepted as presented. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0 The Selectmen reviewed the Deliberative Session Minutes of February 6, 2017. Joe moved the Deliberative Session minutes of February 6, 2017 be accepted as amended. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 4: First Quarter Report on Year to Date Expenditures and Revenues: Peter reported the report is based on the official approved budget and up to date as of last week. 25% is spent as appropriate. Revenues are going well including motor vehicle registrations, building permits, current use taxes and Transfer Station revenues. Peter will report on this monthly.

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 5: Town Administrators Report:

- Old Coach Road Issue with Fairpoint: Fairpoint completed the project.

Item 6: Selectmen's Reports:

Joe reported the Forestry Committee scheduled a harvest at the ballfield and Transfer Station that began Thursday and is hoped to be done soon. Test management plots will be determined at the Follansbee lot and the Committee will work at the O'Rourke lot next.

Joe reported the Planning Board asked Planner Mark Fougere to bring one Master Plan chapter to the Board each month for approval.

Rodney reported he has been researching the history of the Road Committee and learned it began in 1954. He is continuing to research the Committee and will then meet with the Committee to discuss.

G. PUBLIC FORUM:

Kaleb Jacob of Fraser Lane noted the New Boston Taxpayers' Association met and discussed the Trust Fund the Selectmen created for the Middle Branch Footbridge donations and asked if Trust Funds could be created to accept donations toward particular town departments to be used to offset taxes. Peter and the Selectmen said this may be possible; they will consider it and thanked Kaleb.

Steve Sears of Carriage Road distributed photos of the chambered septic system used in New Boston and throughout the state. He spoke with Peter and Selectmen's Assistant Laura Bernard about this system last week as he is concerned it affects the quality of life in New Boston. The Selectmen said the state approves and inspects the design and installation of septic systems, not the town. Steve suggested the Selectmen communicate with the state as these systems have an

approximate fifteen year life span and cost \$10,000 to repair. Rodney noted these systems allow non-buildable lots to become buildable and are safer for the environment compared to traditional septic systems. The Selectmen could write to the state to ask them to track these systems. The Selectmen agreed with Steve that this is a town and state issue. Steve is also concerned that when a permit is issued to repair the septic system that would be considered an improvement to the property and the Assessor would be notified and increases the value of that property. The Selectmen said that would not be applicable in this case because it is maintenance not an improvement, the town Building Department would not be involved in septic repair at all. The Selectmen also said that property buyers need to be aware of the quality of the septic and wells they are purchasing with their home to avoid issues.

Steve noted another issue that is occurring all over town is burying stumps and tree refuse and said this should not be allowed because it contributes to underground termites and sinkholes. Joe suggested anyone concerned should write to NH DES about this. Rodney suggested this could be brought to the Planning Board and SNHPC.

Item 7: Request for Non-Public per RSA 91-A:3, II(a) and (c): Joe made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A:II(a) and (c) at 7:10 PM. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0-Poll Vote: Joe-yes, Christine-yes and Rodney-yes. Board then entered non-public session.

Move to exit Non-Public Session: Joe made a motion to exit Non-Public Session at 7:32PM. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

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

Joe moved to approve the changes in job descriptions for the Planning Coordinator and Planning Consultant as recommended by the Town Administrator and to revise the Coordinator's paygrade to be at Grade 8, Step 5B. Christine seconded the motion. All voted in the affirmative 3-0

ADJOURNMENT: Christine made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:40PM. Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien

**Next Scheduled Meeting: Town Hall Conference Room on April 20, 2017 (6:00 PM)
7 Meetinghouse Hill Road- New Boston, NH 03070
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Handicap Access available**