

Adopted

Town of New Boston Selectmen's Meeting December 20, 2017

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

Selectmen's Assistant Laura Bernard, Conservation Commission member Louise Robie, Forestry Committee members Tom Miller and Kim DiPietro, Bill McFadden, Donna Monbouquette and David Litwinovich 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 6:00PM beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Selectmen read aloud an announcement as they are saddened to hear New Boston Police Department Officer Brandon Tucker passed away suddenly on December 19. He was employed as a New Boston Police officer since May 2015, having started his career as a part time per diem officer and then being appointed to full time in July 2016. He was well respected by New Boston residents and colleagues in the police community and all will miss him.

Consent Agenda-The Selectmen signed the consent agenda. Joe moved to approve the consent agenda. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

B. PUBLIC FORUM:

David Litwinovich of 166 Beard Road was present and noted a concern with the minutes. The Selectmen accepted the change.

Bill McFadden of 110 Dane Road noted there were reports of an issue in the School District budget last week where taxpayers were overcharged. He asked what the Selectmen's position is and what the public can do to ensure the money is to taxpayers. The Selectmen noted the money will be returned, the Selectmen will be involved in the process but don't make the decision, the SAU and School Board are working out the legal way to return the money.

Donna Monbouquette of 42 West Lull Place asked if the Selectmen know what percentage of the money in issue with the School District pertains to New Boston. The Selectmen said \$1.1 million of the School District money in issue belongs to New Boston and the School Board is meeting tonight at NBCS at 6:30 PM.

C. APPOINTMENTS:

Item 1: Eric Dubowik-Fire Inspector-Discussion Re: 911 Road Renaming And Numbering: Fire Inspector Eric Dubowik was present to meet with the Selectmen to discuss

requests from the state 911 for road renaming and numbering. Street numbering is part of his Fire Inspection duties. This request was presented to him as the town was reevaluated by 911 this year, the first time since 2010. Road name changes were proposed to divide them and make them easier to find when responding to an emergency as portions of them are Class VI and may be inaccessible. This is a concern as responding to the wrong area can delay response times. If the Selectmen approve of the name changes, the state would be notified and Eric would readdress all affected properties. Donna Monbouquette of 42 West Lull Place noted she attended this meeting due to her interest in this topic. She noted changing property addresses affects the property owners as they need to change their information on everything including legal documents. She asked the Selectmen to engage the people affected by the decision so they understand the reason and possibly give input on the new road name. The Selectmen will consider this request and discuss it mid-February. Joe moved to table this until mid-February pending research by the Town Administrator and Fire Inspector. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Item 2: Tom Miller-Forestry Committee-Updates re: Ongoing Issues: Forestry Committee Chairman Tom Miller was present to meet with the Selectmen on projects the Forestry Committee is working on as follows:

- The Committee would like to add more help with alternate or regular Committee members. The Committee is working to get all forests into American Tree Farm status and working on tree planting, both requiring a lot of fieldwork. The Committee doesn't have enough help to get the fieldwork done in an easy time span. The Committee would like to add three or four more people and post the openings. These positions require fieldwork during the day and weekends. Two work sessions plus the regular meeting are currently scheduled. The Selectmen noted they don't recommend increasing the size of the Committee as members are voting members and a Warrant Article may be required to add members, the Selectmen would recommend alternate or associate members. Louise Robie of 27 High Street was present and noted she posts requests for Conservation Commission workday volunteers at various locations around town including Dodge's Store and the New Boston Beacon is coming out January 30 where the agenda and request for volunteers can be posted. Tom said the Committee would prefer regular volunteers as the work requires training. Committee member Kim DiPietro was present and noted the Committee has five members and is governed by RSA. Tom noted one member has not participated for a year. Joe will ask that member if he is interested in continuing with the Committee.
- Tom noted the Committee is allowed a certain amount of money. He asked if the Committee can consider purchasing more forest land once that amount is reached, money should be returned to the general fund or if there are other options. The Committee plans more cuts causing money to be added to the account, bringing it to the maximum. The Selectmen thought purchase of land may require a Warrant Article. Peter will research this with the Town Attorney. The Conservation Commission and Open Space Committee accounts were discussed although they are unrelated to the Forestry Committee. The Conservation Commission and Open Space Committee accounts are RSA driven and the Open Space Committee funds are almost exclusively for land purchase. Kim noted the Forestry Committee account is allowed a maximum of \$50,000 as set by a Warrant Article. A Warrant Article could be used to request an increase in the limit. The Forestry Committee can spend the money without a Warrant Article.

- The Selectmen thanked the Forestry Committee for the work they are doing moving forward with their projects.
- Tom noted the forester is reviewing two forests and they are almost ready for certification as tree farms. Another forest is halfway through the tree farm process. This is all due to the work of this dedicated Committee.

Item 3: Second Reading-PUBLIC HEARING-Revision To Town's Towing Ordinance:

The Public Hearing opened at 6:31 PM. The revision to the town's Towing Policy was reviewed with a handout showing the proposed changes. The policy was adopted in June 2013 and this is the first rate adjustment. There have never been any issues with the policy since it was adopted. There are no representatives from companies affected by the policy present tonight and no contact from them since this item was posted. Police Chief Jim Brace worked with the companies when creating this policy. There were no comments from the public. Joe moved to approve the change to the towing rates and to waive the third reading. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Item 4: Laura Bernard and Louise Robie-New Boston Conservation Commission Re:

Grant Request Notification: Conservation Commission Chairman Laura Bernard and member Louise Robie were present to meet with the Selectmen to update them on Conservation Commission activities as follows:

- Louise is excited to announce the Commission received a grant to work on the next half mile of the Rail Trail through Lange State Forest. This is a Trails Bureau grant for \$25,000 with an 80/20 match. The Commission will return to the Selectmen for grant acceptance when it is received.
- The Commission applied for three other grants through Walks America. A \$1,500 grant was awarded and will be used to place equally spaced resting benches throughout Phase 1 of the Rail Trail. A picnic table was placed there by an eagle scout.
- The Commission took a survey at the end of September and found that in a three day period including a weekend with variable weather, eighty-five people from New Boston and eleven other communities voluntarily completed a census of Rail Trail use. The Rail Trail is getting a lot of use and the Commission is happy to be able to extend it.
- The Commission applied for a grant through Dartmouth Hospital CHAD program and Kohl's offering equipment for an activity to take place before August 1, 2018. A second annual bike ride from the library to Lang Station and back is planned.
- The Commission is applying for a grant through the National Parks Service and hope the Rail Trail can be completed with this grant to Riverside Lane. When this occurs, people using the Rail Trail will be able to take the wide shoulder to connect to the Goffstown Rail Trail and travel sixteen miles from New Boston center to the Fisher Cats Stadium, all using Rail Trails. Louise is here to request a letter of endorsement from the Selectmen to submit with the grant application. This will be a safe pedestrian walkway for all abilities. Letters of support have already come in from the Police, Fire and Recreation Departments and the Library. The Selectmen will prepare a letter of support.
- The Selectmen suggested and the Commission agreed to send letters to all Rail Trail Phase II and III abutters to let them know the project is moving forward. A walk is scheduled in January and February at Phase II and III to make people aware of what will happen.

- Rail Trail meetings will take place the second Thursday of each month.

D. OLD BUSINESS:

Item 5: Adoption of Public Minutes of December 4, 2017: The Selectmen reviewed the Public minutes of December 4, 2017. Joe moved the Public minutes of December 4, 2017 be accepted as amended. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

E. NEW BUSINESS:

Item 6: Review The Proposed Department Budget Summaries And Warrant Articles To Be Submitted For Finance Committee Vote For January 11th Meeting: The Draft Warrant was reviewed including the Fire Station bond, Highway Department Salt Shed and Library Solar Panels. This will be reviewed and voted on at the January 11 Finance Committee Meeting. The Public Budget Hearing was scheduled in error and will be rescheduled for January 16. A bond hearing will be scheduled the same night.

F. OTHER BUSINESS:

Item 7: Town Administrators Report:

- Update on Expenditures and Revenues: The budget is doing well. Motor Vehicle revenues are higher than anticipated for 2017. No departments are in danger of overspending. Departments have kept budgets in line and when there have been potential issues they have come to the Town Administrator and Selectmen to ask to change budget lines as needed.
- Cleaning Of War Memorial Monument: Complete.
- Hiring Of A New Town Mapping Person: Avitar will be hired.
- Town Administrator Evaluation: Complete.
- Budget Public Hearing: Above.
- Deliberative Session: Scheduled for February 5 at 7:00 PM at the NBCS gym. Peter and Rodney will prepare for the Deliberative Session.
- Peter plans to return to his regular work schedule after January 1. His doctors tell him he has made a remarkable recovery from bypass surgery.

Item 8: Selectmen's Reports:

Rodney reported official cleanup of the junkyard at 248 River Road is expected to begin tomorrow as ordered by the court.

G. PUBLIC FORUM:

None.

Item 9: Request for Non-Public per RSA 91-A:3, II(a) (b) and (c): Joe made a motion to go into Non-Public session per RSA 91-A: II (a) (b) and (c) at 6:51 PM. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0-Poll Vote: Rodney=yes, Joe=yes, Christine=yes. The Board then entered non-public session.

Move to exit Non-Public Session: Christine made a motion to exit Non-Public Session at 7:05 PM and Joe seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

ADJOURNMENT: Joe made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:06 PM. Christine seconded the motion. All were in favor. 3-0

Prepared by Maralyn Segien

**Next Scheduled Meeting: Town Hall Conference Room on January 2, 2018 (6:00 PM)
7 Meetinghouse Hill Road- New Boston, NH 03070
Phone: (603) 487-5504-www.newboston.gov
Handicap Access available**