

**MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD  
MONDAY, MARCH 23, 2015 - 7:00 PM**

Present: Patty Scholz-Cohen, Chair, Lorn Buxton, Selectman, David McGuckin, Selectman and Bette Jane Riordan, Secretary.

Also present: Rodney Rowland, State Rep. David Borden, Tom Smith, Etoile Holzaepfel, Will Connell, Jane Finn, Peter Reed, and Rita Fusco.

Chair Cohen convened the meeting at 7:00 PM, and proceeded to the first item on the Agenda.

**1. Approve Select Board minutes of February 17, 2015 and March 2, 2015.**

Selectman McGuckin made a Motion to approve the Select Board minutes of the February 17, 2015 meeting as amended. Selectman Buxton seconded, and the Motion carried. Selectman McGuckin made a Motion to approve the Select Board minutes of the March 2, 2015 meeting as amended. Selectman Buxton seconded, and the Motion carried.

Chair Cohen stated that discussion of items on the Agenda would be changed to accommodate our guests and proceeded to New Business Item 3 d.

**NEW BUSINESS.**

**3 d. Town Hall Informational Meeting.**

The Town Hall Renovation Committee, of which the Select Board are members, discussed the need for an informational meeting for the Town Hall Renovation project. Chair Cohen stated that the next meeting of the Town Hall Renovation Committee is April 7<sup>th</sup> at 1:00PM. Also on that date is the public hearing for the Town Budget which will take place at 7:00 PM in the Macomber Room at the Rec Building. Selectman McGuckin stated it was important to hold the public informational meeting at least a few days prior to April 7<sup>th</sup>. Chair Cohen agreed that it was important for people to have the opportunity to ask questions, similar to the informational sessions held regarding the school. Etoile Holzaepfel stated it was important to have the informational meeting at the Town Hall. Selectman McGuckin stated it needed to happen next week (Week of March 30). Discussion ensued regarding date and publicizing of the meeting. The Committee agreed to schedule the informational meeting for Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 7:30 PM at Town Hall. A direct mail flyer will be mailed to each box holder. Notices will be placed in the newspaper, the Town website, library, school, and sandwich boards. There will also be a press release. Selectman McGuckin noted there is a short window to get out the information, receive comments, and then assess as to whether or not to go forward with the project. Chair Cohen stated that April 26<sup>th</sup> is the last date to hold the public hearing on the bond for the Town Hall Renovation.

Rodney Rowland agreed to get charts and props ready for the informational hearing on March 31<sup>st</sup>. These will include details on the budget for this project. Chair Cohen stated grant-funding information should also be included.

Chair Cohen recognized State Rep Dave Borden.

**3. a. Appointment for Trustee of the Trust Funds. Dave McArdle.**

Selectman Buxton stated that it is up to the current trustees, Dave Borden and Kathy Richards, to secure the signed paperwork for Mr. McArdle and return to Pam Cullen. Dave Borden agreed to meet with Mr. McArdle.

**3. b. Proposed Warrant Articles.**

The Board discussed the article for establishing a sidewalk trust fund as well as the article to authorize the Trustees of the Trust Funds to pay for an investment advisor.

Selectman McGuckin asked Peter Reed, outgoing trustee, for his opinion on the need for the advisor. Mr. Reed explained the opportunities for better investing. He noted that currently there are roadblocks to obtaining better interest due to being restricted to local banks.

Selectman McGuckin asked that the Trustees be prepared to address this matter at Town Meeting in May, if it comes up.

Chair Cohen asked why the last sentence in the Sidewalk Trust Fund Article restricting use of any public funds had to be included. After discussion, the Board agreed to leave the sentence in. Selectman McGuckin stated it was a good marketing message to have the public aware that no taxpayer dollars would be used for this trust fund.

Chair Cohen asked if there were any other questions about other warrant articles.

Selectman Buxton stated they would be addressed at the next Budget Committee Meeting.

Chair Cohen noted she would be present to address the article regarding town donations to non-profit entities which will be presented at Town Meeting in May.

**3. c. 79 Wentworth**

Regarding this involuntary lot merger issue, Selectman Buxton advised Mr. Connell that the Town was addressing the issue and he would be receiving a letter explaining the conditions imposed by the ZBA.

**3. e. Hazardous Waste Day.**

Selectman McGuckin stated Saturday, May 30, 2015, New Castle residents can dispose of their hazardous waste in Hampton. Details to follow.

**3. f. Motorcycle-Police Department**

Chief Don White advised the Board that his department can lease a Harley Davidson motorcycle for up to 5 months for this summer season. There are several reasons for the motorcycle including improved public relations, fuel economy, added benefit to interested police officers and continued law enforcement for citizens. Cost for this lease is \$1,000, and approximately \$130.00 for insurance. These expenses will be paid for from the current PD budget. The training will be provided at no cost and helmets will be donated. Three officers will be certified. Chief White has already made adjustments to the schedule of coverage. Selectman McGuckin stated this was a good idea, and can be assessed after the short five -month trial period. Chief White stated the motorcycle would be parked in the DPW building. He will be seeking donations for other necessary equipment. Chair Cohen

asked a number of questions and it was decided that the lease would go from May 1 through the end of September. Chief White also reported on numerous problems with the Dodge Charger cruiser which has been out of operation for chronic repairs. The repair facility has been in contact with the manufacturer.. Selectman McGuckin would like to pursue whatever financial remedies may be available since the vehicle has been out of service for long periods

**4. Any other business to come before the Board.**

Prior to taking up OLD BUSINESS, Chair Cohen recognized Tom Smith who presented a request for a permit to store a travel trailer at his residence at Secret Pond for the summer months. Parents of Ken McDonald will be staying in the trailer for a few months as they travel in New England. Permission of the Select Board is required by the New Castle Zoning Ordinance 4.1.2. Residential District (R-1)“Permitted uses”, which reads as follows:

*6. Parking of not more than one trailer or camper, owned and used by the occupant of a dwelling for recreational purposes. None shall be occupied without first obtaining a permit from the Selectmen;*

Chair Cohen stated any Emergency personnel should be notified and Tom agreed to notify all proper authorities. The Select Board gave permission.

**OLD BUSINESS.**

**2. a. 53-B Withdrawal.**

Selectman McGuckin stated that the Warrant Article is in for this matter and the last meeting of New Castle’s participation in the compact is June 10<sup>th</sup>. New Castle will execute a document and it will be a formality for the town to withdraw at the meeting. Selectman Buxton is currently re-working the contract with Oceanside which will be taking over the additional disposal functions. In response to Rita Fusco, the Board explained what 53.B is (regional waste disposal group of communities), and how New Castle will be able to save money by withdrawing from this group and have Oceanside take over the responsibility.

**2.b. Water/Sewer Conveyance.**

Selectman McGuckin reported on the status of the engineering study cost which New Castle would pay. At present the cost is \$116,848. After discussion the Board agreed to proceed with paying for the study. Selectman McGuckin stated this matter should go to the Water & Sewer Commission at its next meeting. And he agreed to explain the importance of the study to the Commission. Selectman McGuckin will notify counsel of the decision to bring this matter to the Water & Sewer Commission.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Selectman McGuckin made a Motion to Adjourn, which was seconded by Selectman Buxton. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:15 PM.