

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD
Monday June 20, 2016 – 7:00 PM

Present: David McGuckin, Chair, Bill Stewart, Tom Maher Selectman, and Bette Jane Riordan, Secretary.

Also present: Paul Hamblett, Leonard Seagren, David Borden, Peter Rice.

1. Minutes.

Selectman Maher made a Motion to Approve the minutes of the June 7, 2016 Select Board Meeting. Selectman Stewart seconded, and the Motion carried.

2. Public Q&A.: None.

3. Items.

a. Paul Hamblett re: Submarine picnic-July 19th.

Paul Hamblett reported on the activities and progress of the committee dealing with the Town's mentoring of the crew and family of the Providence SSN719, and the upcoming picnic for them on Thursday, July 19th, from noon to 5PM, for approximately 160 people. Paul explained that the 19th was a special day for the crew, family and alumni, and plans are going forward to hold the picnic at the Common. The committee has conducted fundraisers, including sales of T- shirts, as well as a bake sale at Town Meeting Day. The Family Readiness Group for the vessel took part with the bake sale. The committee was counting on some of the \$3500 remaining from the 4th of July Parade Committee budget; however that figure was not correct. What Paul is seeking is the Select Board forgiving the \$536 previously paid plus an additional pledge of \$1,000 to cover costs of the picnic, which includes, food and entertainment. They are also asking the Fire Department to forego hydrant flushing the evening before so that a water spray event can be held for the children. The committee also needs assistance from Guy Stearns, Recreation Dept. and volunteers to help set up the tents. Paul was able to secure a band for \$800, and Craig Strehl will be smoking meats for the event.

After discussion, the Select Board agreed that the event was important and that it should have been budgeted. Selectman Stewart made a Motion to forgive the \$536 and to use funds from the events budget to fund the additional \$1,000 as requested. Selectman Maher seconded, and the Motion carried. Selectman Maher will look into assisting with the tent and obtain Guy Stearns list of volunteers.

b. Evaluations- Avitar Associates.

Gary Roberge from Avitar Assoc. will be presenting the results of the revaluation process to the Select Board on Wednesday, June 22nd.

c. Appointments to Town Boards.

The Select Board made the following appointments:

John Ireland to the Water & Sewer Commission for a three-year term.

Chet Fessenden to the Water & Sewer Commission for a three-year term.

Kate Murray to the Planning Board for a three-year term.

Margaret Sofio to the Planning Board for a three-year term.

Elaine Nollet to the Historic District Commission for a three-year term

Lynn McCarthy to the Conservation Commission for a three-year term.

Peter Reed to the Historic District Commission for a three-year term.

Nancy Gulley to the Conservation Commission for a three-year term.

Selectman Stewart made a Motion to Approve the appointments as presented. Selectman Maher seconded, and the Motion carried.

The Select Board needs to clarify the length of terms as well as full time or alternate status for the following individuals:

Curt Gillespie, John Fitzpatrick, Todd Baker, Bill Marshall and Sharon Houston.

d. Computer quote.

After brief description of the computer for the Building Inspector's Department, the Select Board voted to postpone this matter until the next meeting.

e. Piscataqua Maritime Commission Tall Ship Parking (August)

State Representative David Borden and Leonard Seagren reported that the Tall Ships are coming to Portsmouth and New Castle on Wednesday August 10th for five days, leaving Monday). The Oliver Hazard Perry will be docked at the Portsmouth Fish Pier and the Harvey Gammage will be at the UNH pier. There will be boat rides every two hours Thursday through Sunday, so he is requesting permission for parking be made available for visitors. After discussion, the Select Board agreed to clarify the parking issue with the Police Department. Selectman Stewart made a Motion to suspend resident parking on August 11, 12, 13, and 14 for the upper and lower lots during the day. Selectman Maher seconded, and the Motion carried.

4. New Business.

a. Sidewalk Expansion: Rte. 1-B - Dave Borden.

Dave Borden noted that the streets are dangerous for walkers, cyclists, joggers, and automobiles, and that one attempt to alleviate safety problems was the "Safe Path" sidewalk developed near Wild Rose Lane, as result of a grant. The hope is to extend this sidewalk down to Beach Hill Road. Dave Borden and Chair McGuckin met recently with Brian Scott to discuss adding two feet of fill and paving to either side of the road . He stated there is new grant which New Castle should apply for, but would need to file a Letter of Intent by mid July. A draft of the letter is being done. There is an 80-20 match

requirement. However paving is scheduled for late summer on Rte. 1-B, which could be delayed pending the grant application process. Selectman Stewart brought up the water line replacement issue. He prefers to look at sidewalk development in conjunction with the water study which is currently taking place and treat both issues together. He does not want New Castle to lose its position in the queue for the State of NH's ten- year plan. Discussion ensued about the 10 -year plan and whether or not to delay paving. The Board agreed to continue discussion with Dave Borden and the State, review the draft Letter of Intent, and revisit the matter for final decision.

5. Other Old Business.

a. Comcast Contract.

Selectman Maher reported he had sent his list of issues to Atty. Ciandella, commenting that the Internet at the Library was painfully slow. He noted there are reasons to pressure Comcast for more available services, and will report back.

b. Water rates.

Chair McGuckin reported that the City of Portsmouth denied New Castle's request to apply a gradual increase to the base rate in January ("step up request"). The rate had been kept very low for many years, and then Portsmouth discovered the true cost and raised it to \$3.35 from \$.81. This will cause rate New Castle pays by a substantial amount beginning in January 2017.

6. Committee Reports.

Chair McGuckin noted that reports are due once per month. Selectman Maher stated there was no HDC meeting, and that he would be attending his first Library meeting.

Selectman Stewart stated he was successful in getting Underwood to provide the back up for the pumping stations in July instead of August.

Selectman Stewart explained the delineation of the wetlands issue coming before the Planning Board June 22nd as a result of the new property owners plans for a new residence on Wentworth Road which would infringe on the 100 foot setback for Secret Pond. The owners are requesting a redelineation of the wetland saying the setback should be 50 feet because the wetland in question is not part of the Secret Pond Wetland. He also stated the ZBA is dealing with "The Last House LLC" on Wild Rose Lane for which they denied a request for a subdivision.

7. Other Business.

Peter Rice, Volunteer, Fire Department spoke about the plan for the hydrants for the July 19th party for the USS Providence at the Common, which would allow for clean water for the kids in attendance. Chair McGuckin stated he would need to check with Police Chief Don White who resides nearby and whose water is affected whenever the hydrants are flushed. The flushing also adversely impacts the bathhouses.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Selectman Stewart made a Motion to Adjourn, which was seconded by Selectman Maher. Motion carried.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:25 PM.