

APPROVED

NEW DURHAM BOARD OF SELECTMEN
New Durham Town Hall
Public/Nonpublic Minutes
June 26, 2015, 1:00 P.M.

DRAFT: These minutes are strictly a draft copy and are awaiting amendment or approval at a subsequent, duly noticed public meeting. Amendments to these minutes will be noted in the minutes of said meeting. The draft will be posted on the website as a draft copy for public informational use only.

Present

Chair David Bickford
Selectman David Swenson
Selectman Gregory Anthes

Also Present

Jeremy Bourgeois, Town Administrator
Peter Varney, Fire Chief
Steven Venezia, Attorney

Call to Order

Chair Bickford called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

The Board stated the meeting would be for discussing the Fire Department renovations. They decided to do a walkthrough of the renovations with the Town Attorney.

A decision on the new highway truck purchase was postponed to a future meeting.

The Board invited Fire Chief Peter Varney and Attorney Steven Venezia to the nonpublic session.

**Chair Bickford made a motion to go into nonpublic session, pursuant to RSA 91-A: 3 II (c)-
matter which, if discussed in public would likely affect adversely the reputation of any person,
other than a member of the public body itself, unless such person requests an open meeting.
This exemption shall extend to any application for assistance or tax abatement or waiver of a**

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fee, fine or other levy, if based on inability to pay or poverty of the applicant., & (e)

Consideration or negotiation of pending claims or litigation which has been threatened in

writing or filed against this board or any subdivision thereof, or against any member thereof

because of his or her membership therein, until the claim or litigation has been fully

adjudicated or otherwise settled. Selectman Anthes seconded the motion. Roll Call:

Selectman Anthes – Aye; Chair Bickford- Aye; Selectman Swenson- Aye. Motion passed, 3-

0.

The Board entered nonpublic session at 1:07 pm.

The Board discussed the Fire Department renovations, the RFP that was posted, and a letter received from the contractor's attorney. The letter accuses the Fire Chief of halting the work, adding items to the project, an erroneous project report submitted to the Board of Selectmen, as well as a breach of contract and a demand for the remaining \$6,500 of the contract.

The Board and guests left Town Hall at 1:40 p.m. to have a walkthrough at the Fire Department. They returned to the meeting at 2:10 p.m. The next steps in the process were outlined. Attorney Venezia, Town Administrator Bourgeois, Fire Chief Varney, and Building Inspector Asbury will work on action items early next week. The next steps were outlined: the Fire Chief will develop a complete punch list by June 28th, the Town Administrator, Building Inspector and Farmington Building Inspector will meet with the Fire Chief to complete a walkthrough and revise the list as needed on June 30th, and the Selectmen will review the Attorney's response letter at the July 6th meeting. The Town will then send a response to the contractor outlining the issues with details, as well as give them a period of time to correct it per state statute.

Fire Chief Varney and Attorney Steven Venezia left the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

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Selectman Swenson made a motion to leave nonpublic session. Chair Bickford seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.

The Board returned to public session at 2:47 p.m.

The Board discussed the scheduling of a workshop session with the Fire Chief regarding regulations, payroll policies, and promotions. That meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, July 1, 2015 at 7 p.m. at Town Hall.

Selectman Swenson made a motion to adjourn. Selectman Anthes seconded the motion. Motion passed, 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeremy Bourgeois, Town Administrator