

Board of Selectmen

Minutes of July 23, 2007

Approved: August 13, 2007

I. Call to Order

Chair Creighton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Also present were Selectmen Gould and Salomon, Interim Town Administrator Philip Munck and members of the public. Mr. Munck served as the Recording Secretary for this session.

II. Selectmen Items

a. North Hampton Forever – Robie Property.

Chris Ganotis introduced Phillip Wilson who presented information on the Robie property requesting approval of the Board to purchase it.

The purchase proposal is for the Town to acquire conservation easements on approximately 121 acres off Exeter Road identified as Tax Map-Lot numbers 9-34, 15-14 and 15-15 and fee simple acquisition of approximately 40 acres identified as lot numbers 9-3, 9-53 and 26-1. Mr. Wilson said the property also includes approximately 11 acres in Hampton. He said that appraisals put the value of the property being acquired at \$1,465,000 and that Jane Robie would sell it for \$1,438,000. The planned closing on the property is August 15. He said that the acquisition was structured so that the purchase price could be used as a match for future grants from the Coastal and Estuary Land Conservation Fund (CELF).

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that acquisition of the property described be approved consistent with the provisions of the purchase and sales agreement. Motion carried unanimously.

b. Route 111 Sidewalk Report.

Mr. Robert Landman read a report of activities with respect to the project including a meeting with abutters. He said that the abutters all wanted to have more information on the exact location of the sidewalk with respect to their properties. He strongly recommended that the Town obtain additional factual information in the form of a survey and/or design before proceeding further.

Mr. Gould expressed concern about what appeared to be less enthusiastic support for the project than when it was originally proposed. Mr. Salomon was concerned that possible costs from Aquarion New Hampshire Water Company for relocating service boxes and hydrants may not have been included.

After more discussion, Chair Creighton summarized the need to obtain estimates for survey/design work, to see if such work needs to be bid to comply with regulations, to see what, if any, Aquarion costs are involved and to have a Local Government Center review the Town's obligations under the warrant article.

c. Recycling Committee Report.

Alan Buckland, chairman of the committee, discussed the work that the committee has done to date. He said that it had met and organized, assigned tasks to members and is working on goals and objectives. Chair Creighton distributed a list of names of additional individuals interested in working on the committee.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that Jeff Church, Deb Horman, Ed MacNeil, Walter Nordstrom, Peter Killhefer, Charlie Brindamoure, Joanne Lamprey and Wendy Crowley be appointed to the Recycling Committee. Motion carried unanimously.

d.

III. Administration/Business

a. Mr. Munck requested that the Board consider a list of possible comparable communities to be analyzed by MRI for the Fire Organization Study.

b. A letter from the Department of Revenue Administration detailing problems with the MS-7 for the 2007 Town Meeting was reviewed and the Board discussed ways to avoid such mistakes in the future. No action was required by DRA for the current year.

c. The Treasurer, Penny Kidd, presented a report on cash activities for the preceding fiscal year.

d. Chair Creighton said that the Old Town Hall Committee has received information on the condition of the structure and plans to recommend that the steeple and clock be repaired first and then the roof be replaced. Mr. Robert Strout said that there was an urgent need to replace the windows in the kitchen portion of the building. It was determined that window repairs could be initiated by Mr. Strout.

e. Chair Creighton reported that Boston Post Cane certificate had been given to Helen Davis.

f. Approval of Minutes.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the minutes of July 9, 2007, and July 18, 2007, be approved incorporating requested changes. Motion carried unanimously.

IV. Non-Public Session

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the Board go into non-public session pursuant to RSA 91-A to discuss land acquisition and matters relating to hiring a Town Administrator. Roll Call: Yeas: all; Nays: none. Motion carried.

The Board discussed the closing for the Pea Patch property and the interview process for the Town Administrator. Mr. Munck was present. No decisions were made.

Moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon that the Board return to public session. Motion carried unanimously.

V. Adjournment

At 9:50 p.m., it was moved by Mr. Gould, seconded by Mr. Salomon to adjourn. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Philip Munck
Interim Town Administrator