

Minutes
Nottingham Selectmen's Meeting
May 21, 2012

6:30 PM Chair Bonser opened the meeting and asked all those present to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Members Present: Mary Bonser, Hal Rafter and Mark Carpenter.

Others: Town Administrator Charles Brown, Dawn Wirkkala – Secretary, Michelle Carvalho, Dawn Fernald, Therese Thompson, Peter Perron, Sue Levenson,

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Fire Department: None.

Highway Department: Grinding on Church Street and Halls Way has begun. Mr. Olkovikas has stated he is the owner of the island area and would like to leave it unpaved; he has been asked to provide documentation of ownership. However, Mr. Brown stated he discussed the island area at the stop sign with Mr. Fernald regarding the possibility of a road shift, which could be completed at no additional cost to the town. Chair Bonser was concerned about the legal aspect of not knowing who may actually own the land and any unintended future consequences of giving land away that the town might need. Mr. Rafter asked if the town owns the land or if it only has a right of way; it was unknown. Even with concern about the change of ownership, the Selectmen agreed the road shift to widen, straighten and making travel safer on the road was a great idea. Mr. Carpenter asked for a formal document to be drafted for the shift regarding ownership, if actually needed and all selectmen agreed.

Police Department: Mr. Brown stated to the selectmen he signed a grant application for radio equipment. Chair Bonser asked for the Selectmen to hold an official vote for grant agreement and will do so at the next selectmen meeting, once the grant specifics are received.

A police car is being repaired after an accident and the new cruiser is ready for delivery. Installation of equipment in the new cruiser will take place after delivery. Scheduling has been set so the department is down only one cruiser at a time. Mr. Rafter asked if the grant covers equipment for the new vehicle and Mr. Brown stated he believes it would cover some of the equipment.

Recreation Department: Recreation is gearing up for the summer program and staff training should take place for a couple of days before the start of the summer camp.

Building Department: New building permits quantities appear to be similar to the previous year.

Town Office: Mr. Carpenter stated the next budget committee meeting would be held late July or early August. The second quarter financials and the school budget information should be available.

OUTSTANDING MINUTES:

Motion: Rafter motioned, Carpenter seconded to approve the minutes of the May 7, 2012 meeting as amended.

Vote: 3-0 in favor.

MANIFEST SIGNATURE:

Motion: Rafter motioned, Carpenter seconded to approve the manifest.

Vote: 3-0 in favor.

SIGNATURE FILE:

	Signature Item/Subject	From
1.	Appointments: Susan Levenson to Trustee's of the Trust Fund vacated position (by Karen Davidson), and Kristen Lamb to Conservation Commission alternate position.	Trustees Conservation Commission

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2.	Library Fine Notice	Library
3.	Notice of Limits of Municipal Liability – Residence on a Winter Street	M & K Cardillo

40 **Motion:** Rafter motioned, Carpenter seconded to approve and sign the Notice of Limits of
41 Municipal Liability for the Cardillo property located on Winter Street.

42 **Vote:** 3-0 in favor.

43 **Motion:** Rafter motioned, Carpenter seconded to approve and sign the Library Over Due Fine
44 Notice.

45 **Vote:** 3-0 in favor.

46 **Motion:** Rafter motioned, Carpenter seconded to appoint Kristen Lamb to the alternate position on
47 the Conservation Commission.

48 **Vote:** 3-0 in favor.

49 **Motion:** Rafter motioned, Carpenter seconded to appoint Susan Levenson to the Trustees of the
50 Trust Fund Committee.

51 **Vote:** 3-0 in favor.

52 Mr. Brown stated he will sign the new solid waste extension/continuation contract with Waste
53 Management, at the same level of fee costs as the previous contract.

54 **GENERAL BUSINESS/REVIEW:** Review new, on-going, or previously discussed concerns,
55 questions, or tasks/items.

56 **Scenic Byway:** Information about Scenic Byways was received from Strafford Regional Planning.
57 Chair Bonser stated she is concerned about the change of federal oversight and potential increase in
58 traffic. Mr. Carpenter had researched the possible financial benefits and increases to local
59 businesses were marginal. The selectmen agreed they did not want to participate in a scenic byway
60 program. It was stated if there would be an actual economic benefit then it could be considered.

61 **Water Ordinance:** Chair Bonser stated she would like the town to seek a judicial opinion regarding
62 the Water Ordinance. It could clarify and correct any language concerns, prior to enforcement and
63 potential legal challenge. Chair Bonser stated as a citizen she wants the ordinance to be enforceable
64 but as a Selectman to establish a legal opinion regarding enforceability before potential conflicts.

65 Mr. Carpenter stated he wants an open discussion between the authors and citizen experts who
66 drafted the ordinance in order to debate the pros and cons and determine if it has and/or hasn't been
67 enforced in other states and NH communities, before seeking an opinion. Mr. Rafter wanted to
68 verify if seeking a judicial opinion is possible, in addition to asking the Local Government Center
69 about the enforceability, for free, before paying the attorney's to seek a legal opinion. If language
70 changes took place to the ordinance the town will need Nottingham citizens to agree to the changes
71 by a warrant article vote.

72 It was agreed that Mr. Brown would request, for a future Selectmen's Meeting, a meeting with the
73 writers and town experts of the ordinance to review the details about how similar ordinances have
74 been defended in other communities, in addition to other details, before seeking any legal judicial
75 opinions.

76 Board members discussed their attendance at the scheduled June 2, 2012 Public Forum on the USA
77 Springs Project being held by the Nottingham Water Alliance (NWA) and Neighborhood Guardians
78 (NG). Information has been publically distributed indicating the forum was to be held "with" the
79 Board of Selectmen, implying it could be considered an official board meeting by some. The

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selectmen expressed concern about the general public feeling decisions would be made by the selectmen at the forum and the potential legal ramifications with an assumed prejudice against the permit process. Selectmen attendance to the forum is informational only and should in no way be considered a board meeting. There was an agreement with board members about the desire to attend, gather information, and hear what citizens feel, but not being put into a legal position they shouldn't be put into. The final decision to attend, or not attend, is up to each selectman closer to the date of the forum.

Mr. Carpenter stated definitive information about the permits was distributed to the forum presenters; however an agenda had not yet been received. Getting permits is a sequential process and other wetland violations have to be corrected prior to moving forward with any potentially new actions.

Redistricting: Mr. Rafter asked if the redistricting analysis had been sent to Representative Reagan and Representative Tasker. Mr. Brown stated it will be sent.

APPOINTMENTS: 7:00 pm: Therese Thompson - Southeast Watershed Alliance (SEWA) Update, 7:15 pm: School Board Roundtable Discussion, 7:30 pm: None Scheduled

7:00 pm: Ms. Thomson reviewed the previous year activities of the SEWA. Documentation of the reported activities will be located in the 2012 Board of Selectmen Correspondence File for review. The SEWA website has copies of some presentations available on their website.

Based on the draft of the new Storm Water Standards Nottingham has options regarding any adoption. The town can adopt part, some, or all of the standards; it could be adopted as a voted zoning ordinance or possibly by regulation. Some New Hampshire municipalities have already adopted and implemented standards, to include protection criteria in the property deed, which will follow the property and become a requirement to every owner after that.

Ms. Thomson reminded the selectmen she will no longer be available to attend upcoming SEWA meetings and a new member will be needed for Nottingham by August. Committee meetings are held quarterly, with additional informational meetings throughout the year.

Ms. Thomson asked for permission to establish if some of the invasive weed, Japanese Knotweed, is growing around the town sand shed in an effort to prevent the plant being spread. Mr. Brown stated it should be reviewed at more than just the pit, but also in the incoming road material. Chair Bonser requested the highway crews be taught to recognize the invasive plant. The Selectmen thanked Ms. Thomson for her participation in the activities.

7:15 pm: The joint meeting between the attending school board members and Board of Selectman began and the topics of specific discussion included: sense of community, space utilization, bulk purchasing, cable upgrades, and other topics as needed.

A review of space utilization indicated there was space available for school storage at the town offices. Repairs to the roof in that area will need to take place, there is no heat or A/C, but it is large, dry and available. Mr. Rafter stated he is against heating and cooling the storage area for paper and furniture storage. Discussion took place about what items could be stored by the school in the space, to possibly include paper, furniture and other bulk item purchases, if all parties were open to using the space for specific items needing storage. It was stated transferring and transportation of items to and from storage could be a concern. Chair Bonser asked Ms. Carvalho to establish the actual cost savings with buying the paper in bulk and for Ms. Carvalho and Mr. Brown to be the point people regarding sharing bulk purchasing costs, storage, and other potential school and town issues.

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Mr. Carpenter stated the bid is out for the cable upgrade and a response received. A new system will solve the needs for the school and town and could be installed by late June. Mr. Carpenter reviewed many features and benefits of the new system and discussion of the potential options for recording and airing and storage capacity, location of cameras and microphones, bulletin board system, and the creative uses for the students took place. Training is not currently scheduled, but would be provided for school and town employees after equipment installation.

Mr. Carpenter recommended utilizing students to establish a need list and design for the town owned Mill Pond Road property. It could be a complete community project and could include and involve students in all grades in the design, planning, preparation and actual site work processes. It could give students the opportunity to see how town government works, in addition for the older students to complete their required High School community service project. Community involvement could potentially save the town money and bring the community together, giving kids and adult citizens a sense of ownership. Mr. Perron stated there is a fracture of not having a high school with all the typical activities a high school can provide, and this could provide it.

Mr. Brown stated the property could be an expansion of the town recreation fields and a possible easement; negotiations with the state are still needed and the plan is at the very beginning stages. The property will be surveyed, after all state agreements have been received and once complete it could help establish potential areas for different activities. Mr. Brown stated the project can be completed more cost effectively when it becomes a community project.

Discussion took place about the possibility of bulk purchasing for both town and school product needs. It was stated the school is part of a consortium between many New Hampshire schools giving the school discounted prices for many bulk items. Information from the consortium would be needed to establish how to coordinate buying for the town and school, if it were even possible. Ms. Carvalho stated she would get a list together of bulk items the school purchases and a coordinating list from the town to create a list of items that could be purchased together. It could possibly include custodial supplies, printer toner, and paper.

It was determined there would be four meetings a year between the school board and selectmen, alternating the meeting location between the school and town offices. A liaison from each board would also be appointed for an exchange of information in addition to the quarterly schedule.

Chair Bonser thanked the school board members for attending; the meeting was very productive and worthwhile. Mr. Perron thanked the selectmen.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business,

9:15 PM **Motion:** Bonser motioned, second Carpenter to adjourn.

Vote: 3-0 in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Wirkkala