

Minutes
Nottingham Selectmen's Meeting
September 24, 2012

1 6:30 PM Vice Chair Rafter opened the meeting and asked all those present to stand for the Pledge
2 of Allegiance.

3 Members Present: Hal Rafter and Mark Carpenter. Mary Bonser - Absent

4 Others: Charles A. Brown, Town Administrator, Dawn Wirkkala, Secretary

5 **OUTSTANDING MINUTES:** Postponed

6 **MANIFEST SIGNATURE:**

7 **Motion:** by Mr. Carpenter, second by Mr. Rafter to approve the 9/24/12 manifest for payment on
8 10/1/12.

9 **Vote:** 2 - 0 in favor.

10 **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

11 **Fire Department:** Mr. Brown reported an email has been received from the Fire Chief regarding
12 the vacant positions. The positions will need to be re-posted to start the hiring process again. The
13 Fire Chief requested a non-public session with the Selectmen, but a date was not determined.

14 Mr. Carpenter asked if someone else could post the position. Mr. Brown stated the Town Office
15 could, but wanted to allow the Fire Chief to handle the process, if possible, but would keep the
16 Selectmen informed of the progress.

17 **Highway Department:** Actions are taking place to get ready for winter.

18 **Town Office:** There has been a request to use the old Town Hall for a possible winter farmer
19 market for 2013-2014. There is currently an agreement to use the Community Center kitchen for
20 2012-2013.

21 The SAU asked to use the municipal parking lot as a meeting place for the high school bus students.
22 The number of students is exceeding what would be considered safe use of Liars Paradise parking
23 lot, which is the current meeting location. Mr. Brown stated he has concerns about unsupervised
24 students at any location, but using the municipal parking lot will be safer than Liar's now that there
25 are two buses and many more students than in the past. There will not be availability to access the
26 building. Mr. Carpenter asked to gather the details about the number of students needing pickup.
27 Mr. Rafter agreed to the use of the parking lot.

28 The Building Committee asked if there were any tasks needing completion. Mr. Carpenter asked to
29 have them start considering the options for a new highway building and recycle center or a
30 combined building. Mr. Rafter stated any new construction considerations would be for 2014
31 forward; bridge construction is taking place in 2013. It was agreed long term planning could start
32 taking place with the Building Committee.

33 Mr. Carpenter stated he asked to have Mr. Marcotte from the Budget Committee talk to the Town
34 Administrator about a possible fuel cooperative with surrounding towns.

35 Mr. Brown reported the Capital Improvement Program requests still need to go to department heads
36 for completion.

37 **GENERAL BUSINESS/REVIEW:**

38 **USA Springs:** There was an article in the NH Business Review publication indicating the auction
39 process is continuing with the original extension date of September 28. Mr. Brown received an
40 email from Town Council indicating there will be no physical auction only paper bids and the Town
41 will probably have access to the bid documents at some point.

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Mr. Brown stated he was asked if the Town would consider some type of agreement regarding payment of taxes, possibly over a period of time. There was agreement that the Town will not consider such an agreement for the taxes due, the full tax due amount will need to be paid.

Mr. Brown reported the judge was not happy with the last minute cancellation of the Trustee meeting, as it wasted the time for all those who arrived with no notice of the cancellation. A new attorney has filed an appearance for the bank asking questions about the Land Use Change Tax payment and lien and if correct and timely actions were taken. Mr. Brown stated the Tax Collector was very careful to be certain the tax lien process was done properly.

229 Mill Pond Road Survey: Mr. Brown stated he received positive references regarding S&H Land Services and is recommending S&H Land Services for the 229 Mill Pond Road survey.

Motion: by Mr. Carpenter, second by Mr. Rafter to accept the bid from S&H Land Services for the 229 Mill Pond Road survey.

Vote: 2 - 0 in favor.

LGC Policy Conference: Mr. Brown reported the conference didn't take very long and wrapped up early in the day. There were only two items that received the opposite vote from what the Selectmen supported.

Mr. Rafter asked if the LGC refund of money came up during the meeting. Mr. Brown stated it did not; the LGC is still considering an appeal of the final determination.

PEG Policy Review: It was decided any review and changes would be put on hold until all three board members were in attendance.

Mr. Rafter stated the second channel may cause some minor changes to the policy. Mr. Carpenter asked about creating a small committee to review the policy for updates. Mr. Rafter stated the original policy was created by a sub-committee. Mr. Carpenter stated Section 3 Procedures and appendix D and E may be the more significant change, as the rest of the document is still applicable. It was suggested to have Dawn Wirkkala as the Town Representative, and get a school and public citizen representative.

Mr. Carpenter stated he met with someone from Comcast to review the connections and current setup of the equipment but is still working with Comcast to get the second channel up and running. Some new equipment will be needed, with some cost, but it will help to streamline the process with digital broadcasting. Mr. Carpenter will be contacting Comcast about the quote for the addition.

Mr. Rafter asked about the timeline. Mr. Carpenter stated he told Comcast in June that there wasn't an emergency getting the installation of the second channel at that time with the expectation that work would continue to take place and didn't; now it is more of an emergency. Installation is still two or three months out; with the objective to have it up and running by the time students return from Christmas break.

Nottingham Day: The weather and day were great. Other town officials were also there, and there were only a few questions. Citizens stated the day is more to have fun and not to talk to politicians. Mr. Carpenter stated the Selectmen should consider some type of fun activity for the next Nottingham Day. Mr. Rafter asked for an official Town sign.

Political Signage: Political signs aren't allowed on town property, except typically for Election Day. All road side signs should be removed by the individuals who placed them.

Budget Cycle: Mr. Carpenter stated the Budget Committee is starting to meet and review proposed budgets. As a reminder, budgets should be a Need versus a Want. If there are any suggestions from

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citizens about possible cost saving measurements they should be forwarded to the Selectmen or the Town Office.

Master Plan Update: The Selectmen had a workshop with the Master Plan sub-committee to review the new Master Plan. One area suggested for consideration of cost savings would be to reduce the number of hours the recycle center is open; there are other larger municipalities that are only open a couple of days a week and could be something Nottingham might consider. The other issue brought forward was reducing the speed limits on Routes 152, 156 and 4. Mr. Carpenter stated he isn't sure of the steps to reduce the speed limits, but would like to make a formal request to the Police Chief have random or higher patrol on those roads, and issue tickets to try and reduce the number of speeders.

APPOINTMENTS: No appointments

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business,

7:23 PM **Motion:** Carpenter, second Rafter to adjourn.

Vote: 2 - 0 in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Wirkkala