

Minutes
Nottingham Selectmen's Meeting
April 21, 2014

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

Members Present: Mark Carpenter, Mary Bonser and Donna Danis

Others: Dawn Wirkkala – Secretary, Patricia Conway, Samuel Demeritt

MANIFEST SIGNATURE:

Motion: by Ms. Bonser, second by Ms. Danis to approve the April 21, 2014 manifest.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

OUTSTANDING MINUTES: Chair Carpenter postponed approval of minutes to the next meeting.

Department Reports:

Recreation: Ms. Danis stated the fishing derby is May 10th and the Recreation department is accepting registrations.

Planning Board: Ms. Bonser stated the Planning Board is reviewing ordinances for proposed changes. Ms. Bonser asked the other Selectmen consider supporting the suggestion to the Planning Board to take a year off from any new ordinance changes and instead test how the existing ordinances are working for Nottingham residents and businesses. Ms. Bonser stated she would like to prevent stifling the residents by over regulating.

Ms. Danis asked if this would be a mandate or a suggestion to the Planning Board. Ms. Bonser replied it would be a suggestion/recommendation.

Chair Carpenter stated he is supportive of the idea. Ms. Danis stated she believes it is a reasonable suggestion for the Planning Board. The Selectmen agreed to the suggestion/recommendation to the Planning Board that they consider how existing ordinances are working and take a year off from making any ordinance changes.

Marston Farm Committee: Ms. Danis discussed the starting conversation with the Recreation Department about the different groups and individuals that might participate in determining the development of the property. Ms. Danis stated she wanted to confirm the objective is to come up with a plan but it is possible outside guidance may be needed to achieve the desired results.

Ms. Bonser did not want to take a cookie cutter approach to the property development. Chair Carpenter stated all aspects should be considered, including timelines, who should be involved and what will be needed to complete the development tasks.

Ms. Danis stated she would take supervisor position to determine what the purpose and goals of the committee should be and if outside assistance is needed to make those determinations, of what help may be needed.

The Selectmen agreed both the start up costs should be considered, but also the long term on-going and maintenance expenses for what is installed.

Ms. Danis stated part of the discussion was regarding possible grants and volunteer help to complete the work; some type of confirmation of volunteer assistance and donations should be expected in order to plan the expenses properly. Ms. Danis stated she is concerned about being able to come up with a solid plan prior to the 2015 Town Meeting. The Selectmen agreed about having a solid plan in place.

Discussion took place about land characteristics, possible Shoreland Protection requirements and other land characteristics that will need to be considered in the development.

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Ms. Danis stated the committee will determine the best methods for the planning and development stages, community involvement and responses and when it is complete will come back to the board with the plan and development schedule.

Chair Carpenter and Ms. Bonser supported the plan on how to move forward as presented by Ms. Danis.

Chair Carpenter asked about the surplus of funds that will be received when the USA Springs property sells and back taxes are paid, suggesting it would be reasonable to ask the town to use at least a significant portion of the funds for the project. Ms. Bonser stated tax funds go into the Towns unreserved fund balance and if any amount is for the Land Use Change Tax the funds will go to the Conservation Fund and might already be committed to other projects.

Ms. Bonser asked to have a CIP Committee member be a participant. Ms. Danis agreed and stated she plans to ask a Budget Committee member as well. Chair Carpenter stated he does not want to forget about getting input and participation from the High School students.

Town Administration: Chair Carpenter asked how the other Selectmen felt about the suggestion of making a donation to the Nottingham School in remembrance of Archie Fernald.

Ms. Danis asked how the Town regularly responds. Ms. Bonser stated flowers are typically sent, especially with a former Selectmen or individuals with high Town involvement.

The Selectmen were unsure about making a donation to the Nottingham School.

Mail/Correspondence and Signature Items: Chair Carpenter reviewed the mail and correspondence folder.

Motion: by Ms. Danis, second by Ms. Bonser to approve the Petition and Pole License #3453 on Kennard Road, Smoke Street, and Mill Pond Road received from NH Electric Co-op and Fairpoint.

Ms. Danis asked about the process of accepting the pole petition. Ms. Bonser stated review of the application is completed by Mr. Fernald, the Road Agent.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

The Fire Chief provided an employment offer letter to Fire Fighter James Calderone and there is an expected start date of April 28, 2014.

The Election Summary Report was submitted. Nottingham has a total of 3,352 registered voters, a total of 550 people voted at Town Elections; 132 Democrats, 215 Republicans, and 203 Undeclared.

The tax collector submitted the annual notice to the Board of Tax and Land Appeals of the date of final tax bill issuance for 2013. A letter from Ernest Hodgkins was received offering assistance for any town maintenance work, painting, lawn care, cleanups or plowing/sanding.

Ms. Bonser reviewed the NH issued Community Profile which includes an overview of Town statistics and it appears there is 20% of residents who actually work in town, however, it was unknown what the type of work the 20% means. The Selectmen agreed the information would be nice to know and how the percentages and categories were determined and Ms. Bonser was asked to review the information.

APPOINTMENTS:

7:00 pm: **Public Hearing to accept grant funds for the Historical Society** – Chair Carpenter opened the hearing at 7:04 pm to accept grant funds for the Historical Society from the State of NH Moose Plate grant (officially the NH Division of Historical Resources' Conservation License Plate Grant) and asked if there were any questions or comments.

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There were no questions or comments and Chair Carpenter closed the hearing.

The Selectmen asked what the grant was for and Ms. Wirkkala replied they were for the historic Seth Dame diaries.

Motion: by Ms. Danis, second by Ms. Bonser to accept the grant funds for the Historical Society from the New Hampshire Moose Plate Grant in the amount of \$9,000.00.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

7:15 pm: Patricia Conway/Rockingham County Attorney Candidate – Ms. Conway thanked the Selectmen for being allowed the opportunity to speak. Ms. Conway reviewed her personal and education history, work experience and qualifications as a current prosecutor, as well as why she is the best candidate to be elected as the Rockingham County Attorney.

Ms. Conway reviewed her thoughts and ideas of how the County Attorney's Office should be run if she is elected. This included working with local police departments to reduce crime and recidivism in the county, establishing outreach and education programs for parents, review and establish consistent sentencing procedures, fulfilling the obligations of the County Attorney's Office in a fiscally responsible manner, implementing a program for training and mentoring newly hired County prosecutors, continuing to prosecute some cases, and why people should vote for her.

Ms. Bonser thanked Ms. Conway for coming in to talk to the Selectmen and stated the relationship between Nottingham and the County Attorney's Office hasn't always been very effective, especially in the past few years.

Chair Carpenter stated Nottingham is no longer utilizing the county for local prosecution work because of additional charges but would be willing to reconsider the idea of the County Attorney providing prosecution support should significant changes occur that make it advantageous.

The Selectmen thanked Ms. Conway for coming in to meet them.

General Business:

Ms. Danis reminded the public of the upcoming PLIA/NHDES meeting on May 1st at 4:30 pm in the Community Center Conference Room #1 to review Pawtuckaway Lake information and issue.

NON-PUBLIC SESSION: The Board entered non-public under RSA 91-A:3 II(a)

7:24 PM Motion: by Ms. Bonser, second Ms. Danis to enter non-public under RSA 91-A:3 II(a).

Roll Call Vote: Bonser – Yea, Carpenter – Yea, Danis – Yea. 3 – 0 in favor.

Motion: by Ms. Danis, second Ms. Bonser to exit the non-public session at 7:36 pm.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

Motion: Ms. Bonser, second Ms. Danis to seal the non-public minutes of April 21, 2014.

Roll Call Vote: Bonser – Yea, Carpenter – Yea, Danis – Yea. 3 – 0 in favor.

The Selectmen discussed personnel issues.

ADJOURNMENT: Having no further business,

7:37 PM Motion: by Ms. Bonser, second by Ms. Danis to adjourn.

Vote: 3 – 0 in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dawn Wirkkala