

1 **Town of Sandown, NH**
2 **Board of Selectmen**
3 **Minutes**
4

5 Meeting Date: Monday, April 21, 2014

6 Type of Meeting: Regular meeting

7 Method of Notification: Public Posting – Two locations at Town Hall

8 Meeting Location: Sandown Town Hall

9 Present: Selectpersons: Stephen Brown (Brown), Terry Treanor (Treanor), Hans
10 Nicolaisen (Nicolaisen), Cindy Buco (Buco), James Devine (Devine), Lynne Blaisdell,
11 Town Administrator and Cynthia J. Robinson, Recording Secretary

12 Absent:

13 Late to arrive:

14 Departed Meeting:

15 Call to Order: Chairman Nicolaisen called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M.

16 Pledge of Allegiance
17

18 **Review of minutes of previous meetings**
19

- 20 • Board members reviewed the minutes of April 7, 2014. **MOTION:** Selectman
21 Brown moved to accept the minutes of April 7, 2014 as written. Selectman
22 Treanor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
23

24 **Public Comment**
25

- 26 • Donna Green commented on last week's selectmen's meeting and gave an
27 update. Ms. Green asked Selectman Brown if he had a son who works for the
28 high school. Selectman Brown answered yes. Ms. Green stated today Arthur
29 Green who is on the School District Budget Committee made a right to know
30 request for the March 31, 2014 financials. The reply from Dr. Metzler was the
31 financials would be available in June. Ms. Green finds this unacceptable. As a
32 member of the School Board Ms. Green had attempted to get on the agenda
33 discussion of the school's monthly financials. The rest of the Board feels this is
34 not in their purview thus did not support her request. As a Budget Committee
35 member Arthur Green requested the financials under the RSA that speaks to
36 budget committee members obtaining monthly financials but the Budget
37 Committee as a whole did not support his request. Mr. Green will be charged for
38 these copies at .50/sheet.
39

40 **Nelson Rheume, Elderly Affairs Director**
41 **Discussion regarding position**
42

- 43 • Nelson Rheume and Paul Godin were present for this discussion. Mr.
44 Rheume recapped for the Board how the Sandown Senior Affairs

45 Transportation Program (SSATP) began three years ago and where they are
46 today. Mr. Rheume stated the Program is doing well providing transportation
47 services to seniors in Sandown. Mr. Rheume noted they do not charge for their
48 services nor do they receive funding from the Town.

49
50 Mr. Rheume stated his reason for being here is to inform the Board that
51 personal issues are taking up much of his time and he feels he must submit his
52 resignation from the position of Director of Elderly Affairs. Mr. Rheume stated
53 he would remain on the Committee in a limited capacity if needed.

54
55 Mr. Rheume introduced Paul Godin who is interested in taking over this position
56 and is currently a driver for the SSATP. Selectmen Nicolaisen and Brown
57 thanked Mr. Rheume for all that he has done with this Program. **MOTION:**
58 Selectman Brown moved to accept Nelson Rheume's resignation, with regret,
59 as Elderly Affairs Director and approve Paul Godin as the new Elderly Affairs
60 Director pending the recommendation of the SSATP Committee. Selectman
61 Treanor seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Mr. Rheume will get the
62 recommendation from the Committee.

63
64 Mr. Godin spoke of what precipitated the conversation between him and Mr.
65 Rheume was the lack of knowledge by many seniors in Sandown who did not
66 know this service was available to them. Mr. Godin and his wife would like to be
67 proactive when it comes to the seniors of Sandown.

68
69 **Cable TV Advisory Board**
70 **Discussion regarding proposed Comcast Agreement**

71
72 • Chairman Nicolaisen asked Board members if they read the material and were
73 prepared to ask questions. Selectman Brown asked on page 6 why the term of
74 the agreement cannot be shorter than ten years. Selectman Brown recommends
75 five years. Selectman Brown's other concern on page 36 was why does the fee
76 have to be raised to 3%; he recommends 2.5%. Chairman Nicolaisen stated
77 after seeing the work that went into developing this document he agrees with the
78 ten years and he agrees with Selectman Brown on the percentage. Chairman
79 Nicolaisen recommended going with 2.5% for the first five years and 3% for the
80 next five years. Mr. Champion stated this would be for a ten year agreement.
81 Mr. Champion stated Comcast wants a ten year agreement and concessions
82 would have to be made for a five year agreement. Mr. Champion suggested
83 using this as a negotiation tool. Ms. Blaisdell advised keeping discussions about
84 any negotiations limited while on the air. Selectman Devine agrees with a ten
85 year agreement.

86
87 There was discussion about channel 6 being the second channel for Sandown.
88 Selectman Brown stated he thought channel 6 belonged to the school. Ms.

89 Blaisdell explained how the school and the Town share the channel. Chris
90 Donnelly stated Comcast consider channel 6 the Town's second channel even
91 though it is shared by the four towns.

92
93 Ms. Blaisdell noted that the meeting with Comcast scheduled for tomorrow night
94 has been postponed and asked does the Board want this document reviewed by
95 legal counsel. Chris Donnelly does not feel the document needs to be reviewed
96 by legal counsel. Ms. Blaisdell recommended the Town's legal counsel review
97 the document. Consensus of the Board is the document goes to legal counsel.

98
99 Discussion went back to the length of the agreement and percentages. There
100 was back and forth discussion. The consensus of the Board is to use this as a
101 negotiating tool starting with five years at 2.5% for the first two years then 3% for
102 the remaining three years and work up to ten years with 2.5% for the first five
103 years then 3% for the remaining five years. Mr. Champion stated by definition
104 the Town does not have a second channel. Mr. Champion recommends
105 negotiating for a second channel to handle future growth. Consensus of the
106 Board is to "go for it". Mr. Champion noted he already had in the agreement the
107 wording recommended by legal counsel.

108 109 **New Business**

110 111 **Discussion regarding 2014 pay rate for Recreation Director Position**

- 112
113 • Board members reviewed the email from the Finance Director requesting
114 clarification on the Recreation Director's pay rate. Ms. Blaisdell explained that the
115 document presented by the Finance Director a couple weeks ago did not have
116 the \$21.00/hour pay rate increase agreed to during the budgeting process.
117 Chairman Nicolaisen stated the Board has to decide tonight whether or not to
118 give the additional pay increase [\$2.72] or go with the 2% increase given to all
119 employees.

120
121 Chairman Nicolaisen stated that initially he supported the pay increase but after
122 reconsideration he can only support the 2%. Selectman Devine supports the
123 original \$21.00 because it was based on research of what other towns paid their
124 Recreation Director. Selectwoman Buco feels if that is the case then all Town
125 department employees should be paid based on similar research. Selectman
126 Treanor supports the \$21.00/hour. Selectman Brown recused himself from any
127 discussion on this matter. Chairman Nicolaisen reminded the Board of the Town
128 vote on the budget. Deb Brown, Recreation Coordinator, stated it was her
129 understanding that when this pay increase was brought forth by town leaders it
130 was based on what her pay was to be a number of years ago. Ms. Brown stated
131 she is okay with whatever the Board decides. Selectman Treanor stated if the
132 Board felt this employee was given a raise it should not be taken away.

133 Chairman Nicolaisen stated the Budget Committee did not approve the pay raise.
134 Veronica Utman, Recreation Commission member and she has been the
135 Recording Secretary to the Commission spoke of her personal knowledge of
136 what Ms. Brown has done for the Commission and what her responsibilities are.
137 Ms. Utman noted that as Recording Secretary she makes .50/hour less than Ms.
138 Brown. Ms. Utman does not feel this is fair based on Ms. Brown's
139 responsibilities. It is Ms. Utman's opinion that the Commission felt Ms. Brown
140 needed a pay adjustment based on those responsibilities not a pay raise.
141 **MOTION:** Selectman Devine moved to increase the Recreation Director's pay by
142 \$2.72/hour. Selectman Treanor seconded. Two ayes [Devine and Treanor], two
143 nays [Nicolaisen and Bucu] and one abstention [Brown]. No decision. Chairman
144 Nicolaisen recommended discussing this at a future time.
145

146 **Discussion regarding update to service agreement with Stonehill**
147 **Environmental for well monitoring at Highway Department**
148

- 149 • Ms. Blaisdell noted that around 2003 there was a gasoline spill at the Highway
150 Department. Stonehill Environmental was brought in to mediate the situation.
151 Over the last couple years the soil continued to be tested. Ms. Blaisdell noted
152 that Stonehill is not paid by the Town but through a grant from NH Department of
153 Environmental Services. Because Stonehill is being paid through the grant they
154 need an updated agreement with the Town so they can be reimbursed for the
155 sampling they have been doing.
156

157 Ms. Blaisdell stated the wording has not changed much just dates and that only
158 monitoring is required at this time. Stonehill is asking to have the agreement
159 back dated so they can be reimbursed for past testing. Chairman Nicolaisen
160 asked if the Board could do that. Ms. Blaisdell stated the motion could say, "to
161 take effect" and give the date. Selectman Devine asked what this is costing the
162 state. Ms. Blaisdell stated she could get that information adding testing is to
163 continue until levels begin to recede. Ms. Blaisdell stated the levels are going
164 down. Selectman Devine would like to see more information on this topic.
165 Chairman Nicolaisen stated he would think the state would be monitoring the
166 testing since they are the ones paying for it. Ms. Blaisdell will look into Selectman
167 Devine's request and get back to the Board.
168

169 **Review and possible renewal of new contract with Vadar Systems, Inc.**
170 **tax collecting software**
171

- 172 • Ms. Blaisdell explained that Vadar is the tax collecting software and the Town
173 had a three year contract with them and it is time to renew the contract. Board
174 members reviewed the new contract that was in their packet tonight. Ms.
175 Blaisdell noted there was an increase in the amount of the contract and that
176 increase was budgeted for this year. **MOTION:** Selectman Brown moved to

177 renew the contract with Vadar for the period of April 15, 2014 through April 14,
178 2017. Selectman Devine seconded. Motion passed unanimously. Board
179 members signed the contract.

180
181
182

Other

- 183 • Ms. Blaisdell informed the Board of the receipt of a check from Cheryl Beaudette
184 in the amount of \$300.00 to be placed in the Police Station Donation Fund.
185 **MOTION:** Selectman Devine moved to accept from the Beaudette Family a
186 donation of \$300.00 to be placed in the Police Station Donation Fund.
187 Selectman Treanor seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
188

Old Business

189
190
191
192
193

**Further discussion regarding the authorized officials for the
Emergency Notification System**

- 194 • Ms. Blaisdell stated the next step in moving forward with the Emergency
195 Notification System is the Board needs to decide who the designated authorized
196 officials will be. Ms. Blaisdell explained how the process would work and the
197 need for training. Ms. Blaisdell talked with Chief Tapley about who would serve
198 as the designated officials. Selectman Brown pointed out that Ms. Blaisdell and
199 Chief Tapley are around most of the time and he feels they should be the
200 designated officials. Consensus of the Board was they agree with Selectman
201 Brown.
202

Correspondence

203
204
205
206
207
208
209
210
211
212
213
214
215
216
217
218
219
220

- 205 • Update from White Columns Office Solutions. Currently the Town has saved a
206 total of \$3,882.00 and in the month of March alone they saved \$172.00.
207
- 208 • Letter from NH Department of Revenue Administration stating they have
209 reviewed the Uniform Standards of Professional Appraisals Practice Standard 6
210 report and the Town of Sandown is compliant with Standard 6. A detailed report
211 can be viewed in the Selectmen's Office.
212
- 213 • The selectmen have been invited by the Sandown Baseball Softball Association
214 to attend the dedication and memorial to honor David Martin Augusta III to be
215 held on Saturday, May 10, 2014 at 9:00 A.M. They would like a selectman to
216 speak.
217
- 218 • Rockingham Planning Commission will be working with the Town on updating the
219 Hazard Mitigation Plan. The first meeting is planned for Thursday, May 8, 2014
220 at 11:00 A.M. at the Sandown Town Hall.

221
222
223
224
225
226
227
228
229
230
231
232
233
234
235
236
237
238
239
240
241
242
243
244
245
246
247
248
249
250
251
252
253
254
255
256
257
258
259
260
261
262
263

- Email from legal counsel informing the Board the LUCT legal case with Robert Vilella has been dropped. Docket markings will be file with the Court. Chairman Nicolaisen asked that this email be forwarded to the Conservation Commission.
- Boy Scout Troop 268 informed the Board James Verrill Beucler has achieved the rank of Eagle Scout. Mr. Beucler’s Eagle Scout project was Morrison Lane kiosk and hiking trails that provide access to Punch Pond and Cub Pond. The recognition ceremony will take place on June 22, 2014 at 2:00 P.M. at the Sandown Town Hall. The Board is being asked to present a form of recognition at this ceremony. Ms. Blaisdell will remind Board members, as the time gets closer.

Department Liaison Report

- Selectwoman Buco informed the Board the light in back of the library needs to be fixed.

Chief Tapley would like a knox box outside the library and there was question about who will pay for this.

There was concern by the library about how the Board voted relative to the default budget.

The library agreed to say the Pledge of Allegiance before the start of their meeting.
- Selectman Brown stated the Planning Board is now saying the Pledge of Allegiance before their meeting begins.
- Chairman Nicolaisen stated the Recreation Commission is also saying the Pledge of Allegiance before the start of their meeting.
- Selectman Treanor stated the Recreation Commission talked about work to be done at the ball fields.

Use of the recreation building by the Historical Society for a fundraiser was discussed. The Historical Society does not have insurance. Ms. Blaisdell stated the Society would be in next week to talk about the fundraiser where this can be discussed further. Ms. Blaisdell explained the rental process.
- Chairman Nicolaisen stated the Cable Board would be meeting tomorrow.

These Minutes are subject to approval at a regularly scheduled Board of Selectmen meeting at which time the above minutes are corrected or accepted and become permanent

