

## **MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2011 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Chairman David Canada, Selectmen Tim Copeland and Bruno Federico, and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

At 7:34 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Copeland moved to have the Board members maintain their current assignments to various Boards and Committees as they were during 2010 (including David Canada remaining as Chairman and Tim Copeland remaining as Vice-Chair of Board of Selectmen). Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Mr. Canada moved to accept the amended minutes for 2/28/11. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Kevin Peck reported that he had \$4,415,564.94 in the general checking account.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**Police Department:** Chief John Scippa was present at the meeting to discuss his department's activities. He stated everything has been working nicely with Rockingham County Dispatch. He stated that through conversations with Fire and EMS personnel, it appears that they are starting to work better with the arrangement as well. He also reported that the Rye antenna has been repaired and is up and running. He stated that he and his department have been very happy with the change, and Mr. Scippa has received reports from Rockingham that they are very pleased with his staff as well.

Mr. Scippa then brought up the Hawkers & Peddlers background checks and possible Town ordinance changes. He stated when he was reviewing the new law the State has put out and the current Town ordinance, it made him wonder if the Town wants to see a Hawkers & Peddlers license issued to every vendor that the Town uses at the Fair. There is nothing in the current ordinance that speaks to that one way or the other. Mr. Canada stated that they had talked about this before and thought they agreed the Fair would be sort of a master license holder on behalf of everyone there. Mr. Scippa stated this new law states that you have the option to actually get the license through the State and the towns can accept that state license. Mr. Deschaine stated that the Fair has usually taken on the responsibility of being the master for all of their vendors. Mr. Scippa suggested amending the Town ordinance to have that exclusion in there. The group agreed to form a committee to look into this further and come back to the Board with their recommendations. Mr. Copeland will set that up along with the Chair of the Fair Committee.

Regarding members on the local Highway Safety Committee, Mr. Scippa stated his thought was to have Mr. Copeland, who has always been a member, and Highway Agent Fred Hutton (or another representative from Highway), in addition to himself serve on this Committee. A couple of goals of the Committee would be to apply for grants for DWI enforcement and possibly for cell phone usage or seatbelt usage.

Mr. Canada moved to appoint Tim Copeland, John Scippa, and Fred Hutton to the Highway Safety Committee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Scippa stated they are participating in the Prescription Drug Take Back Program on April 30<sup>th</sup>. Stratham will be hosting a turn-in site from 10:00 am until 2:00 pm at the Police Department. Anyone that has old prescription drugs in their home, are encouraged to bring them down to the Police Department on that date and time to have those prescription drugs destroyed appropriately. This is a much better alternative to flushing them down the toilet since that damages the water system/supply.

Mr. Canada requested that Mr. Scippa get together with bookkeeping to straighten out the Revolving Detail account, as it is very confusing now.

**MEETINGS:** The Chair then reviewed the meetings scheduled for the coming week and reviewed the meetings held this past week.

**PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:**

The following Park permits and Municipal Center rentals were discussed and acted upon:

David Goodman was present at the meeting to discuss his request for the use of Stratham Hill Park for the Historic District's Boy Scout Spring Camporee on May 13, 14, 15, 2011. They expect approximately 200 people to attend. The theme is fire prevention and the scouts will be working on their fire safety merit badge. Mr. Goodman stated they will practice carry in-carry out as far as trash. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the Boy Scout District Camporee the use of the Park on May 13, 14, 15, 2011, with the use of the Scamman Pavilion as well, and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Joanne Schotter requested the use of the Park on September 18, 2011 for a Pease Greeters Picnic. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Alfred Binette requested the use of the Park on August 28, 2011 for the Exeter American Legion annual cookout. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Melissa Caracciolo requested the use of the Municipal Center on May 16, 2011 for a Stratham Daisy Girl Scout Troop 421 meeting/yoga class. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Susan Bendroth requested the use of the Park on April 18, 2011 for the Acorn School Earth Day Celebration. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use and to waive the fee with the condition they will need to coordinate their efforts with the Park Ranger. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Stephanie Szczepanik requested the use of the Park on August 20, 2011 for a wedding ceremony. The request was approved.

Pat Izzo requested the use of the Morgera Room at the Firehouse on April 9, 2011 for a birthday party. The Board requested more information before allowing the use.

**Administration:** Mr. Deschaine stated the Town has been contacted by John Dionne regarding the Annual Reach the Beach Relay. This is for a bicycle race that travels down Route 111 and crosses a 30-foot section of Stratham by the industrial park. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the race to cross into Stratham. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine stated that regarding the Foss property acquisition, he contacted Abby Sykas, Town Counsel, regarding her availability to prepare the closing documents. She is prepared to do the work within the 20-day period as specified in the purchase and sale agreement. The only outstanding element is whether or not the Board wishes to acquire title insurance relative to the warranty deed. The Board agreed to purchase the title insurance.

Mr. Deschaine stated they have had at least one settlement of a Board of Tax and Land Appeals (BTLA) case. This would be for the Hayes family in the old school house next to the Police Department. The Board signed the necessary paperwork.

Mr. Deschaine reported that staff training on the Active Network software (activity and facility reservations) would start on March 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Parks & Recreation:** Director Seth Hickey was present at the meeting to discuss several items with the Board. He presented four quotes for the backstop installation at the softball field at Stevens Park. These quotes are from AAA Fence, Platinum Fence, 125 Fence, and Four Seasons Fence. Mr. Canada moved to accept the bid from Four Seasons Fence. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Hickey then presented three quotes for the purchase of a new Bobcat mower for the Park. He pointed out that it is important to stay with the same type of mower so whoever does the repairs is familiar with the machine. Mr. Canada moved to purchase the new mower from Hayden Equipment. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Hickey then presented quotes for a new letter board sign for the Stratham Hill Park. The quotes are from Sign of the Times, Timberline, and Reedy Signs & Designs. The sign would be 3' x 8', two-sided, 3 1/4" strand board, with 6" letters. Mr. Canada moved to accept the quote from Timberline signs for \$584 with an additional \$300 for the letters. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Hickey reported that an ad has been posted on Craigslist, the Town website, UNH, and Seacoastonline for hiring part-time seasonal help and he has already been inundated with interest.

Mr. Canada stated he noticed in the notes of the Cooperative Sports Board meeting that baseball game officials wanted to be paid the same day as the game they officiated. All agreed that paying with cash was not acceptable. Mr. Hickey would like to do more research on this and then meet with members of the Baseball Board to work out some sort of formula for paying officials. Baseball season starts at the end of April and Mr. Hickey will report back to the Board at that time.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The group discussed recent member changes to the Conservation Commission. Mr. Copeland moved to thank Jaime Marsh, who has resigned, for his dedicated service to the Conservation Commission, replace his seat with Donna Jensen, who is presently an alternate, and replace the alternate seat with Dena Stern. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada brought up Marty Wool's concerns he expressed at Town Meeting regarding the safety of Town trucks. Mr. Canada discussed this matter with the Highway Department and they did not bring a proposal forward for a replacement dump truck because they had no concerns with the dump trucks, including Mr. Wool's. Mr. Canada stated this truck just passed inspection last week and there is no need for concern on the safety of the vehicles.

The group then discussed using the NH Bond Bank. Mr. Deschaine stated that in the past, the Town's rating has been better than the Bond Bank's, so it was less expensive to go on our own. Mr. Canada expressed a concern regarding the Scamman bond with rates going up.

At 9:50 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a matter that could affect the reputation of another not on the Board. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:50 pm, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the matters discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:50 pm, Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed By,

Stacey J. Grella  
Executive Assistant

Paul R. Deschaine  
Town Administrator