

MINUTES OF THE MAY 23, 2011 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

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

At 7:02 pm, Mr. Canada opened the meeting by moving to go into non-public session to discuss a personnel matter with Paul Wolf, Lesley Kimball, and John Scippa, and a matter that would affect the reputation of another who is not a member of the Board with Tax Collector Joyce Charbonneau. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:05 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 8:05 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck reported that he had \$817,432.23 in the general checking account.

NEW BUSINESS: Ricky Daley from Boy Scouts Troop 185 was present at the meeting to request the use of the Stratham Hill Park for a meeting and camping event on June 12th. This event would include campfires if conditions were safe to do so. The meeting would be from 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm. They would also like to continue clearing fallen trees and underbrush from the area. The campsite is to the right side of the Fire Tower road by the pond area. Mr. Copeland moved to allow Troop 185 to utilize the Park for camping and continue to maintain the campsite. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The Board advised Mr. Daley that he would need to contact the Fire Department for permission to have the campfire.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

Assessing: Town Assessor Andrea Lewy was present to report to the Board on her recommendation for action on one abatement application (see attached). After review and comment by the Board, Mr. Canada moved to approve the abatement request for Eric & Jennifer Von der Linden as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy then presented three Veteran Credit applications (see attached). After review and comment by the Board, Mr. Canada moved to approve the Veteran Credit applications for Lawrence Dennis, Orville Kellar (2012) and James Melfi (2012), as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy presented a Blind Exemption application (see attached). After review and comment by the Board, Mr. Canada moved to approve the Blind Exemption application based on the State form for Roger Johnson, as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy presented a Solar Energy application (see attached). After review and comment by the Board, Mr. Canada moved to approve the Solar Energy application for Joseph Homan, as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:22 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session with Ms. Lewy to discuss a financial matter. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:03 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.

Mr. Canada moved to accept the 56 Stratham Health Center, LLC settlement as negotiated by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Mr. Canada moved to have Luke Pickett replace Larry Foss in the full time position on the Economic Development Committee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS CONTINUED:

Parks & Recreation: Director Seth Hickey was present at the meeting to discuss his Department's activities. He stated there was a playground assessment conducted at Stevens Park by Primex recently. The recommendation from Primex is to replace the engineered mulch since it has not been replaced since 2007. Mr. Hickey stated he had budgeted approximately \$2,400 for mulch for the playgrounds this year. He stated he would approach the Recreation Commission to come up with the remaining funds needed from the Revolving Account. The proposal is for 222 yards at a cost of \$4,261, which is the least expensive option. Mr. Canada moved to allow Mr. Hickey to spend \$2,400 out of his budget for mulch for Stevens Park. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Hickey stated he would like to hire a Summer Day Camp Director, Jasmine Yelle. This is a five-week camp that runs for four hours per day. Mr. Hickey would like to allot for ½ hour on each end of the four hours to do additional preparation and clean up. Mr. Copeland moved to approve Mr. Hickey's request to employ Jasmine Yelle as the salaried Summer Camp Director based on 25 hours per week for five weeks at \$15.00 per hour, for a total salaried amount of \$1,875. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Hickey informed the Board that the dog clean up stations at the Stratham Hill Park are in place. He is still waiting for final proper signage to recognize the sponsors.

Mr. Hickey stated that regarding the umpire/referee reimbursements discussed at their last meeting, the process has been running smoothly.

Mr. Hickey stated that newly hired Park Assistant Jim Rivais has been working the past three weeks. It has been a bit tough keeping up with the lawn mowing with all of the rain we have had recently, but they are getting it done as needed.

Mr. Hickey reported that there are some areas of concern with the soccer and Babe Ruth fields at Stevens Park. Ms. Woods is going to give an assessment on how many yards of loam/compost mixture would be needed to build it up a little bit so the seed has something to germinate in. Due to the cold and wet spring we have had, nothing is really growing, and there are a couple of low spots on the Babe Ruth Field that need to be addressed. Mr. Hickey reported the irrigation installation was started today on the softball field, and the barriers have been installed by the parking lot. He stated the parking along the road has still been a problem; there are no signs posted now. He thinks one sign stating "No Parking Beyond This Point" would work. The Board will allow Mr. Hickey to purchase said sign.

The group discussed the role of the Recreation Commission as far as chain of command. The correct procedure is for sports groups to inform the Recreation Commission on everything before coming to the Board of Selectmen. Mr. Deschaine stated that it needed to be well communicated that the Sports Boards have no authority and they answer to the Recreation Commission. The Recreation Commission will come to the Board of Selectmen when expenditure for a single item exceeds \$500, for contract approvals, and for agreements with out-of-town groups requiring regular and scheduled use of Town facilities.

PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:

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

Holly Hillsgrove from UNH requested the use of the Park on August 5, 2011 for an IT Academic Technology Picnic. The request was approved.

Jasmine Holloway requested the use of the Park on May 29, 2011 for a birthday party. The request was approved.

Sanjeev Haj requested the use of the Park on June 19, 2011 for a family picnic. The request was approved.

Caren Gallagher requested the use of the Morgera Room at the Firehouse on August 6, 2011 for an anniversary party. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Dileep Kolli requested the use of the Municipal Center on June 5 and June 26, 2011 for a cultural event. The requests were approved.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine stated he was asked by Karen & Jim Rustino from 118 Union Road if the Town had any further position on the Golf Club of New England and the affects on their well. He stated that when they were permitted for the large groundwater withdrawal at the golf course, a requirement was that they monitor a certain number of residential wells in the area. The Rustino's well was impacted, so the Department of Environmental Services (DES) had ordered the golf course to drill them a well and put in the necessary pumping equipment to use it. They

then got plenty of water, but it had very high levels of iron and manganese. The Rustinoes found they were still impacted because they never had that problem with their previous well, so DES ordered the golf course to install a treatment system. The Rustinoes stated the water quality is still poor due to the iron and they are quite upset that they have to pay maintenance on the system. Mr. Deschaine is bringing it to the Board's attention to see if there would be any further involvement from the Town. The Board agreed that the Town would take no further action on this matter.

Mr. Deschaine updated the Board regarding the Doe Run Lane paper street from the last meeting. He stated that they have acquired all of the information possible on the right of way, etc. When nothing conclusive was found, it was turned over to legal counsel. They have verified that there is no deeded title to the right of way. They did find the trust declaration at the registry and the only trustee of the trust is deceased. There are still a few other questions that need to be answered.

Mr. Deschaine stated he did speak with the auditors about also doing the auditing for the Fair in conjunction with the Town's annual audit. He stated they would like to see previous audits so they know what was involved. Mr. Copeland will get a copy of the last audit for Mr. Deschaine.

Mr. Canada moved to authorize Mr. Federico to spend up to \$100 to organize a barbecue for the firefighters on Memorial Day. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada commented that the lawns at the Fire and Police Departments are in very poor shape. Mr. Deschaine stated that each department head is overseeing the general maintenance of the lawns, but weekly mowing is done by the Highway Department. Mr. Deschaine will speak with the respective Chiefs on this matter.

At 10:00 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss negotiations. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:09 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 10:10 pm, Mr. Federico moved to adjourn. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There will be no meeting on May 30, 2011 due to the Memorial Day holiday.

Respectfully Submitted,

Reviewed By,

Stacey J. Grella
Executive Assistant

Paul R. Deschaine
Town Administrator