

## **MINUTES OF THE MARCH 26, 2012 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

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

At 7:19 pm, Mr. Canada opened the meeting and then moved to go into non-public session with the Library Director to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 7:35 pm, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to nature of the matters discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 7:40 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Kevin Peck reported that he had \$2,880,492.53 in the general checking account.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**PARKS & RECREATION:** Director Seth Hickey was present at the meeting to present two items for the Board's review. He requested to re-hire Jim Rivais as a seasonal employee, to maintain Stevens Park and help with the general day-to-day maintenance at the Municipal Center. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the re-hiring of Mr. Rivais at a rate of \$12.25 an hour. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Hickey then requested to purchase a desk to replace his existing desk at the Municipal Center. His current desk was a Voc-Tech donation and is in good condition, but too small to accommodate his needs. He stated he found a desk on Craig's List for \$575 for both the desk and a chair. Mr. Federico moved to allow Mr. Hickey to purchase the desk and chair for \$575. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

John Dold was present at the meeting to discuss re-establishing an Energy Committee. Mr. Dold stated he would also like to serve as Chair of the committee, if approved by the Board. Mr. Deschaine explained the previous committee was set up as an ad-hoc committee on energy. He stated the Board has the option of keeping the committee in an ad-hoc basis or formalizing it under NH RSA 38:D. The Board was in agreement to create the committee, but would like some time to think about keeping it as an ad-hoc or formalizing it. Mr. Dold informed the Board of his qualifications to serve as the committee Chair. He will work on getting a list of potential committee members this week. The group then discussed the potential for natural gas, specifically along Stratham Heights Road. Mr. Deschaine stated it is rare that they will run a distribution line through a residential area. The Board agreed that Mr. Deschaine will forward the letter that Mr. Dold drafted to Unitil and will also touch base with John Boisvert from the Public Works Commission. Mr. Dold then informed the Board that his primary focus would be

on energy efficiency audits of Town buildings as opposed to alternative energy sources such as wind and solar.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** There was some discussion as to clarifying statements from last week's meeting regarding the accrual of sick time. The Board agreed to delete the third sentence from that paragraph. Mr. Federico moved to approve the minutes as amended from the regular meeting on 03/19/12. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Canada then moved to eliminate the sick bank at the same time the long term and short term disability policies are implemented. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Brian Hart from the Southeast Land Trust was present at the meeting to discuss contingencies on the purchase of a conservation easement on the property of Viola Roberts (soon to be the Jennings property). Mr. Hart stated he was present on behalf of the buyer and the seller, the Ad-Hoc Committee, and the Southeast Land Trust, to request that the Selectmen reconsider their desire to have future ground water withdrawal rights for this property. He based the reason for his request on state regulations that are currently in place for any ground water withdrawal. These regulations have minimum standards for control of land and how that land is used. Mr. Hart stated this property has a good potential for water, but the shape and location in context to that creates a lot of problems. He stated that wells have to be 50 feet from wetlands or any surface water, which constrains that portion of the property as available. He stated the more the Town takes out of a well, the larger the control area, also known as the sanitary protective area. He stated that anywhere a well goes on this property is going to eliminate the best soils from being available for farming. Mr. Canada moved to do away with the requirement that the Town has water rights at the Roberts property, and that no water will be exported off the property. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The group then discussed a possible drainage easement to do away with a dangerous situation of pooling water on Stratham Heights Road that eventually drains onto the Roberts/Jennings property. Mr. Canada stated the Highway Department would like to put in some catch basins along Stratham Heights Road and create a very shallow swale to direct the water into existing wetlands. Mr. Hart has been working with the new property owners to come up with language that satisfies them and gives the Town opportunity to do that work, but has not had a chance to draft up anything as of yet. He hopes to have something to present to the Town by the end of the week. Ms. Jennings was present at the meeting and stated that this drainage swale should be considered a separate issue from the easement. At this time, she does not know enough about the drainage problem and the affects of it, and would like some assurance from the Town that there will be proper studies conducted on this matter and that she will have input on how it will be designed. Mr. Deschaine will schedule a meeting with the head of the Rockingham County Conservation District.

At 8:31 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a matter regarding negotiations. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:00 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.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS CONTINUED:**

POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief John Scippa was present at the meeting to present a proposal to purchase three new computers for his Department. The total cost for the Police Department computers would be \$2,010.68. This price includes an extra computer monitor for the interview rooms (\$179). Mr. Copeland moved to allow Mr. Scippa to spend up to \$2,010.68 out of the CIP for the purchase of three computers and a monitor. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Scippa presented the new SPCA contract to the Board for their review and signature. The Board will review it and discuss it at a future meeting.

Mr. Scippa requested to move forward with the ordering of the new police car. He would like to work with Irwin Ford since they do get the State bid and they have worked with the Town before. Mr. Copeland moved to authorize the expenditure for the purchase of one police car through Irwin Ford. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Scippa will obtain actual numbers and bring them back before the Board.

Mr. Scippa requested to take a week's vacation the last week of April. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the vacation request. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Scippa updated the Board on the antenna at Stratham Hill. He stated Two-Way is working on it at the same time as the new tower in Newington and Rockingham Dispatch anticipates it will be live by mid-April.

**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:

Judy Chretien requested the use of the Municipal Center on April 10 and April 24, 2012 for Boy Scout fly fishing instruction sessions. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Jeff Cormier requested the use of the Park on May 19, 2012 for a birthday party. The request was approved.

One Sky Community Services requested the use of the Park on June 15, 2012 for a company picnic. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Mr. Deschaine stated a computer is needed for the Executive Assistant. The computer currently being used is old and very slow. The total cost for a replacement computer is \$610.23. Mr. Copeland moved to allow Mr. Deschaine to spend up to \$610.23 to replace the computer for the Executive Assistant. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine stated that the Town's Ford Explorer went in for an inspection today and did not pass. He presented an estimate of \$1678.00 from McFarland Ford for the work necessary for it to pass inspection. The Board requested additional price quotes from Sullivan Tire and Graham Tire.

Mr. Deschaine presented the parade permit for the annual "Reach the Beach Relay" event on September 15, 2012. The runners are on a very short segment of Route 111 by the industrial park in Stratham. The Police Chief is aware of the event. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the "Reach the Beach Relay" permit for September 15, 2012, and authorize the Chair to sign the document. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine presented the MS-2 report for the Department of Revenue Administration, which compiles all of the appropriations that were approved at Town Meeting. Mr. Canada moved to approve and sign the report. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine informed the Board that the Town is very close to finalizing the franchise agreement with Comcast. He expects to have another draft to present to the Board by April 30<sup>th</sup>.

The group then reviewed and updated the Board's priority list.

The Board agreed to cancel their next scheduled meeting on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. If anything pressing comes up by the previous Friday, then they will meet.

Mr. Canada stated that SB 353, which the Town proposed, has been sent to interim study. They will revisit this matter some time this summer.

At 9:46 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss matters that could affect the reputation of another, not a member of the Board. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:20 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.

**OLD BUSINESS/Appointments for Vacancies to Various Boards/Commissions/Committees:**

CONSERVATION COMMISSION: Mr. Copeland moved to move Allison Knab from an alternate position to a regular position, and to reappoint William McCarthy. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT: Mr. Copeland moved to reappoint Arol Charbonneau; accept with regret the resignation of John Dold; and move Christopher Brett from an alternate position to a regular position. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PLANNING BOARD: Mr. Copeland moved to appoint Jamison Paine, currently an alternate, to a regular position; reappoint Mary Jane Werner to an alternate position; and to appoint Christopher Merrick to an alternate position. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed 2-1.

RECREATION COMMISSION: Mr. Copeland moved to reappoint Stephanie Ilberg-Lamm; accept with regret the resignation of Tom Haslam; and to reappoint Jan Henderson. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

HERITAGE COMMISSION: Mr. Copeland moved to reappoint Florence Wiggin as a regular member; reappoint Georgiana Law as an alternate; to appoint Janet Johnson to an alternate position. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Mr. Copeland moved to reappoint Michael Houghton and Paul Deschaine. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMISSION: Mr. Copeland moved to appoint Bill Schoppmeyer, currently an alternate, to a regular position. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

AD-HOC SUBCOMMITTEE: Mr. Copeland moved to reappoint all current members. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

GATEWAY TECHNICAL REVIEW COMMITTEE: Mr. Copeland moved to reappoint all current members. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:29 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss negotiations. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 10:32 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 10:33 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