

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 17, 2012 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

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

At 7:30 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck reported that he had \$4,090,982.83 in the general checking account.

NEW BUSINESS:

John Law was present at the meeting to discuss continued use of the Gifford hayfields and proposed improvements to those fields. He stated the fields need to be re-seeded, especially in the back field area where there is a stone pit. He stated he would supply the seed, the lime and the labor and continue the work, but he would need some assistance in burying the stones. The Board agreed to have Mr. Law meet with the Highway Department to evaluate the situation.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mr. Copeland moved to approve the amended minutes from the regular meeting on 9/10/12. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

PLANNING: Town Planner Lincoln Daley updated the Board on current and future Planning Board applications and projects.

Mr. Daley stated the Town Center Revitalization Committee is currently working on the installation of the four historic signs delineating the boundaries of the Town Center District. He stated that DOT approval is no longer necessary because the two signs that were originally located within the right of way are being installed in different locations where they are not in the right of way. At this time, they are waiting to hear back from one property owner to approve one of the locations. Once that occurs, the signs will be installed next Tuesday.

Mr. Daley stated the Plan NH Charrette final report was presented on September 13th. He stated it was very well attended and a productive discussion took place. Mr. Daley stated he will incorporate this report into the Master Plan.

Mr. Daley stated the Economic Development Committee is currently working on amending the sign ordinance for the Gateway District and the Town Center area. The EDC will be going before the Planning Board for review and discussion on Wednesday.

Mr. Daley stated the Planning Board Stormwater Subcommittee continues to review the Town's Land Use Regulations and Zoning Ordinance for possible amendments for the 2013 Town Meeting.

Mr. Daley stated his report on Offsite Improvement Funds and Performance Bonds is still ongoing. Accounting is working on inputting the accounts into the new accounting software. Mr. Daley will update the Board at next month's meeting.

Mr. Daley stated that the Town received a letter from the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) stating that Stratham is now a MS4 community, which entails additional oversight for reporting measures involving storm water.

Mr. Daley presented a draft letter of support for the Rockingham Planning Commission (RPC) regarding their grant submittal to the Department of Environmental Services (DES) for funds to assist the Town with technical assistance regarding Water Quality Planning activities. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the letter of support for the RPC. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Daley stated he did not have an update on the status of the Town-owned property at 17 Doe Run Lane. He stated that he will contact Mike Cuomo from the Rockingham County Conservation District to schedule test pits in the area.

BUILDING/CODE ENFORCEMENT: Building Inspector Terry Barnes was present at the meeting, and updated the Board on the current status of ongoing building inspections/issues and applications before the Zoning Board of Adjustment.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Mr. Federico announced a public health threat has been declared for West Nile Virus and urged residents to take appropriate measures to avoid contact with mosquitoes.

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:

Beth Donahue from the Chester Academy requested the use of the Park on September 24, 2012 for a school picnic. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Christa Seckendorf from the Exeter Chamber of Commerce requested the use of the Municipal Center on November 8, 2012 for a State of the Town forum. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Rachael Karpman requested the use of the Park on October 13, 2012 for a company event. The request was approved.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine stated that due to other priorities, he has not had time to draft a request for proposal on the landfill monitoring. He will update the Board on October 29th.

Mr. Deschaine stated that the Stratham Circle Learning Center has been working on their emergency contingency plan as required by the State. Part of the new policy references an evacuation area and it was suggested they use the Municipal Center as a shelter. Mr. Federico moved to allow the use of the Municipal Center as an evacuation center for the Stratham Circle Learning Center. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The group then discussed the abatement suit filed by Fairpoint Communications in regards to the telephone pole tax. Since there are more than 100 cases, this matter has been consolidated to the Merrimack County Superior Court.

The group further discussed the MS4 designation for the Town. About $\frac{3}{4}$ of the Town is affected, which is based on the population density from the 2010 census, and the Town needs to come up with storm water management plans. Mr. Deschaine will continue to monitor this.

Mr. Deschaine stated that Edie Barker has submitted her resignation from the Conservation Commission. Mr. Copeland moved to accept Ms. Barker's resignation with gratitude for her service to the Town. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine stated the Stevens family contacted him regarding the damage to the memorial bench at the top of Stratham Hill Park. They agreed that relocating the bench is a good idea given the amount of vandalism that has been occurring and will leave it up to the Town as to the best location. The Board will give it some thought.

Mr. Deschaine stated the closing on the Brad Jones easement is scheduled for 10:00 am on September 24th and presented the documentation for the Board to sign. He stated there is still one outstanding item. When they were doing the baseline documentation for the easement and they had the full survey done, it was found that one of the neighbors has encroached upon the property. They are working on a solution at this time. Mr. Federico moved to authorize Mr. Deschaine to sign all pertinent documents that come before the closing. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:45 pm, Mr. Copeland moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Reviewed by,

Stacey J. Grella
Executive Assistant

Paul R. Deschaine
Town Administrator