

MINUTES OF THE MARCH 25, 2013 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

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

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

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

FIRE DEPARTMENT: Chief Rob Cook was present at the meeting to discuss a recent article in the newspaper that has been causing some controversy. There were comments in the article from a North Hampton Selectman that North Hampton would refuse to provide mutual aid to Stratham in the event of an emergency. Mr. Cook stated he spoke with the North Hampton Fire Chief and they will still respond to Stratham if they are requested, as of this time. There were also comments made in the article that Stratham has not "given anything" to the Town of North Hampton in the last five years, which is not true. Mr. Copeland expressed his disappointment in the Selectman's public statements that he made, especially since his information is incorrect. Mr. Deschaine stated that North Hampton has requested to meet with the Stratham Board on April 22nd to discuss this further. The Board agreed to hold off on responding to North Hampton until they have further information on the mutual aid statistics, and know exactly whom they are meeting with from North Hampton.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck reported that he had \$5,232,205.38 in the general checking account.

NEW BUSINESS:

Emergency Management Director Dave Emanuel was present at the meeting with Paul Hatch, who is the Town's local liaison with the NH Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management. Mr. Emanuel stated that the Town was due to renew the All Hazards Plan in 2012, and was allocated federal funding in the form of a \$5,000 grant to be used to update the Town's 2008 plan. This plan identifies strategic locations that may be prone to flooding, weather events or any other hazards in order to mitigate them. Mr. Canada then opened the public hearing regarding the acceptance of the \$5,000 Hazards Mitigation Grant as previously posted. Being no comments from the public, Mr. Canada closed the public hearing. Mr. Canada moved to accept the \$5,000 grant. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

ASSESSING: Assessor Andrea Lewy was present at the meeting and presented several abatement applications to the Board for their review. Mr. Canada moved to approve the abatement requests for Sonia DeOliveira, Charles Herrington, and James & Molly Woodhouse, as recommended by Ms. Lewy, and to deny the abatement requests for Northern New England Telephone Operations, LLC (d/b/a Fairpoint), Mary Vermeersch, and Renee & Parnell Woodard, as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy then presented several Veteran Credit applications to the Board for their review. Mr. Canada moved to approve the Veteran Credit applications for Josh Farina, Guy Hadley, Reuben Reynolds, and Thomas Trayner, as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy then presented two Elderly Exemptions to the Board for their review. Mr. Canada moved to approve the Elderly Exemptions for Priscilla Ahern Revocable Trust, and Barrie & Karin Glidden, as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy stated the Blind, Elderly and Veteran's presentation has been rescheduled to March 26th due to a snow storm.

Ms. Lewy then presented a proposal from Murdough Assessing Services regarding the 2014 Town-Wide Statistical Update for a total estimated cost of \$47,000. Mr. Federico moved to approve the proposal from Murdough Assessing Services. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: Mr. Canada stated the Annual Mosquito Control Program public notice has been posted.

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:

Laura Smith requested the use of the Park on May 11, 2013 for a First Communion party. The request was approved.

Jennifer Jusseaume requested the use of the Park on May 25, 2013 for a birthday party. The request was approved.

Stacy Waldron requested the use of the Park on June 8, 2013 for a graduation party. The request was approved.

Beti Turner from the Stratham Community Church requested the use of the Park on June 30, 2013 for a church service and picnic. Mr. Federico moved to approve the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine presented two requests for possible proclamations. The first is for Earth Day on April 22nd and the second is for National Missing Children's Day from the National Center of

Missing & Exploited Children on May 25th. Mr. Copeland moved to grant the requests for proclamations. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine stated the Town was approached by the National League of Cities by a company called CGI Communications to do video programming that showcases various items regarding the Town to residents and visitors. There is no cost involved; however, CGI would be approaching local businesses for advertising revenue. The Town would be responsible for putting the video on the Town website and to assist in developing the script. Mr. Federico moved to allow the Town Planner to contract with CGI Communications, Inc. for the community video network program. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine then presented a job description created by Town Planner Lincoln Daley for the part time Land Use Assistant position. Mr. Canada moved to allow Mr. Daley to moved forward and advertise the position with the job description, but due to its late submission, with the provision that if any Board member contact him in the next 24 hours, he will hold off until they have had a chance to review and discuss it with him. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 8:50 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a negotiations issue. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:18 pm, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the nature of the matters discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:19 pm, Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey J. Grella
Executive Assistant