

MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2013 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING

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

At 7:06 pm, Mr. Canada opened the meeting and then moved to go into non-public session to discuss a possible property acquisition. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 7:28 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 7:33 pm, the Chair opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Kevin Peck reported that there is \$4,030,072.77 in the general checking account.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mr. Copeland moved to approve the amended minutes from the regular meetings on 9/9/13, 9/16/13. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the minutes as written from the special meeting on 9/23/13. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

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

After some discussion, Mr. Canada moved to recommend to the Planning Board that they secure an easement for possible future use at the Auto Fair road. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Canada will draft a letter for the Planning Board.

Mr. Daley stated the Town Center Revitalization Committee (TCRC) is continuing to work on the Transportation Enhancement (TE) Grant, which would provide money for decorative lights, sidewalks, and other improvements. The Committee also continues to work on the banner program. Mr. Daley stated that he and Mr. Deschaine recently met with DOT representatives who manage the TE Grant program. Mr. Deschaine stated they have come to the conclusion to move forward with GPI and then work on the RFQ. Mr. Canada moved to go forward with contracting with GPI. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Daley stated the Economic Development Committee continues to work on creating an Economic Development Zone and/or a TIF District in various locations around Town. Mr. Daley stated they will have a draft application ready by October 15th, which will define the Economic Development Zone in Town.

Mr. Daley and Building Inspector Terry Barnes then updated the Board on their ongoing work on the building permit fee schedule and third party reviews charges for commercial inspections. Mr. Daley stated they felt the current residential fees did not need to be changed and that they were enough to subsidize the Building and Planning Department's work pertinent to permits and inspections. The group then discussed the commercial fees and how the Town compares to other area communities. After considerable discussion, it was agreed that further refinement is needed. Mr. Daley stated they have also been looking at the Building Ordinance and presented a working draft of an amended document to the Board.

The group then discussed the CGI promotional video project. There have been concerns from local residents and business owners regarding the Town appearing to endorse businesses being advertised on a linked website associated with CGI. Mr. Daley stated he did contact CGI and they will include a disclaimer on the website saying the Town does not endorse any business.

The Board informed Mr. Daley that they will be sending a recommendation to the Planning Board regarding Letters of Credit.

The group then briefly discussed utility districts. The Board agreed it would be a good idea to get started on setting up the wording and framework for a utility district to be presented at the 2014 Town Meeting instead of waiting until the last minute. Mr. Daley stated it would make sense for him and Mr. Deschaine to initially move forward with this process and then if necessary, he will look into hiring a consultant.

At 8:51pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss a personnel issue. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:15 pm, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the nature of the items discussed. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

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

ASSESSING: Town Assessor Andrea Lewy was present at the meeting and presented an abatement application to the Board for their review. Mr. Canada moved to approve the abatement request for The Institute of Professional Practice, as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The group then discussed other communities suppressing online assessment data when requested by individual taxpayers. The Board agreed to have Ms. Lewy create a form for residents to fill out if they choose to opt out of having their information online and the Board will review any forms submitted.

Ms. Lewy updated the Board on her 2014 statistical update and the upcoming schedule. There are 3,270 properties in Stratham and the number of parcel visits completed to date is 2,105. The

Board agreed to have Ms. Lewy contact Greenland to see who they use for appraising golf courses.

Ms. Lewy then updated the Board on the Makris/Bunker Hill Common Land Use Change Tax (LUCT). She will respond to a letter from Makris attorney Mike Donahue on the assessment value determination.

Ms. Lewy presented the list of 2013 Board of Tax and Land Appeals (BTLA) cases to the Board: 43 Depot Road, 81 Portsmouth Ave., 3 Oak Lane, 37 Portsmouth Ave., 39 Portsmouth Ave., and 12 Portsmouth Ave.

MEETINGS: The Chair then reviewed the meetings held this past week.

The group discussed the request for a beer tent at the upcoming Harvest Festival at the Park on October 20th. Mr. Copeland moved to have the Town apply for a one day license for the sale of beer on behalf of the Recreation Commission on October 20th from 12:00 pm to 4:30 pm. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PARK PERMITS/MUNICIPAL CENTER RENTALS:

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

Chris Boulbol requested the use of the Firehouse every Wednesday from October through April for Cub Scouts meetings. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Jen Krans requested to use the Park on October 7th and 8th, 2013, for a class field trip. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the use and to waive the fee contingent upon verification that it is the Garrison school. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mary Petrowski requested the use of the Firehouse on November 2, 2013 for a family party. Mr. Federico moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

David Mollica requested the use of the Municipal Center for six dates in October, November and December for Boy Scout meetings. Mr. Federico moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

John Sapienza requested the use of the Firehouse on October 6 for the annual pancake breakfast. The request was approved.

Renee Evelyn requested the use of the Park on October 12, 2013 for a family reunion. The request was approved.

Joyce Rowe requested the use of the Firehouse on November 29, 2013 for a family party. Mr. Federico moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Marybeth Myers requested the use of the Park on October 19, 2013 for a party. The request was approved.

Ellen Ellis requested the use of the Municipal Center for various dates for Cub Scouts meetings. Mr. Copeland moved to allow the use and to waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine reminded everyone that they are still looking for volunteers for the Household Hazardous Waste day on Saturday.

Mr. Deschaine presented a notice that will be going out to all employees tomorrow regarding the Affordable Healthcare Act notice.

NEW BUSINESS:

Mr. Copeland moved to authorize the Chair to execute the paperwork related to the acceptance of the grant from the NH Department of Safety where the Police Department is receiving a portable radio. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board agreed to send a newsletter out to residents at the end of this month.

The Board discussed and updated the status of several outstanding issues list.

At 10:48 pm, Mr. Canada moved to go into non-public session to discuss negotiations. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 11:06 pm, Mr. Canada moved to come out of non-public session and to seal the minutes due to the nature of the items discussed. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 11:07, Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey J. Grella
Executive Assistant