

## **MINUTES OF THE APRIL 28, 2014 BOARD OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING**

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

At 7:31 pm, Mr. Canada opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Deb Bronson reported that there is \$1,931,252.89 in the general checking account.

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Mr. Federico moved to approve the minutes of the April 21, 2014 meeting as amended. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Lesley Kimball, Librarian at Wiggin Memorial Library, came before the Board to discuss the Library's computer replacement plan. Ms. Kimball presented a comparison to the Board on the types of systems, reliability, software and costs. After doing research and visiting Libraries that are currently using the preferred programs she would like to use a system called Useful Desktop. The Board discussed with Ms. Kimball the various options and needs for the Library. Mr. Canada moved to authorize expenditure of \$13,180.08 to implement the Useful Desktop program. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 7:54 pm Mr. Canada opened the public hearing on pole license changes to include RSA 72:23, I (b). Town Assessor Andrea Lewy explained that the previous pole license did not include that portion of the RSA and Ms. Lewy is asking that the Board include it so that everyone is aware that it is taxable property and it will be assessed accordingly. Resident Debbie Foss asked for clarification about this topic. It was explained to her that it would be for the utility companies that use the poles and it is not a cost to the residents. Mr. Deschaine read a statement submitted by Unitil, an effected utility company. Seeing no further requests to make comments, Mr. Canada closed the public hearing at 7:58 pm. Mr. Canada moved that we adopt the provision to include RSA 72:23, I (b) in all of our lease and other agreements with utility companies for the right-of-ways and pole licenses. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**ASSESSING:** Town Assessor Andrea Lewy was present at the meeting and presented one abatement application to the Board for their review. Mr. Canada moved to approve the reduction in the assessment to \$341,400 for Molly & James Woodhouse as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy then presented three elderly exemptions for the Board to review. Ms. Lewy recommended that the Board grant an elderly exemption to Christine Eldredge stating that she meets the criteria; that the Board deny the elderly exemption for David & Priscilla Engel stating that they do not meet the criteria; and that the Board grant an elderly exemption to Kimberly Knight stating that she does meet the criteria. Mr. Canada moved to approve an exemption for Christine Eldredge and Kimberly Knight, and deny an exemption to David and Priscilla Engle. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy then presented two Veterans' credits to the Board for their review. Ms. Lewy recommended that the Board approve the Veteran's credit for Norman Ellard, and for Frederick Stewart who both meet the criteria for being in the Vietnam conflict. Mr. Canada moved to approve the Veteran's credit for Norman Ellard and Frederick Stewart, as recommended by Ms. Lewy. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy presented a contract from CAI Technologies for mapping updates. The former service provider, James W. Sewall Company, has withdrawn from the market. Mr. Canada moved to approve the contract with CAI Technologies. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Lewy presented a timber tax warrant for W. Douglas Scamman, Jr, Map 8 Lot 64, 69 Portsmouth Avenue, of \$1,153.22 for the Board to sign, which the Board did after a vote of 3-0.

Ms. Lewy updated the Board on the current use release and associated Land Use Change Tax for Makris Development for the Bunker Hill Commons Development. A second appraisal was done by Peter Knight for Ms. Makris, who brought in a value of \$935,000, lower than Makris' original appraisal. This was largely based on the actual cost for the roads and infrastructure. In the first appraisal it was an estimated cost, not the actual cost. Ms. Lewy recommended to the Board that the few properties in the development that face the industrial area be discounted. Mr. Canada moved to allow Ms. Lewy to negotiate with Makris Development and she may go as low as a total value of \$1,280,000. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**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:

Chelsea Bourassa has previously been approved to use the Municipal Center on June 28, 2014 for a bridal shower. She has asked the Board permission to waive the alcohol prohibition to have a champagne toast and serve sangria punch. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request providing they provide proof of homeowners' liability insurance to the Town. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Vicky Cook requested use of the Firehouse Morgera Room on July 8, 2014 for a Thrive Meeting. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Kevin O'Neil, Stratham Police Department requested use of Stratham Hill Park Front Pavilion on May 30, 2014 for a home school field day. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Justin Rivlin requested use of Stratham Hill Park Scamman Pavilion on May 25, 2014 for a Scalmon Hill hut. The Board would like to know what the event is before approving the request.

Jeff Myatt requested use of the Stratham Hill Park Front Pavilion on May 5, 2014 for a company outing. The Board approved the request.

Joan Gough requested use of the Stratham Hill Park Scamman Pavilion on August 10, 2014 for a family reunion. The Board approved the request.

Toni Lafferty requested use of the Stratham Hill Park 4H Pavilion on August 9, 2014 for a family reunion. The Board approved the request.

Maureen Cooper requested use of the Stratham Hill Park Front Pavilion on July 27, 2014 for a family reunion wedding. The Board approved the request.

### **ADMINISTRATION:**

Mr. Deschaine reported that the Town was awarded a Local Government Management Fellowship which will give us a college postgraduate for a summer internship. We are hoping to have this person do a needs-assessment on all of our storage requirements. They will review the law, review what we have, review our procedures and practices, and make recommendations. It is a paid position that is subsidized by the Managers Association and the Municipal Association; the commitment of the Town is approximately \$2100. Mr. Copeland moved to approve this commitment. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine reported the lighting fixture that is on the Fire Department reader board has been damaged. John Sappienza has filed a police report. Mr. Sappienza will attempt to fix the light fixture.

Mr. Deschaine reported which committee appointments are pending and stated that he has received an application from Matt Gunn. Mr. Copeland moved that we reappoint Patricia Elwell, Robert Keating, and Dan McAuliffe to the Conservation Commission,. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Canada moved to appoint Chris Caverreta to a full time position from the alternate position he holds to take Kirk Scamman's spot and that we appoint Tim Copeland to be a temporary alternate on the Board of Adjustment until we can fill the three slots that we have open. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Canada moved to reappoint Michael Houghton, Robert Baskerville, and Christopher Merrick to the Planning Board. Michael Houghton and Robert Baskerville are full time members and Christopher Merrick is an alternate. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Canada moved to reappoint Tracy-Lynn Abbott to a new term on the Recreation Commission. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Copeland moved to reappoint Frank LaSorsa and take him from an alternate position, to a regular position on the Recreation Commission. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada moved to reappoint Nathan Merrill as a regular member and Nancy Hansen as an alternate on the Heritage Commission. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Canada moved to reappoint Michael Girard to the Public Works Commission. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Canada stated that Jim

Moran has not shown an interest in being reappointed to the Public Works Commission so he stated that the alternate position is now vacant. Mr. Canada moved to reappoint Matt O'Keefe and James Schlough for the Energy Commission. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously

Mr. Deschaine reported that applications and resumes have been coming into the office for the Truck Driver/Laborer position and the Code Enforcement Officer/Building Inspector position. May 9, 2014 is the deadline for submitting applications for both of those positions.

Mr. Canada stated that he received a letter from a resident asking what the fine will be for hunting in the park. Mr. Copeland said that it would be a violation offence under State Law and, as such, the fine could be as high as \$1,000—it would be up to the judge. Mr. Canada stated that he would like to see the hunting ordinance posted on the Town web site.

At 9:02 pm, Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Hensley  
Executive Assistant