

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 12, 2015 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

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

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

SECRETARY'S REPORT: There were no minutes presented.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Deb Bronson reported that there is \$8,319,523.33 in the general checking account.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

POLICE DEPARTMENT:

Police Chief John Scippa indicated at the last meeting that the Board had asked him to look into an offer of a local donation of a Lo-Jack tracking device from the Porsche dealership. He continued that he was able to speak with a Lo-Jack representative regarding that donation and learned that Lo-Jack themselves would donate a unit to any interested Police Department. Chief Scippa stated that he would like to retract the donation offer and would come back to the Board if there was a need in the future.

Chief Scippa stated he was presently working with the public safety liaison, Tim Copeland, and they were interviewing a recently retired police officer who was looking for a little bit of work. He indicated that he was hoping to bring more information back to the Board in the near future.

FIRE DEPARTMENT:

Fire Chief Rob Cook reported that they had responded to 28 calls so far this year.

Chief Cook noted there were a few lights out at the Station and they were waiting for a bucket truck to come replace those.

Chief Cook stated the State was holding airline crash response training this year and that he and one other member of the Department would like to take the class, which was a week long. He noted that the cost for two people to attend the training would be \$1,000. Mr. Federico moved to allow Chief Cook and other member of the fire department to attend this training in Concord for a cost of \$1,000. Lacking a second, the next issue was addressed.

Mr. Federico asked if the department members were being reminded to shut the overhead doors to conserve heat when responding to calls. Chief Cook said they were especially with last week's cold weather.

Chief Cook and Mr. Canada summarized the meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee formed to study the fire department's staffing needs. Various options were being explored including outsourcing

to other towns, a cooperative agreement with Greenland, hiring a full time chief and someone to help, and a pay per call option with adjoining communities. Mr. Copeland asked if the use of private ambulance services is being explored. Chief Cook explained that it is not only ambulance calls but also fire calls that need to be covered. A private ambulance company makes their money on non-emergency transports. There are not enough in Stratham to warrant their interest in doing our emergency calls. Mr. Copeland asked about supervision of the proposed fire department employees. Chief Cook said he could supervise them and they will have very specific duties to perform.

CODE ENFORCEMENT/BUILDING INSPECTION:

Audrey Cline went over the permits that were issued last month as well as the inspections that were completed.

Ms. Cline stated that an agreement with Chief Cook had been finalized to delegate some fire inspections to her. She asked if it was the intent relative to the refunds and penalties provisions of the Building Permit Fee Schedule to have a re-inspection fee for fire permit inspections when the applicants call but are not ready. She wanted to know if it was the intent of the wording to include all inspections or was it only for building permit inspections. She requested that the Board give the topic some thought. The Board came to a consensus that they would hold a public hearing at some point in the future to add a \$100 penalty fee to the schedule if any applicant was not ready for their fire and/or building inspection.

Ms. Cline stated she wanted to clarify the discussion they had on cistern designs. She continued that Mr. Daley had noted that currently cistern designs were reviewed by a third party with the fee being built into to the planning department budget. Ms. Cline noted they had discussed shifting the fee structure into a third party line item in the building department budget and putting it with the other third party inspections. Mr. Daley stated this was to expedite the review and to work with the third party to review the cistern for compliance with the template design they require each applicant to use.

Ms. Cline stated a concern with the outside storage of personal property at 55 Union Road that she had sent three pieces of correspondence to but had not received a response. She stated she did not like to start the certified letter process without follow-through being certain. The Board indicated they would like some additional time to take a look at the property.

Ms. Cline stated relative to the Foy property at 68 Portsmouth Ave, that they had been notified that their use of the property should be considered a full commercial use and not a home occupation. She continued that she would move forward with more communication with them to bring them to the Planning Board for a site review.

Ms. Cline asked if there were any questions relative to the window lettering on Kevin Roy's property at 257 Portsmouth Ave. Mr. Copeland asked if the Planning Board had sent mixed messages to Mr. Roy contrary to what the ZBA allowed in their decision. Mr. Daley responded that the signage had been discussed, but was not part of the Planning Board's approval. Mr. Daley stated that window letting was considered a sign and that was a commercial operation on

residentially zoned property. The Board asked that Ms. Cline continue to speak with Mr. Roy and indicate to him that he needed to be in compliance with the ZBA decision.

Ms. Cline stated last month that the Board had discussed the permit exemption for sheds under 200 s.f. and had voted to have a warrant article that went to the Planning Board. She continued they had started to come up with some questions that are not defined very well and that might cause difficulty if they rushed ahead with this without figuring out how to best word it. Ms. Cline laid out her potential issues and asked that the Board consider not promoting this item until the following year to give the Building Department a chance to word the warrant article correctly. She continued that this item was not time sensitive and needed further consideration. Mr. Copeland moved to postpone action on this item until the following year, seconded by Mr. Federico, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Cline indicated that the Land Use Department had a communal lunch the past week, and they had discussed outreach efforts and relayed those thoughts to the Board.

Ms. Cline stated that she had received an estimate to repair the Explorer and suggested that they go with that estimate. She continued that she thought she was going to have to add some additional funds into the budget for repairs. Ms. Cline indicated that she had brought a proposal for a new Ford Escape to the budget committee which was pending.

Ms. Cline indicated that the ZBA was looking at the Motion for Rehearing brought by the Board in the case of Emerald Castle Case #614. They meet tomorrow to consider the motion.

PLANNING:

Lincoln Daley stated there is a public hearing scheduled on January 21, 2015 by the Planning Board on the Rollins Hill Development. He stated that the Division of Historical Resources was seeking additional information relative to some historic stone walls on the property.

Mr. Daley stated the Exeter Subaru application hearing had been continued to February 4, 2015. He continued that they had met last week and had made some good progress and he anticipated a possible conditional approval at the next meeting. Mr. Daley went over the items that still needed to be addressed.

Mr. Daley stated relative to the proposed town zoning ordinance amendments, that they had held their first public hearing on January 7th and would be holding the second on January 22nd.

Mr. Daley noted the Town Center Revitalization Committee (TCRC) was working on the TE Grant for the Town Center Project. Mr. Deschaine indicated that there had been a long discussion relative to the selection of a light pole and where they should be placed. He continued that most people had favored a straight pole installation. A pole with a crook design was considered, but it was undecided as to which way it should face. The Board discussed how they were installed in other towns and decided that they wanted to go with option 4 presented. Mr. Federico moved to recommend lighting using a Hancock pole with Londonderry pendant, option 4, with a 16 foot pole with a banner on one side at the top, with the lighting fixture orientation

towards the sidewalk. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mr. Daley stated that the TCRC would be meeting Wednesday to discuss the final design and give recommendations to the Board. He continued they would be coming in front of the Board on January 26th for their presentation, which he hoped the Board would approve and could then be sent off for final design. Mr. Daley indicated that he was planning on inviting the Heritage Commission, the Planning Board, Town Center Committee and other interested parties to the hearing on the 26th.

Mr. Daley stated relative to the landscaping at Petrol Oil, the town has been holding onto a \$4500 landscaping bond, and he was recommending that \$3000 be released and that they hold onto the other \$1500 for another year to cover the cost of installation and newly installed plants and materials if they fail to thrive. Mr. Copeland moved to approve Mr. Daley's recommendation, seconded by Mr. Canada, which passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

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:

Christopher Boulbol requested use of Meeting Room A on January 23, 2015 for a Scout meeting and requested the fee be waived. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the request. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Dileep Kolli requested use of Meeting Room A on January 18, 2015 and January 25, 2015 for a learning activity for children. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the request. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Rebecca Nash-Pannella requested use of Stratham Hill Park on June 13, 2015 for a picnic for the Collie Rescue League of New England. Mr. Copeland moved to approve the request. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine stated they had received a denial from the BTLA on the rehearing request for the Lasalle abatement appeal on Oak Lane. The Board would need to decide if it wanted to seek further relief from the New Hampshire Supreme Court. Mr. Deschaine stated he thought there were some viable questions of law but he would need to seek legal counsel to confirm. The Board decided that it was not worth spending additional funds on appeals. Mr. Federico moved to not appeal the issue any further, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine noted relative to the opening of the Town Report bids, that he had received five submittals which were as follows; Image Wise for \$7318.00, Kase for \$4759.00, Woodman Communications for \$5980.00, Wharf Industries for \$7711.00 and RAM Printing for \$4339.59. Mr. Canada moved to authorize the Town Administrator to sign an agreement with Kase to print the Town Report and to decide between the two options presented, at his discretion, not to exceed \$4759.00. The motion was seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Copeland moved to go into a non-public session at 9:42 P.M., seconded by Mr. Canada, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Federico moved to come out of non-public session at 10:35 P.M, seconded by Mr. Copeland, which passed unanimously.

At 10:36 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Rodier
Recording Secretary