

## **MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2015 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING**

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

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

**SECRETARY'S REPORT:** Mr. Canada moved to approve the amended minutes of the regular meeting on April 13, 2015. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer Deb Bronson reported there was \$3,313,324.56 in the general checking account.

John Sapienza stated that he had an issue with the letter that was sent out by the Board to three surrounding towns to discuss possibly sharing services with the Stratham Fire Department. He continued he believed that the letter was in violation of Town Code as the Fire Chief was the person who should be involved in all administrative matters in the Department. Chief Cook noted that he had felt disrespected by the letter and thought that he should have received a copy of the letter before it went out. Mr. Canada expressed his disagreement with those statements and they had not made any changes, they were looking at other options. Mr. Federico indicated that the Select Board was fully aware of the statutes and they had not made any changes and were simply making a query to other townships. Mr. Deschaine noted that absolutely nothing had been changed. Mr. Copeland agreed that if changes were to be made, the Chief would be very involved in those decisions and agreed that the Chief should have had a heads up about the letter. Mr. Canada stated that no disrespect had been meant and that this was a disconnect in communication.

### **DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

#### **CODE ENFORCEMENT:**

Audrey Cline stated that it had been a slow month for building permits. She continued that she had completed 7 home occupation inspections, denied one electronic Reader Board, one commercial building permit for BMW was under review and 12 building inspections, including five new dwellings had been completed and two alternative energy permits were under review.

#### **ZONING:**

Ms. Cline stated that she had been in touch with the resident at 55 Union and they had set up a timeline for abatements relative to the violations on the property.

Ms. Cline noted that she had met with the new business owner and the property owner at Stratham Stone. She continued she had given them the paperwork showing why the business was a non-conforming use. Ms. Cline stated it was clear that the business had expanded from its original intent and she believed that she had enough evidence to move forward with an enforcement action based on the illegal expansion of a non-conforming use.

Ms. Cline stated Kevin Roy had taken the window lettering down at 257 Portsmouth Avenue.

Ms. Cline noted relative to the helicopter egg drop signs around town, that she had been in touch with the entity that had posted them and they would not be putting up any more signs in Stratham.

#### LAND USE/PLANNING

Ms. Cline indicated there was a drive by site visit to view the mock up Lindt sign and the results would be discussed at the next ZBA meeting. She stated that Emerald Castle had not filed an appeal of their ZBA denial within the 30 day appeal period. Ms. Cline stated that Tracey had attended her first Building Officials Support Staff (BOSS) meeting and she and Tracey had attended five land use courses at the New Hampshire Technical Institute (NHTI).

Ms. Cline noted her truck had been returned and there would need to be some work done on the rust on the roof at some point in the future.

#### HIGHWAY:

Colin Laverty handed out three proposals for road maintenance and paving for the 2015 year. The Board discussed the proposals in detail including costs and the companies that were involved. Mr. Copeland asked Mr. Laverty what he believed was the best decision for the town. Mr. Laverty responded that he thought it was best to remain with Bell & Flynn with the contingencies that they would be able to meet the demand as far as labor and equipment and work to create a proactive plan to try to resolve issues with the pavement.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the use of Bell & Flynn as the contractor for the 2015 road maintenance and paving. Mr. Federico seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine discussed the balances of the CIP and special warrant articles. He continued that all of the outstanding funds could be put back into the carried general fund or encumbered and carried forward. He continued that one issue was that there was \$87,578 set away for three project for the cemetery trustees and that those projects did not seem to be on the horizon. He stated that Mr. Laverty did have a plan to mitigate drainage issues coming from the Church and would like to be allowed to keep \$13,301 for that project. He continued he hoped to have a plan to bring before the Board in June and that the remainder of those funds could be lapsed. Mr. Deschaine suggested they keep \$14,000 in the account for that project.

Mr. Federico moved to bring forward and encumber all balances except \$73,578 of \$87,578 in Cemetery funds, \$29,839 in unneeded Police vehicle replacement funds, \$33 in leftover Highway computer purchase funds, and \$303 leftover Recreation mower funds.. Mr. Canada 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:

The Easter Seals requested use of Municipal Room A on May 6<sup>th</sup>, May 13<sup>th</sup>, May 20<sup>th</sup> and May 27 for art classes. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Sharon Nelson requested use of Front Pavilion on August 29<sup>th</sup> for a birthday party. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Teresa Jarosz requested use of Front Pavilion on June 27<sup>th</sup> for a graduation party. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Stratham Memorial School requested use of Scamman and Front Pavilion on June 11<sup>th</sup> for the SMS field day. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ann LaPrade requested use of Scamman Pavilion on May 17<sup>th</sup> for a birthday party. Mr. Canada moved to approve the request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

**ADMINISTRATION:**

Mr. Deschaine stated that Mr. Hickey had requested authorization to re-hire Dan Hart as a park maintenance assistant from April through November at a rate of \$12 per hour.

Mr. Federico moved to authorize the re-hire of Dan Hart. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine noted he had received the contract from COPsync 911 and there were some issues with the indemnity clause. He continued he had contacted them with a request that they remove the indemnification clause as it was overly broad. He continued he thought it would be best to wait to hear back unless the Board wanted to move forward as it was currently. The Board indicated they did not want to sign it as it was currently.

Mr. Deschaine stated he had passed out the RFP for the Cushman House with his comments..

Mr. Canada moved to approve the RFP for the Cushman House. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine indicated they had received a request from the City of Portsmouth requesting that Stratham submit a letter supporting the State to go through with the review process relative to the Sea-3 project.

Mr. Canada moved to take no action relative to the Sea-3 project, seconded by Mr. Copeland. Mr. Federico was in favor. Motion passes 2/1.

Mr. Deschaine stated the Board needed to re-appoint members to the following committees: Recreation Commission, Conservation Commission, Board of Appeals, Planning Board, Heritage Commission, Economic Development Committee, Public Works Committee, Town Center Committee and Energy Commission.

Mr. Federico moved to appoint and re-appoint members to the above committees as presented. Mr. Canada seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Canada questioned using certain dedicated funds for work on the Subaru wetlands project. Mr. Deschaine stated there were funds available for fire protection purposes from the Mobil station and they were appropriate to use in this instance. Mr. Canada moved to approve \$785 for Global Cistern funds for the Gateway Area. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:33 P.M. Mr. Federico moved to adjourn. Mr. Copeland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Rodier  
Recording Secretary