

MINUTES OF THE JULY 27, 2015 BOARD OF SELECTMEN MEETING

MEMBER'S PRESENT: Board Members David Canada and Bruno Federico and Town Administrator Paul Deschaine.

At 7:34 pm Mr. Federico, filling in as Chair for Mr. Copeland, opened the general meeting of the Board of Selectmen.

SECRETARY'S REPORT: Mr. Canada moved to approve the amended minutes of the meeting of July 13th. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. It was noted that the minutes of the July 13th meeting had been erroneously approved at the July 20th meeting. The minutes of July 20th were held in abeyance.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Deb Bronson reported there was \$9,335,222.36 in the general checking account.

Mike Littlefield thanked the Board for approving his fireworks permits for the Fourth of July. He continued that he would like to request another fireworks permit for Labor Day weekend.

Mr. Canada moved to approve Mr. Littlefield's fireworks permit request for one day during the Labor Day weekend. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS:

Liz Chisolm from the 300th Committee indicated that there had been some new circumstances that had arisen, out of the Committee's control, which had resulted in the Powwow Festival being cancelled. She continued that they were very disappointed and thought that Town officials had let the residents down. Mr. Canada noted that it was the Board's job to scrutinize the use of town funds and he was sorry that it did not work out. Further, he felt that all Town officials have continued to support the Committee's efforts and that much of the problem for this event centered around the vendor's failure to provide required information to the Town.

HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT:

Colin Lavery requested vacation from August 3rd through August 6th.

Mr. Canada moved to approve Mr. Lavery's vacation request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Lavery stated relative to the tree trimming at the Stratham Hill Park that it had been broken down into two phases. He continued that the invoices had been drafted and sent to the State Police and the Rockingham County Sheriff's Department. Mr. Lavery indicated that he was not sure where the town's share of the funds should come from. Mr. Canada suggested they come out of the park reservations fund.

Mr. Canada moved to allow Mr. Lavery to take \$615.00 out of the park reservation account for the tree trimming at Stratham Hill Park. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Lavery stated that Bell & Flynn was still working on road reconstruction in town. Mr. Lavery noted that the new fuel management system had been installed and was working well. Mr. Lavery indicated relative to the fuel mix-up, that the affected tanks had been pumped and refilled. He continued that Dennis K. Burke was taking complete responsibility for the problem and would be covering any invoices that were associated with the problem. Mr. Lavery noted that three cars were affected and it was going to be about \$2000.00 per car for repairs. Mr. Lavery indicated that the roadside mowing was ongoing. He continued relative to the fire cistern on Stephen Drive that the Highway Department would be clearing and removing all of the brush around the pond. Mr. Lavery stated that street signs throughout town were going to be updated on an as-needed basis.

Mr. Lavery requested the Board allow him to expend \$4,100 for sand at the salt shed.

Mr. Canada moved to approve that request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Lavery requested that the Board allow him to expend \$6,900 to replace 11 windows at the highway garage.

Mr. Canada moved to approve that request. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

REC DEPARTMENT

Seth Hickey stated that the cleanup from the Fair had been substantially completed at the Park. Mr. Hickey noted that he was working on a Moose Plate grant application from the State Conservation Committee to support trail maintenance. Mr. Lavery continued that he was looking to replace the irrigation shed at Stevens Park during the 2016 season. Mr. Lavery noted that they were currently doing electrical, carpentry and painting work at the Gifford House. Mr. Lavery gave an update on youth sports and field use requests.

Mr. Hickey noted that the summer camp program was going well. He continued that they had held the first of four mountain bike races at the Stratham Hill Park and they would be continuing each Thursday for the next three weeks. Mr. Hickey indicated that the Gordon Barker No Brakes Mountain Bike Race was scheduled for October 18th and the Fire Tower 5K was scheduled for September 27th.

Mr. Hickey requested vacation time from August 26th through September 4th.

Mr. Canada moved to approve Mr. Hickey's vacation time. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The Board and Mr. Hickey then discussed getting quotes for windows at 28 Bunker Hill Road. Mr. Hickey indicated that he would report back when he received those quotes. Mr. Hickey noted that he would be putting up a "reserve now" sign at Stratham Hill Park.

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 approved:

Sarinity Murlock requested use of the Scamman Pavilion on 9/13 for a baby shower.

Martha Edmunds requested use of the Scamman Pavilion on 9/26 for a birthday party.

James Ryan requested use of the Front Pavilion on 9/20 for the NHANG Operations Group Picnic and asked that the fee be waived.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Dan Crow requested the use of the Front Pavilion on 9/19 for a birthday party and asked that the fee be waived.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Thomas Sowinki requested use of the Scamman Pavilion on 8/30 for the Phoenix Family Focus and requested that the fee be waived.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

John Dold requested use of the Front Pavilion, Scamman Pavilion and 4H Pavilion on 6/24/16, 6/25/16 and 6/26/16 for the 300th Anniversary Celebration Dinner Dance and asked that the fee be waived.

Mr. Canada moved to approve the request and waive the fee. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ADMINISTRATION:

Mr. Deschaine stated that he had received a request from Chief Scippa to allow Officer Grant thirty hours of advance vacation time before the end of the year.

Mr. Canada moved to allow Officer Grant thirty hours of advance vacation time. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Deschaine indicated that it had been suggested that Lucy Cushman be appointed to the vacant seat on the Rockingham County Planning Commission. He continued that she would be the second representative on the Commission from the Stratham Planning Board.

Mr. Canada moved to appoint Lucy Cushman to the Rockingham County Planning Commission. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:08 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to go into a non-public session to discuss potential litigation. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:42 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to come out of a non-public session. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

At 9:43 P.M. Mr. Canada moved to adjourn. Mr. Federico seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Ashley Rodier
Recording Secretary