

MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD
Monday, October 16, 2017 -7:00 PM

Present: Bill Stewart, Chair, Damon Frampton, Selectman, and Bette Jane Riordan, Secretary.

Also present: Christiane McAllistair, Town Accountant, Jim Cerny, David McGuckin, Andy Schulte.

1. Approve the Select Board Minutes for October 2, 2017.

Selectman Frampton made a Motion to Approve the minutes of the October 2, 2017 Select Board meeting as amended. Chair Stewart seconded and the Motion carried.

2. Public Question & Answer: None.

3. Items.

a. Town Project Coordinator – TAPC and TIPC.

Chair Stewart discussed the Boards review of the position and how that body of work resulted in the splitting of duties in two roles. Admin Project Coordinator and Infrastructure Project Coordinator.

Chair Stewart announced the hiring of Ken McDonald as the Town Administrator Project Coordinator who will work with the Select Board, dealing with such administrative issues as website redesign and improvements, IT related matters, working with the Building Inspector and the upgrade of data capture.

The Infrastructure Project Coordinator, will deal with streets roads, and water and sewer infrastructure. The projects dealing with water and sewer will take place next year, so the Board is delaying hiring for the position until Spring of next year. The Select Board will be presenting a Warrant Article for the water project at the May 2018 Town Meeting. The sewer project will take place approximately the third week of April, for the installation of replacement sewer pumps, electronics and SCADA. Chair Stewart has conferred with Steve Tabbutt, Director of Public Works, regarding the timing for installation and was told it was best to wait until the Spring thaw (April 2018).

b. Status on Water Project and Water Quality.

With respect to the water project, the Board is planning to have a public information session in early December. Chair Stewart hopes to do the session before December 15th in order to accommodate the residents who leave for the winter months.

Chair Stewart stated that Portsmouth is moving forward with its budget process as is New Castle.

He reported that he has not received any information from Portsmouth regarding the high level of TTHMS, nor has there been any recent word on this from DES. They are due to test again in the next week or two. The high numbers recently have created water quality violations. We are waiting to see if that high number was an anomaly due to the presence of increased chlorine. If the next test results continue to exceedingly high, Portsmouth will have to take action to mitigate the problem as will New Castle.

c. LED Light Proposal.

Chair Stewart reported that we have installed two street lights in the center of Town. One is full brightness with no shields, and one has two shields in place. The one with shields is located near the Great Island Inn. The Town would like some feedback on how the lights are working. Chair Stewart and Selectman Frampton both expressed approval. Dave McGuckin did not know they had been put up. BJ Riordan mentioned that Sandy Bisset and Dave Borden were doing an article for Island Items, and the Islander, respectively, and suggested an announcement be put on the website.

Jim Cerny asked about whether these lights were being considered for the Common. Chair Stewart noted they were only being considered for street lights in the present proposal but that if the savings and functionality are there the Board would look into Town owned lights and various locations. The school is also considering installing LEDS at this time. There was also discussion about the safety factor involved in keeping the area by the Library well lighted. The Town's expenditure under the current proposal will be \$6800. Mr. McGuckin asked if the expenditure would be this budget cycle or the next. Chair Stewart said the Board is considering both options at this time.

d. Ludes fence.

Selectman Frampton noted that the property owner on Beach Hill Rd, Laura Ludes, has taken down the fence as previously approved by the Board and will be replacing it with new fencing located solely on her property.

e. Memorial Benches.

Selectman Frampton explained that people continue to request to place benches, trees, etc., on Town land and he would like to know the sense of the Board on how this should be handled. Chair Stewart discussed that in the past there was a committee that had been established to review such requests. Dave McGuckin asked if it would be reestablished. Chair Stewart asked Selectman Frampton to look into it and report back. Jim Cerny, as a Cemetery trustee talked about memorial stones as a possibility for the cemetery.

ACTION ITEM.

4. New Business.

a. School light/Speed sign.

Chair Stewart noted the school (15 mile per hour) speed limit sign is not working properly and needs to be fixed or reprogrammed. The light is property of the school and has been maintained historically by NHDOT. Don White, Police Chief, maintains the State DOT contact information and makes the repair requests. The Board will request Chief White reach out to NHDOT on this.

Chair Stewart also stated paving would be begin as early as Thursday on Rte. 1 B.

5. Old Business.

Formal quote for sewer pump replacement

A new quote has been received to comply with the new specifications required by NHDES approval. The price for the project is \$544,745, which is about \$65,000 more than the original quote. The project will take place in the third week in April 2018. We will be ordering the pumps in the next week or so. \$275,000 will be financed with the rest coming from the operating fund.

6. Committee Reports.

a. Water and Sewer Commission.

Selectman Frampton reported that the Commission is working on revamping the ordinances. Commission Member Normand Houle is rewriting and organizing the ordinances. Right now, the only change ready to be approved is a raise in penalty fines from \$100 a day to \$500 per day for causing run off to be pumped into the sewer. Andy Schulte pointed out there may be potential infractions on Piscataqua Street.

ACTION ITEM. The Select Board will review and vote at its next meeting on the fine ordinance.

b. Tree Cutting Committee.

Chair Stewart stated this group was formed by the Planning Board to focus on all issues involved with tree cutting. They will obtain feedback from citizens and other towns. Selectman Frampton has issues with this. He thought Planning or Conservation dealt with this directly. He wanted to make sure that this group was not speaking for all citizens. Chair Stewart clarified that the committee is under the auspices of the Planning Board.

There was discussion about what type of committee it is, but Chair Stewart felt the meetings should be posted and minutes kept. They are subject to the Right to Know law. Dave McGuckin asked about a Tree Warden position and how that would relate with this committee. There is currently no such position.

There being no further business to come before the Board, Selectman Frampton made a Motion to Adjourn, which was seconded by Chair Stewart.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:41 PM.