

1 **MINUTES OF THE SELECT BOARD**
2 **Monday January 22, 2018 -7:00 PM**
3

4 **Present:** Bill Stewart, Chair, Tom Maher, Selectman, Damon Frampton, Selectman,
5 and Anne Miller, Recording Secretary for Bette Jane Riordan.
6

7 **Also present:** Pam Cullen, Administrative Assistant to the Select Board, Dave
8 McGuckin, John Ireland.
9

10 Selectman Maher opened the meeting at 7:10pm.
11

12 **1. Approve Select Board minutes of January 8, 2018: Deferred until next**
13 **meeting.**
14

15 **2. Public Questions and Answers:**
16

17 Pam Cullen reported that the Town has received information from Nick Diana
18 regarding the proposed race on 4/15/18 beginning at the Common. He plans to
19 remit the payment and will arrange to have a police detail. He has received State
20 approval, and is conferring with Chief White and arranging the rental of the Rec.
21 Building. He is requesting to open up the Common early to install the portable
22 toilets.
23

24 Pam stated that 3 men from the Army Reserves have requested to have their
25 backpack run again this year. Last year about 25 people participated, running about
26 20 miles. Pam asked them to submit a request to the Select Board asking to set up a
27 few tents in the Town landing area near UNH property. The Town did not charge
28 last year. There were no problems last year.
29

30 **3. Items:**
31

32 **a. Follow-up items:**
33

34 **i. LED Street Lighting contract.**
35

36 Selectman Maher stated the 25 watt light bulb has been installed in front of VJ
37 and Craig Strehl's home on Main Street. He reported that most people who
38 have commented to date believe 25 watts provides satisfactory illumination.
39 The company will need to survey poles ownership to decide which are
40 private. He reported that the Town has finally received a contract in 2 parts.

1 Selectman Frampton is satisfied with the contract and believes it gives as
2 much illumination as the existing 65 watts.

3

4 Dave McGuckin stated that if the Town does change over to LED, he
5 questioned whether or not we could go back at some point. It was noted that
6 there are some adjustments to be made to put in LED, but you can change
7 back if wanted or needed.

8

9 Chair Stewart stated the Town should proceed this year because the Town
10 has room in the budget within current line items; however, next year we can
11 expect some pressing financial constraints.

12

13 Chair Stewart stated that the Select Board should review the submitted
14 contracts. Selectmen Frampton and Maher are in favor of moving forward
15 now. Chair Stewart stated there will be about \$10,000 net to the Town after
16 the contracted rebate. After further discussion it was agreed that the next
17 step will be to review the contract as submitted and move forward.

18

19 **ii. Safe walk committee-recommendations.**

20

21 Selectman Maher stated the Board needs to decide which engineer will be
22 selected to do the proposed work. Chair Stewart has received information from
23 Altus Engineering. He reported that If they are going to do it for \$8900, they
24 wouldn't be able to beat the price. But if CMA's quote is good, the price has been
25 qualified. Therefore the better option is to go with CMA unless there is a reason not
26 to. Selectman Maher expressed the need to move on this in order to break ground in
27 the spring. He hopes the approval from NH DOT is forthcoming.. They need to be
28 brought into the process. Funds need to be expended by the end of the fiscal year.
29 The Safe Path Committee needs to nail down what they want. He noted there are
30 competing opinions. He made it clear that the town wouldn't study multiple options.
31 They'll go in one direction. Ultimately the goal is to complete the project as cheaply
32 as possible. Selectman Frampton asked if the new section is going to be in the same
33 style as the previous section. Will it look like the existing? No answer was readily
34 available at this time.

35

36 Chair Stewart noted that the first idea is to widen Rte 1B for safety reasons. That's
37 not necessarily a safe path. The second piece is to mindfully build a sidewalk
38 throughout the island in sections where possible with consideration given to
39 whether it is better to knock the rock/ledge down or loop around behind it.

40

1 Selectman Maher noted that some people want the path primarily used for
2 pedestrians and bicyclists. If one want bikes and walking, he proposed just widening
3 the road. Chair Stewart stated some of the people were asking whether the existing
4 path could accommodate bikes. Selectman Frampton stated the ultimate goal is to
5 have the Wild Rose Lane section finished before Town Meeting. Selectmen Maher
6 and Frampton agree it should be a pedestrian focused solution. For bicycles, this
7 could potentially be 10 years down the road, and would require a partnership with
8 the Town of Rye, and partnership with NH DOT. DOT is aware of how popular the
9 area is for running, biking, and walking. After further discussion it was agreed:

10
11 **Action items are:**

- 12 1.Prune sharp corners.
- 13 2. Address concerns that the Safe Path committee wasn't proposing easements.
14 Selectman Maher asked for selective pruning. He did not think taking property for
15 sidewalks was a consensus position. Brian from DOT has issues with bricks and
16 cobblestones encroaching into Rte1B.
- 17 3. Chair Stewart stated he had just received the Email regarding this matter.
18 Selectman Maher asked to move forward with the selection of CMA and decide
19 whether to go in front or in back of the rock at Wild Rose Lane. Next: Talk to the
20 land owner and have the engineer look at this issue and make a recommendation.
- 21 4. As the Select Board is running the project it can decide whether the Rye
22 Landscape contract goes out to bid. Selectman Maher noted he can't rely on a price
23 lock at this time because it may have to go out to bid. This needs to be resolved.

24
25 Dave McGuckin cautioned to keep in mind that the Town purchased a blower so the
26 Town has to be suret to be sure the width of the path fits the blower.

27
28 **iii. Historical Society Lease.**

29
30 There was no one present to address this matter. Pam Cullen has easement
31 information. Chair Stewart will place it in the Select Board drawer.

32
33 **Iv. Candle display on town and state roads.**

34
35 Dave McGuckin stated that on Christmas Eve, 1500 candles went out along the
36 roadwayas organized by private individuals. Due to the snowstorm, only 300 of
37 them got picked up. McGuckin said the Town needs to ask organizers of this event to
38 pick them up. There is a need to ask them to have a plan next year and it should
39 include responsibility for clean up. Chair Stewart will get back to them. The
40 organizers are Peter Rice and Kevin Callahan.

1 Selectman Frampton offered to get in touch with Peter Rice.

2

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V. Town Hall-rug

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5 Chair Stewart reported that there have been complaints of a smell indicating there
6 may be mold present in town Hall. The Select Board authorized a cleaning and
7 purchased and installed an Ozenator as well as ordered a mold test. Results
8 concluded that the mold count is very low. The Town was issued a clean bill of
9 health for occupancy. It might be musty, but for health and spores, tests results
10 concluded no significant air quality issues. Copies of lab report and invoices will be
11 placed on file in the Select Board's drawer.

12

13 Selectman Maher asked how the Board should address an employee's concern who
14 has expressed concerns about an environmental problem. The report showed that
15 all 3 adjacent offices and the accountant's office's reports came back clear. Chair
16 Stewart stated the next step is to relay results to the employee. He noted there is no
17 longer a need to run the Ozenator every night.

18

19 Selectman Frampton stated he would like to get quotes for replacing the rugs in the
20 subject offices. He noted the rugs had been replaced once, in 27 years.

21

22 **Action Item:** Get quotes for rug replacement and/or floor replacement.

23

24 Chair Stewart reported he had asked DPW for a punch list of things that needed to
25 be done in Town hall with timing considerations. He noted that carpet replacement
26 could be added and see where it falls in prioritization.

27

28 Selectman Frampton conferred with Building Inspector Graves about Town Hall
29 issues and pulled a list of inefficiencies, with respect to Town Hall. There are some
30 important things that need to be addressed.

31

32 Pam Cullen noted the chimney on the Town Hall is ready to fall over and the
33 windows are ready to fall out.

34

35 Chair Stewart requested a list of items be pulled together for Select Board review.
36 Selectman Frampton noted he would contact Steve Tabbutt about the priority list
37 for projects for the items Pam mentioned.

38

1 John Ireland noted that for past 4 to 5 years, people have have tried to push through
2 repairs for town hall. It is important to do the repairs right. He stated there is more
3 work than just taking repairs on.

4 Chair Stewart spoke about a previously proposed maintenance fund which was
5 defeated by the voters. He believes the vote was shot down because the scope got
6 too big. Maintenance does need to be done however.

7
8 **4. New Business:**

9
10 **i. Town Report.**

11
12 Pam Cullen reported she has received a quote from Southport Printing for the
13 report which is in the same range as last year's cost. The Select Board needs to
14 decide whether to deliver or mail the reports. While the NH RSA's don't require
15 mailing or delivery, New Castle has made it a practice to do so. The Town could just
16 make them available at some public locations. After further disussion the Board
17 agreed to have them delivered as more people would be assured of receiving the
18 report.

19
20 **ii. Island Items-February issue.**

21
22 Chair Stewart asked to reserve space in the upcoming issue for Select Board update
23 and an update on the Warrant Article. Selectmen Maher and Frampton will provide
24 an update on Project SafePath.

25
26 **iii. CIP- Create a Buildings and Maintenance Fund**

27
28 Selectman Maher stated there is currently no fund for town buildings and
29 maintenance and there are some pressing needs. He proposed that money be set
30 aside yearly to tackle these needs in a strategic way. The Town did start previously
31 by putting \$80,000 aside for roads. There's \$81,000 in that fund. Steve Tabbutt was
32 going to start doing certain projecys this summer and will start to use the funds,
33 which will need to be replenished. Selectman Maher recommend a Buildings and
34 Maintenance Fund. The Select Board could use the DPW to complete certain projects
35 and sometimes bring in contractors when necessary. He proposed reallocating the
36 vehicles and equipment fundin an effort to determine what is reasonable.

37
38 Chair Stewart noted there are some funds in budgets for buildings and maintenance
39 now. The idea for the trusts is to bank the funds. The June project for the Rec Center
40 will be spent more immediately. The concept is good. You'd allocate money over

1 years for those expenses. So, take the punch list of projects and triage those
2 immediate needs and do those, then try and save for the longer term projects.
3 He is concerned because he doesn't think there is a good understanding of what
4 needs to be done and when. The Select Board discussed several other maintenance
5 needs and issues in an effort to prioritize those needs and to provide a better
6 framework for going forward. Chair Stewart proposed dealing with what's urgent at
7 Town Hall.

8 He also briefly discussed the school budget which is expected to be up due to tuition
9 and retirement. Selectman Maher would like more information on the school
10 budget increase. Chair Stewart stressed the need for department heads to keep
11 operating budgets responsible.

12 13 **5. Committee Reports.**

14 15 **a. Police Dept. : No major or pressing issues.**

16
17 Chair Stewart reported that the largest use was property checks :141

18 Second largest use was traffic stops: 29

19 No real concerns or issues.

20 No changes in staf.f

21 22 **b. Water & Sewer and Tree Cutting.**

23
24 Selectman Frampton reported that the Water & Sewer meeting was standard.

25 He also attended tree committee meeting, which may might be the last one due to
26 RSAs. The group will be coming up with pamphlets.

27 Chair Stewart explained that the State has preempted municipalities with respect to
28 control over tree cutting. Selectman Frampton stated the group will be making some
29 recommendations to the Select Board.

30
31 Next meetings of the Select Board:

32 2/5 , 2/19 (2/19 is the holiday)

33
34 Chair Stewart stated that public hearings for cemetery trustees to accept gift of land
35 could be held 2/5 and 2/19 as they have to be at least 10 days apart and no longer
36 than 14 days apart. He will work with Pam Cullen on the wording and notices.

37
38 Pam Cullen reminded the Boad about the property on Bosuns Hill. They need to
39 implement a new process to unmerge the lots. One of the applicants is 164 Walton
40 Road. Chair Stewart will recuse himself so Selectmen Frampton and Maher will

1 need to make the decision. If the lots were involuntarily merged by the Town, the
2 Town will need to take action to unmerge the lot.

3

4 There being no further business to come before the Board, Selectman Frampton
5 made a Motion to Adjourn, which was seconded by Selectman Maher. Motion
6 carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:52 PM.

7

8 Respectfully submitted,

9

10 BJ Riordan

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